

Way out upon the prairie, where
No sabbath bell is heard,
No music but the sand hill cranes
And breezes, blizzard stirred?

But keeping in mind the injunction, "be not weary in well doing," and the kindness of Dr. Miller in writing the music and the publishers of the American Bee Journal in printing it, we have another song we can claim as our own; and all this gathered grandeur without cost to the Association or the bee keeping fraternity. I hope that during the coming year there will be more added to this gathered sweetness, so that in the near future the songs sung at our conventions, both amusing and ennobling, may be such as are just fitted for the occasion, and enjoyable also in the family circle.

Upon the first mention of a world's fair and exposition to be held in the United States in 1892 it occurred in me, as it doubtless did to many of you, that as bee keepers we should prepare for and make the grandest exhibit of the products of, and appliances used in the apiary that was ever made anywhere. Canada's beekeepers did themselves honor, and it was a credit to their good sense and energy to make the grand exhibit they did at the Colonial Exposition in England in 1886. But the bee keepers of the United States ought to beat them so badly that they will be anxious for another opportunity to "show off." In a letter received a week ago to-day from a successful bee keeper of New York he says, "We ought to have a lay out at that Exposition that will astonish the world." With this idea in view and knowing that it is well to begin to move in fair and exposition matters in good time, I wrote the managers of the enterprise in regard to the desirability of such an exhibit and received gratifying responses. The United States Government apianian exhibit at Paris last summer was not much of a success, and could not be expected to be when it is known that bee keepers had nothing to do with it except to sell to its representatives, Prof. McLane and others, such things as they wished to put on exhibition. Is it not sincerely to be desired that the coming opportunity to make a display of the magnitude of our industry be improved to its fullest extent?

The changes that I would suggest be made in the constitution and by-laws of the Association are given on page 214 of the American Bee Journal for this year, a copy of which I have with me, so I'll not take time here to mention them, but will mention them at the proper time. Is it not desirable that some plan be devised by which the Bee-keepers Union, the Honey Producers Exchange and this Association shall be combined. The Union under its efficient management, has accomplished much for our fraternity, and as "in union there is strength," ought not something to be done to make the union stronger. Under the able leadership of its manager, assisted by the Board of Directors, it is carried to a successful termination six cases in which beekeepers have been brought before the courts on account of damages claimed to have been done by their bees, and settled more or less without resorting to lawsuits. I believe the case is still in court and funds are very much needed to carry it to a termination favorable to the cause of justice. "Money talks," and out loud, too. The Supreme (supremely ridiculous) court of New York has made

itself the object of ridicule by its recent decision in such a case, and it is hoped and expected that when the case comes before the court of appeal the utterances of the lower court will be so thoroughly "snowed under" that no summer's sun will ever be able to reach them. Is it not the height of folly for anyone who has an apiary, or even keeps a few colonies, to ignore the fact that there is a constant danger of their being the next victim of "misplaced confidence," and perhaps have on hand a fair-sized suit for damages, etc. Should not each give a helping hand towards furnishing the needed funds with which to defend the right, for it is principles, not men, that are being defended. But few Canadians belong to the Union, and not having an organization of this kind, would it not be well for them to give it their hearty support.

Up to the present time this Association and so far as I know, all other bee keepers' associations have been accustomed to allow anyone present to take part in and enjoy to the full, all benefits arising from asking questions and discussing subjects under consideration, whether members of the Association or not. To me this course seems open to serious objections. At our homes when those not members of our family come to see us we show them the utmost consideration, and provide for them the very best we have, and wish them to occupy the best and most luxurious seats we possess, if it be nothing better than a hard-bottomed chair, would it not be to our credit, as an Association, to provide equally well for our bee keeping visitors by furnishing them with reserved seats, and hope that the visitors at our homes they will not "wear their welcome out;" to those who are at an expense of from ten to one hundred dollars or even more, besides several days of valuable time, for the sake of reaping the benefits that come from association and contact with kindred minds, should be granted the privilege of occupying the floor and doing the pleasant, satisfying and solid work of the Convention. A fit name for such people as object to becoming members by the payment of the small fee, and yet wish to reap its benefits, I first heard used by the staid editor of the Review, and those of you who are so fortunate as to have the pleasure of his acquaintance, can readily imagine how his lips appeared when he called them "absorbers." Appropriate name! Grand title! To such visitors as are not and do not expect to become bee keepers we extend a most cordial welcome at all times, and shall be glad to have such occupy seats at our table, and participate in and enjoy our social chat.

Since writing the above the Review for Nov. has come to hand and on this subject, among other things in regard to this matter Dr. Miller says: "Here is one man coming hundreds of miles at an expense of \$50 or \$100, who promptly pays his membership fee with no feeling that there is any hardship about it, and right by his side sits a man who lives hard by; sits through a part of all the sessions, imbibing all he can (why didn't the Dr. say absorbing) that is to be learned, but suddenly struck with paralysis when those present are asked to walk up and pay their dollar. If anything is said to him he may reply: "I just dropped in a while to see what is going on, I don't know