

I put on top storeys, and in the evenings uncapped and put the combs in them so as to keep up the honey flow by supplying the bees with plenty of unsealed stores. After the great killing frost of May 28th, 1889, I uncapped and fed over 500 bs. before the clover season opened, and every colony had plenty of sealed honey in their hives while I was doing that. My colonies did great business that honey season, as I had them in grand condition when the honey flow came.

In the C. B. J. of April 15th, page 22, Mr. Cornell says that he will furnish beta-naphthol if I will experiment with it on foul brood colonies. I will, with the greatest of pleasure, accept his very kind and generous offer, and will give that medicine every possible chance. If that medicine will cure or even prevent foul brood it will be a great thing for all the bee-keepers that have their apiaries near careless men that only make bee-keeping a fifth wheel to their waggon.

As I had to answer friend Cornell through the C. B. J., I thought I would write a few lines on the winter and spring management of bees. And while I think of it, I will here congratulate the editors of the C. B. J. on the great improvement in the JOURNAL. Every letter in the last few issues is very valuable.

WM. McEvoy.

Woodburn, May 4th, 1892.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.
After-Dinner Thoughts.

SOME people seem to think that there are certain rules and regulations that infallibly govern bees in all cases and places. While this may be the case with some things that pertain to the regulation of the colony, yet the habits of bees vary according to circumstances, as much, perhaps, as the habits of the human race. For instance, bees have been known to use the dried carcass of a dead animal for a hive, perhaps because trees were scarce. The question of distance that bees will fly for forage is another that seems to puzzle some bee-keepers. This, too, depends on conditions and circumstances, because bees seldom have to fly nine miles for honey, is no reason to suppose that they will not do it in an emergency. When bees must have honey, they are going to have it if it is to be had, and all precedents are laid aside. The question of distance is not discussed by bees—it is simply a question of life or death with them; and if no honey is nearer than eight or nine miles, and, perchance, they wander half that distance in a fruitless search, when lo! their keen sense of smell detects the odor of sweet scented flowers four or four and one-half miles beyond, do you suppose they will retrace the like dis-

tance already journeyed, gently murmuring to themselves: "Although we could get honey by going a little further, yet it would not be according to the books, yet we must go back and see what Hutchinson and Miller can do for us in this extreme emergency?" No, I don't presume they will do any such thing as to come back until they have found honey, even if they have to go nine miles for it. Of course they could not store much surplus honey at this long distance, but they would take good care that they had enough to live on, I think. It is very common for bees in a large apiary to go four or five miles for honey, if they can find it a little more plentiful at that distance.

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Mr. A. Bechtel has my entire sympathy and disrespect. He says he sulphured nearly all his bees last fall, and aint going to keep more than two or three colonies, cos he's in a poor place for bees. Furthermore, he says it aint worth while 'going into bees any more unless the Foul Brood Inspector comes along and provides a remedy. Dear Mr. Bechtel, while we can readily imagine that a man who will kill his bees for the reasons you present is small enough "to go into his bees," still at two or three glances we can also see that it is beyond the power of the Inspector to keep you "out of your bees." Oh, no, I don't wonder your bees have foul brood if you act that way.

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On page 26 there is a very learned piece about Foul Brood. For terms that we don't often see and can't grasp their meaning, that piece is a "clinger." I guess it's an imported piece. If the man who wrote it is yet living, I would ask him what such an article does towards helping bee-keepers to know better, or to avoid, or to abstain from *making foul brood*. If you know how to keep well, you'll never have to have Mason or Miller doctor you with Root medicine to make you into a New-man again after being sick. That's the way with bees, if you know how to handle them according to *nature's laws*—you need have no sick ones. It's all very well to know how to cure sick bees. I think it's one very great blessing to know how to cure sick people, but while we love to give thanks for skill to cure our sick relatives and friends, I think we should study and ask for wisdom to guide us aright, that we may obey nature's laws, and keep well. We would always keep pretty well if we did right at all times. The trouble is we don't always know how. Bees would always be pretty well if we did right with them at all times—that is, if we didn't do wrong with them by breaking nature's laws in some things we do