

to a great World's Fair, in an old patched-up rusty and rickety tin and box! And these exhibitors expect their honey to go through safely and in good order, and what is still more wonderful, they expect that it will be sold in those tin and boxes! Two or three of them were leaking, and quite a bit had leaked out. Then there was some very bad packing. For instance, in boxing a tin of honey instead of having the top of the box in close and firm contact with the lid or mouth cover of the tin to keep it in its place in case the box of honey should be turned over on its side; instead of this, a vacancy was left between the tin lid and the box cover, and when the box was turned over or on its side the pressure of the honey against the lid loosened it and of course the honey leaked out. This is a matter in packing that ought to be so obvious to any man that the wonder is how it could be overlooked. Let those who made that mistake take a lesson and avoid a repetition of it.

Another very stupid blunder, and one very annoying to the one who has to open the box, is, in boxing a tin—to nail the top fast in the box instead of *on top* of it. In several cases the tops were nailed in this manner with long three inch out nail—inch lumber at that,—and it was quite impossible to get the box open and the tin out without a great deal of unnecessary trouble, and without fairly knocking the box to pieces at the great risk of injuring the tin. I cannot imagine what would possess any man to nail up a tin of honey in that manner. Does he think it is never to be opened? I would like to see himself go through the ordeal of opening it. Then some of the boxes, all right on the top, heavy boxes—were without the ghost of a handle or excuse for a handle for lifting—perfectly smooth on every side—not even a strip nailed on two opposite sides to catch onto—a thing which could be done in five minutes. Not only were some of the sixty pounds honey tin boxes in this nice and handy condition, but some large and heavy boxes from a large supply establishment where there was every facility to turn out a packing box which would be half way decent.

Then, again, I instructed the exhibitors to paint their names and addresses on each box in two places, so that if one got obliterated the other would serve. A majority placed their names and addresses in one place, but some of the boxes had no sign or token of any kind to indicate either the contents or the owner. By a good deal of searching of letters and overhauling of invoices I finally got some of the needed information and made a guess at the rest.

There is one box so entirely innocent of any sign, token, or hint of ownership that I am quite unable to decide the rights of property in the case until I write to two or three to see what they did send and what they didn't.

In straightening out these tangles I sometimes think of what Friend McKnight wrote me before I set out for Chicago. He said I would not find my path "strewn with roses," that I would "meet difficulties expected and not expected," etc. He had been through the mill at London; but he will please remember that he had none of the "cussed" customs to deal with. I have other difficulties ahead which the London delegates were not probably called upon to face, and besides that there were several of them to divide off the responsibility. One great difficulty before me is lack of space in one honey case twenty-five feet long and five feet wide and six feet high. I have over three thousand pounds of honey here to exhibit, besides beeswax, in that case. In order to get anything like near that quantity in the case I am under the necessity of erecting the shelving inside the case with a view to getting a lot in, instead of with an eye to appearances, in order to make a fancy display. Some of the other exhibitors here have so little to put in their cases that they have to make an effort to fill up decently, and can therefore indulge their artistic fancies in "spreading" to their hearts' content.

Our Ontario exhibit will therefore be good and substantial, but not very artistic. I asked for two of the glass cases before I left Canada, but could not get them. I shall get as much of our honey into the one as possible, and make the most I can