

This fact alone should go far to soften parents' hearts to deal kindly with the peculiar tastes of their olive-branches. We would especially urge that bees are especially fitted to bring out the three qualities named to perhaps a greater degree than any other pets we know. We can picture to ourselves the sorry figure an impatient bee-keeper would cut after opening his hive and exhibiting his temper to his bees; they would teach him more in five minutes than he would have credited if a friend had lectured him for an hour on his failing. And we venture to think that ere long they would cause his impatience to be a thing of the past.

For teaching forbearance, bees are pre-eminent. Nothing we have ever seen so soon resents a rebuff, while at the same time docility is their dominant characteristic when properly treated. Forethought must be exercised with bees, for unless the proper action is taken *quite* by the proper time, disaster will surely follow.

We are firmly convinced in our mind that as a nation we should be more respected among the nations of the world if we could make these three qualities the guiding rule of our fellow-countrymen generally. For this reason we urge upon all, and especially upon our clergymen and schoolmasters, to deeply consider the national good they can secure by so directing the inherent taste for hobbies that even the poorest and most ignorant in the land that they shall, while gratifying their personal pleasure, be imbibing such moral principles as shall make them individually better husbands, neighbors, and citizens.

Condensed from the A.B.J.

#### NORTH AMERICAN BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

**T**HE North American Bee-Keepers' Society convened its Nineteenth Annual Convention on Oct. 3rd, 1888, in the Representative Hall, at the State House in Columbus, Ohio.

The meeting was called to order at 11 a.m., with President A. B. Mason in the chair. As no program had been prepared, a committee was appointed to prepare one. The members present paid their dues.

The remainder of the forenoon was employed in what might be called an experience meeting.

Miss Dema Bennett had received many reports, and nearly all reported failure. A few had reported getting 100 pounds per colony from peppercage.

Dr. Tinker reported almost no honey from white clover. The greatest yield had been from yellow poplar. The honey from this source is dark, and many mistake it for honey dew.

Prof. Cook stated that he had received some heart's-ease honey from Iowa. When first received it was very strong in flavor. No one would want it upon the table. In three or four weeks the strong flavor had passed away.

R. L. Taylor said—My story is like that of the other members. My crop is about five pounds of surplus per colony. My bees are in two apiaries nine miles apart. All the white honey was secured in one locality, and all the fall honey in the other. In the northern part of the county the fall flow was beautiful. If I had moved my bees 20 miles I might have secured from 25,000 to 40,000 pounds of surplus. This honey that was secured in the Northern part of the county was almost as white as my clover honey. I think it came from asters and button ball. The flavor is good; it reminds me of fine maple syrup.

R. F. Holtermann reported that bees wintered poorly in Canada. Clover and linden yielded but lightly. But very little comb honey had been taken, and the extracted would all be off the markets in October. The fall flow had been fair. In localities the flow from thistle had been good.

Mrs. Mary McPherson made her living by keeping bees, poultry, etc. She had learned the business under protest. Her husband had told her that she might sometime be left to support herself and children. His words had proved true. Last season she was left a widow. From 32 colonies she had secured 800 pounds of comb honey. She did all the work, besides caring for her poultry and doing her house-work. She was up in the morning as soon as it was light enough to see, and she said she would like to have a private settlement with the man who said bee-keeping was nice and easy work—just suited to ladies.

J. Y. Detwiler rehearsed the troubles that had befallen the bee-keepers of Florida. The frost of 1886 had injured the mangrove. It had recovered in a measure, and was beginning to yield. This year he had 1,200 pounds from 40 colonies. Large black ants give much trouble. They work at night, and sometimes destroy full colonies. Mr. Detwiler preferred to keep bees in the north, even with the risks of wintering, to keeping them in Florida; but he liked the climate.