

columns of a bee-journal; but it may not be greatly out of order to say that since W. J. Craig has taken the editorial chair of the "Canadian Bee Journal" there has been a very gratifying improvement in the proof reading of that journal.—Ed. "American Bee Journal."

Amen! But the improvement is great all over.—Stenog. "Gleanings in Bee Culture."

Thank you friends for the compliments. We have been endeavoring to examine the proof sheets as closely as possible, but for all this little errors of one kind and another will sometimes be over-looked; of course they appear glaring enough to us when the copy is issued. We are trying, however, to make our Canadian Journal as free from these and as attractive as possible, and are pleased that our contemporaries have noted our effort in this direction and for their friendly attitude toward us in many ways. Just here we would acknowledge our indebtedness to Editor York for the prints of the photographs of Editors Root and Hutchinson, which appear in this issue.

Conversations with Doolittle.

LOCATING AN APIARY.

"Good morning, Mr. Doolittle. I have come clear from Texas (by letter) to have a little talk with you about locating an apiary. I expect to start with twenty-five colonies, and wish to increase them to 100 during the years to come."

"Well, twenty-five colonies is rather too many to start with unless you have some knowledge already of bee-keeping."

"I have been studying the matter

for three years to a certain extent, reading all I came across in the agricultural papers, and I have visited two or three bee-yards."

"This will be a help to you; but before entering the ranks of bee-keepers you should purchase one or two good books on bee-keeping, and read them till you are familiar with the subject. Then you should take one or more of the bee-papers."

"I expect to do this; but what I wish to know just now is, what is the best position in which hives should be placed?"

"In reply to this I would say that they should be perfectly level from side to side, and slope a trifle toward the entrance or front of the hive, enough to carry off the water when it rains. This helps the bees also to build straight combs, where a person allows the bees to build them, instead of furnishing them with frames filled with comb-foundation."

"Should hives be always thus fixed?"

"Fixing them in the way I have told you was on the supposition that the frames of comb run lengthwise toward the front side of the hive or entrance, as is considered best by nearly all of our leading apiarists. If they run parallel to the entrance, then the hive should be level both ways."

"Understanding that part, the next thing I wish to know is the distance the hives should stand above the ground."

On this good authorities differ. Some say from 1 ft. to 18 in., and others think from 4 in. to 5 in. best."

"But what do you use?"

"I use a 1-in. thick bottom-board, with cleats 2 in. thick nailed on the under side of it, which rest on the ground and prevent the bottom board from warping. This raises the hive 3 in. from the ground, that being, to