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Dr. C. C. Miller writes us as follows:

Referring to that first item on page 85, don't you for a minute go to supposing that it's the poison in the cappings that makes the trouble. If it were, why should it be worse with comb honey than extracted? Ought it not to be just the other way? Surely the cappings of the comb honey are not so much disturbed as are those of extracting combs. If there's as much poison in cappings as some would have us to believe, don't you think there's just as much of it in the cappings of extracting combs as in the cappings of sections? The cappings of comb honey are not disturbed in handling, but when the cappings are sliced off the extracting combs the bending of them ought to squeeze out the poison by the wholesale.

Possibly the propolis may be the culprit. When my assistant scrapes a lot of sections, it's very much like a case of a bad cold. The eyes and the mucous membrane of the nose are affected by the dust of the propolis, so that sometimes it is very troublesome. Others have reported the same thing, some being still more sensitive. It is conceivable that your friend's wife is still more sensitive, even to such a degree that it may affect the skin of the face.

Leon C. Wheeler (page 92) is sensible in his views, but a wee bit astray in one of his illustrations. He mentions my giving "a certain approximate time in the spring" for taking bees out of cellar, and thinks he should be two or three weeks later. I'm not sure whether I ever gave a certain approximate time by the almanac. I certainly couldn't say within two or three weeks of the time I'll take out my own bees a year from now, much less set a date for some one else. One year I may set them out a month earlier than another. If I have given any advice about it, it has been, I think, to go by conditions of weather. I've generally been more or less guided by the blooming of the soft maples. When they are in full bloom it's pretty safe to take out the bees. Wouldn't that

rule work about the same in your locality as in mine, friend Wheeler?

Best wishes, friend Hurley.

C. C. MILLER.

Thanks, Doctor. We agree entirely with you, both in your theory and argument, but we do not think that the propolis is the cause of the phenomenon—at least, we cannot locate the reason for thinking so. The symptoms under discussion manifest themselves when no scraping of the sections is done. We have suggested that the lady allow herself to be stung a few times on the hands and face. It is our belief that inoculation would put a stop to the cutaneous irritation.

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Mr. George Ott, of Arkona, has sent us a long article descriptive of the early days in Ontario when he was a boy. The article is very long, and we must ask to be excused the printing of it at this time. It is indeed very interesting from many points of view, but we fear would not be of general interest to our readers, who want information on bees. Mr. Ott says his grandfather moved from Pennsylvania before he was born, or close on to one hundred years ago, and brought with him two box hives. The hives were placed in a large sack—one at each end—and thrown over the back of a horse, and thus the journey was made to what is now called Port Colborne. Bees have been with the family ever since, and George has been raised among them. He has now reached his four-score years and two, and takes particular delight in recalling the past. He writes interestingly of his boyhood. Hunting all kinds of game—deer, bears, wolves, coons, etc.—

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