

Communications.

Editor Canadian Bee Journal.

Dear Sir:—I have carefully read the letter of "Spectator" in the Sun and have no doubt he is some ill natured crank that is jealous because a neighbor gets some honey. There are a lot of such men in the country. I frequently hear complaints as to the increase of sweet clover, but although the roads are wild with rag weed and it is spreading rapidly, not a word is said about it, if it yielded honey and some one got a benefit from its growth, there would be a big howl. I am surrounded with raspberry growers and have the bushes growing within ten feet of my hives, they are "Cuthberts" too, but I have never heard a single complaint as to the bees attacking perfect berries. At the end of the season when a few small stunted berries only are left the bees may be seen on them but whether they bite them or only take the juice after other insects have cut the skin I don't know. It has been explained that from the construction of the bees' mouth it cannot bite fruit any more than a man could bite a piece out of an uncut pumpkin. That being so perhaps may explain how bees can bite small raspberries as the fruit is composed of small globes, and when by reason of their being extra small, as in imperfect berries, the bees may be able to get a hold on them and so cut the skin, but from my experience the loss by bees is so trifling that it is not worth considering, and the benefit every fruit grower derives from having his fruit fertilized by bees more than balances the account one hundred times over. In my bee yard

I grow apples, pears, plums, cherries, grapes, raspberries, currants and gooseberries, and have no trouble with the bees destroying them.

The complaint that "many keep bees without providing food for them shows how little Spectator knows about bees and throws doubt on his whole whine.

Yours Truly,
J. D. Evans

Islington, Sept. 24th.

Moving Bees a Short Distance.

Editor Hill of the "American Bee Keeper," replying to a question of the above subject says:—"Where but one or two colonies are to be moved we know no better plan than this:—"Set all frames containing unsealed brood, queen and nearly all the bees into another hive-body and place upon the stand where it is desired to have it remain, leaving but a few frames of comb with honey and sealed brood upon the old stand. In the evening of the second day carefully transfer the old hive also to the new location, and, having its bottom board removed, set it upon the new first removed. If a board or other object is set against the front of the hive, causing the bees to note the new location upon first starting in the morning, but few bees will be lost."

To remove propolis from the hive after cleaning comb honey, rub well with lard, which will loosen propolis, wash off the lard with soap and water and the hands will be clean.

WANTED.

Larg quantities of pure honey. Producers agents furnished free by the buyer. Apply

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