

one, and that by these or kindred means, if we have at heart the interest of bee-keeping amongst the working classes, we shall do well to sow the early seed which may afterwards bear fruit, and lead to intelligent and profitable bee-keeping on a much larger scale and in a much wider field than we have seen hitherto.

SPLENDID THINGS.

SAID OF THE BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF BEE-KEEPING.

"This is a neat little manual of sixty pages, 'done in verse' and very good verse too, by that veteran apiarist Rev. W. F. Clarke. The writer regrets in his preface that no one since the days of Virgil has written the poetry of bee-keeping, and he modestly tunes his lyre and essays the task. He has succeeded in showing that his muse and his subject are not unworthily mated. The little volume is practical withal, and both by letter press and illustration gives a variety of information which will be found very useful to the experienced apiculturist, as well as to the amateur and beginner. Typographically it is exceedingly creditable to the printers and publishers, Messrs. Jones, Macpherson & Co., of Beeton.—Guelph Mercury.

J. E. Pond, Jr., Foxboro, Mass., writes: "I am sure the book ought to sell, I will write you more fully again."

Dr. C. C. Miller, Maricopa, Ill., says: "Very neatly gotten up." His review appeared in C. B. J. a few weeks ago.

The Hon. Lewis Wallbridge, Chief Justice, Manitoba, an old-time bee-keeper, writes:

WINNIPEG, Aug. 28th, 1886.

"MY DEAR MR. CLARKE.—My nephew, A. H. Wallbridge, Jr., has just sent me his copy of your 'lively, entertaining and practical Bird's-Eye View of Bee-Keeping.' It is just splendid—that is all I can say. I should think it rather difficult to put into metre, the practical working of bee-keeping. You have done it, however, and done it well. Although I can hardly compare it to Virgil, you are second to him at all events.

LEWIS WALLBRIDGE.

H. D. Cutting, President North American Bee Keepers' Association, says of it: "It is truly an addition to modern bee literature."

BOTANICAL.

SOLIDAGO THYRSOIDEA.

H. COUSE.—The specimen you send is, as you say, "one of the golden rods." Order, Compositæ; Genus, *Solidago*; Species, *Solidago Thyrsoidea*, so called from the thyrse-like form of its inflorescence. "Stem stout, one to four feet high, pubescent near the summit, simple; leaves thin, ovate, irregularly and coarsely ser-

rate with sharp salient teeth, large, all but the uppermost abruptly contracted into long margined petioles; heads large, many flowered crowded in an oblong, wand-like raceme or contracted panicle, flowers yellow; scales of the involucre loose and thin, long lanceolate, taper-pointed; achenia, smooth." Common in Ontario, and as far south as Maine and New York. The Grange, Ont.

SOLIDAGO BICOLOR.

M. C.—Your plant is also one of the golden rods, but is remarkable for having its ray-flowers white instead of yellow, as in all the other species. *Solidago Bicolor*, stem simple, seldom branched; leaves elliptical, entire, acute at each end; raceme short, dense, leafy, erect; leaves hairy on both sides. Flowers in numerous, close, short, auxiliary clusters, forming a long, terminal, interrupted spike. Some thirty-six species have been described as belonging to this genus, but possibly some of these are only varieties. They are all valuable honey producers, on which the apiarist is largely dependent for fall pasture for his bees.

Edwardsburg, Ont.

EPILOBIUM AUGUSTIFOLIUM.

J. J. HALL.—You will find enclosed a sample of a weed that grows here in patches as large as ten acres. The bees are working on it at a terrible rate. There is still plenty of white clover and thistles, but the bees seem to prefer this plant. Do you think the honey from it will be good for them to winter on? The plant grows as high as a man's head and blossoms till the frost kills it. Please tell me the right name of the weed? * * *

Shelburne, Ont.

The "sample" is a specimen of the Great Willow Herb, commonly called Fire weed, from its frequently springing up after the burning of brush and in the track of forest fires. It belongs to the same family as the beautiful Clarkias and Fuchsias of our gardens and green-houses, and would itself be cultivated for its beauty if it were not so common. As a honey producer, it stands in the front rank, sometimes yielding immense quantities of the finest flavored honey. Order, Onagraceæ; Genus, *Epilobium*; Species, *Epilobium Augustifolium*. Stem, simple, erect; leaves scattered, lanceolate, with a marginal vein; raceme long pyramidal spike. Calyx 4, parted and deciduous; petals 4; Stamens 8, anthers fixed near the middle; Stigmas with 4 spreading lobes; Capsule linear, 4-cornered, 4-celled and 4-valved; seeds numerous and furnished with a tuft of long hairs. Flowers numerous