

CONDENSED CURRENCY.

A DIGEST OF ARTICLES APPEARING IN
OTHER PERIODICALS.

MR. F. Wilcox, of Wisconsin, sends Prof. Cook samples of the galls of the scarlet oak, which, he says, is yielding fine, clear nectar in considerable quantities. When stored in the combs it is as white as basswood honey.

At Pinckney, Mich., Mr. Sykes reports 1000 lbs. of honey collected from cucumber blossoms. There is a pickle factory in the neighborhood and farmers in the vicinage plant from one to ten acres of this vine.

Salicylic acid added to syrup in homeopathic quantities is said by a correspondent of the *B.B. J.* to prevent re-crystallisation of food in the combs.

A. H. Pering, Ind., sends to *Gleanings* a description of a wire tool for removing individual sections from supers. It is a strong piece of steel spring wire coiled in the centre to give it elasticity and may occasionally prove very handy.

"Dot Happy Bee Man" is an original bee-keeper's song by Eugene Secor, music by Dr. C. C. Miller published in *Gleanings*. Both words and music are catchy and the composers would be tickled could they hear our senior editor warble it with his genial German accent.

G. F. Merriam, of Escondido, Cal., states that he left empty hives in an apiary from which he moved the bees, and during the season thirty nine stray swarms came and entered the hives.

The answers in *Gleanings* Question box this issue agree that it is not desirable to hold bee conventions at a fall fair. There are too many other attractions. As to the profit to be reaped by showing honey and distributing printed advertising matter at the fairs, opinions are about evenly divided. Our idea is that where a home market has to be made a display of honey at the local fair is one of the best advertisements possible.

Corrugated iron tacked on old wooden hive covers is used and recommended by Mr. J. S. Reese, of Winchester, Ky., as a watertight lid.

The appeal of the Arkadelphia case is to come before the Supreme Court at Little Rock, Ark., this month. The Hon. S. W. Williams has the case in charge for the Union, and we confidently hope that it will sustain the verdict of the lower court, and declare that the pursuit of bee-keeping is *not a nuisance*. Thousands anxiously await the result of the trial.—*A. B. J.*

Wax is a substance secreted by the bees, and is analogous to the fat of higher animals. To produce a single pound of wax, bees must consume from 15 to 20 pounds of honey. The expensive substance is used by the thrifty little insects with the greatest economy. The thickness of the cell-walls in a new comb is said to be only 1-180th of an inch.—*The Millstone*.

M. S. Morgan, South Elgin, Ills., on Sept. 27, 1888, writes to the *A. B. J.* "I am obliged to dissent from the commonly received theory that the volition of the queen determines the sex of her eggs. In my opinion, after her fertilization any one of her eggs will produce a worker, a queen, or a drone, according to the purpose and manipulation of the workers. A proof that a worker-egg may be made to produce a drone, may be obtained in this way: Divide a colony, giving to the new hive, bees with sealed worker-brood only, together with a queen cell. Be sure that there are no drones in the new hive. Now from a colony that have killed off their drones, select any one frame of entire worker brood having a few unhatched eggs: place this frame in the new hive; and I will guarantee that upon this frame will be found the elongated cells of drones, whilst in the colony from which it was taken, there will be workers only. The egg with the sperm attached produces a worker; the same egg with the sperm detached, produces a drone; the separation being made by the volition of the worker, and not by the volition of the queen.