

President has been working hard, and has secured reduced railroad rates from Chicago and the Mississippi River, and from the South. The meeting promises to be the grandest in the history of the association, and we hope the West will send a good delegation. Besides personal members' attendance, we expect every local and State association to send one delegate, or more.

This will be a good occasion for Western bee-men to become acquainted with the noted bee-keepers of the East, nearly all of whom will attend this meeting. Bee-keepers desiring to attend will please send their names to either the President, Mr. P. H. Elwood, of Starkville, N. Y., or to the undersigned, as we intend to publish a full list of those that are expected to be present.

C. P. DADANT, Sec.

Hamilton, Ills.

False Ideas About Eastern Bees.

PH. J. BALDENSPERGER.

Allow me to correct some false ideas about our eastern bees, appearing from time to time in bee-periodicals all over the world.

I am a honey producer, and not a queen breeder, and would take to any bees as soon as it would pay to keep them—even the wonderful Punic bees, which I have in my apiary, and have worked in their own Punic homes, without discovering the marvelous qualities described in the Bee Journal of May 28, 1891.

On page 713, an article copied from the Indiana Farmer says the Palestine bees are inferior to the Syrians. "They use more propolis than any other variety and are more troubled with laying workers." The writer of that article must have had a great deal of experience with Palestines I have worked both Syrians in their own homes, and have failed to detect the difference to which some breeders like to call attention.

Both are apt to have laying workers, as well as any other race, when neglected, but will survive queenlessness an astonishing length of time, if properly manipulated. Sometimes virgin queens remain nearly a month in the hive, before flying out to mate, and still laying workers do not appear. When a queen is lost, the danger of having laying workers becomes greater, but can be prevented by putting in a frame with eggs, occasionally, and sometimes hatching brood.

This year I gave an old queen, which I wished to dispose of, to a colony containing laying workers: she was accepted, and the lay-

ing workers soon disappeared. The queen was soon after removed, and queen-cells given to the colony, and by April 7 they had a young queen, which began laying on April 26, and the colony stored 80 pounds of surplus honey after all that manipulation. July 30 being the date of the last extraction, this colony will be in fine condition for Winter—plenty of stores, young queen and bees.

The Cyprian, Syrian, Palestine and Egyptian bees all sting. Do not the Albinos and "niggers?" I suppose very much depends on the climate in which they are bred, and how they are managed. For instance, Mr. Benton, some years ago, exchanged some Punic bees for Palestines, and he said: "Mrs. Benton says she would rather manipulate the 'ugly Palestines' than those 'Tunisians,' while I thought to the contrary. I find the 'Tunisians' less liable to sting than the Palestines."

But crossing and recrossing has been practiced so extensively, both in Europe and America, that I think there are none who can claim a pure race except those possessing imported queens. If this is not so, why is fresh blood always demanded?—American Bee Journal.

Jaffa, Palestine, Aug. 11, 1891.

A Beard of Bees.

SIR,—Your interesting extract from the *Toronto Weekly Globe*, 'Bees in his Brecks,' reminds me of an incident related to me a few days ago, the truth of which can be vouched for, and names given of the man and his master. The man was moving away the hives at the swarming season, when a swarm with very little ceremony settled on his chin, and hung suspended therefrom, forming, as an eye-witness—my informant—described it, a beard of bees. The bearded man stood still while sleep and other things were brought, when the swarm was brushed off. No stings resulted.—Yours &c., T. F. Eynsford, in British Bee Journal.

It is evident from the above that the queen lighted on the man's chin and the bees settled around her, same as they would on an ordinary limb.

Lambton Bee-Keepers Association.

A meeting of the above association, will be held in the Council Chamber in Alvinston on Monday, November 2nd, 1891, for the transaction of business and discussion of various subjects of interest to Bee-Keepers. All interested are cordially invited.

W. E. MORRISON, Sec-Treas.

Alvinston,

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