

NOTES AND COMMENTS

By a York County Bee-Keeper.

In view of the great amount of interest taken in the subject of developing our foreign markets for honey (particularly the British) at our last annual meeting, have thought that Government returns showing imports and exports of honey for past year might prove interesting to the readers of the C.B.J. These figures are taken from Customs Dept., Trade and Navigation returns, and are for fiscal year ending June 30th, 1903.

Honey in Comb or Otherwise and Imitations Thereof:

Imports	lbs.
Great Britain	5,201
B. W. Indies	55,227
Hong Kong	207
China	391
United States	60,214
Total	121,240
Exports	lbs.
Great Britain	14,562
British Africa	500
Newfoundland	60
United States	7,259
Total	22,381

While there were considerable differences of opinion expressed as to the best method of developing the British market, yet nearly all agreed that such a market existed for our surplus clover honey, at a fair price. If such is the case why not "rise up and possess" ourselves of this open-

ing. When we take into consideration the fact that all honey coming into Canada is dutiable to the extent of 3 cents per lb, and that our honey goes into Great Britain duty free, the foregoing figures are all the more astounding. No doubt fiscal year ending June 30th, 1904, will show a more favorable balance of trade in our favor as regards the British market, as I personally know of a larger amount having been sent to England last fall than what is credited by Customs Dept., to preceding season.

Quite recently was in conversation with the representative of a firm that shipped honey extensively last season to England. Results had not been satisfactory from a financial standpoint, and the gentleman referred to, who had just returned from England, stated that in his opinion the only way that a profitable trade could be built up between Great Britain and Canada, would be to have a business connection there to receive honey in bulk and there put it up in suitable packages to suit the trade: such a connection could attend to grading, proper distribution of the product and other incidentals in connection with the trade.

Readers of C.B.J. will recollect that in March number of that Journal, Mr. Grindley a Liverpool merchant advocated much the same thing. He said, "The most satisfactory way would be for the Canadian honey shippers to have a representative in Great Britain. He could then effect sales by sample, and when the goods were delivered, if not up to sample, disputes could be settled on the spot." This may be a proposition worth considering, should we be again blessed with a full crop of honey: Personally, am inclined to think the plan would be all right, provided reliable connections could