

aining full sheets of foundation), it is since my unfortunate experience with foul brood, as it has given me the opportunity of a peep into the interior of many hives, not only in my own locality, but in different parts of Ontario; and if Mr. McEvoy can spare the time, I hope he will give an article on the same, as he more than any other man I know of can do so. I have tried many kinds of wiring; but so far none is better with me than the perpendicular method, and the use of eight wires for an L frame; and if I were going to be a producer of extracted honey alone, I should follow the practice of our American friends, and have a battery as illustrated in the Review and Gleanings, for embedding the wires by electricity. I must confess, in conclusion, that in justice to Mr. Deadman, (who still lives, I believe), I am on his side, and am also glad to see Mr. Chalmers is with us. Are there no others who can stand up in our defence? I, however, do not wish it to be understood that good combs can be had without adopting my views and following my methods; but I do believe that unless some more valid excuse can be given than the expense and time consumed in so preparing such frames at a season of the year when there is little or nothing else to do, that one is more than repaid by the saving of time and anxiety at a period when other important matters require prompt attention. A thing well done is twice done; and nothing holds better in any pursuit than in apiculture—good combs being “a thing of beauty and a joy forever,” to say nothing of the comfort of extracting from them, or the pleasure of handling hives containing them, when removing to and from out apiaries.

F. A. GEMMELL.

Stratford, July 12th, 1892.

BEES FOR UNCLE JERRY.

A Swarm of Honey Getters Locates in His Department.

LIVED IN A BIG VASE—THEY BRING GOOD LUCK—HOW IT HAPPENED AND WHAT WILL BECOME OF THEM—THEIR CURIOUS BUILDING AND OTHER HABITS—A BAD PLACE TO PICK OUT—WONDERS ABOUT BEES.

WHEN a swarm of strange bees comes and settles on one's premises it brings good luck, so the current superstition says. Secretary Rusk ought to congratulate himself, therefore, on the acquisition of a buzzing colony which arrived the other day from some unknown source and took up its quarters in the main building of the Agricultural De-

partment at Washington, U. S. A., Such interest in the matter is felt by the official staff that every visitor is asked to observe the busy honey makers, as they fly in and out of the vase that crowns the tall column on the left-hand side of the principal entrance. In this curious place, among the cast-iron fruits that fill the receptacle aforesaid, they have begun to build their hive.

A STRAY SWARM.

“Where did these bees come from?” people ask. Undoubtedly from some one of several apiaries which are maintained in this neighborhood. They are a stray swarm. This being the season when flowers are most plentiful business was particularly good in the parent hive just before they left it. A large stock of honey had already been laid in, the population had been multiplied to the point of crowding and the queen was ready to lead a company of enterprising members of the community out and away to some spot favorable for founding another colony and constructing another dwelling. Other queens, one of whom would take her place after her departure, were in their cells and about to be hatched.

So one fine day, about a fortnight ago, she flew out of the hive with a swarm of workers, each of the latter having filled herself preliminarily with as much honey as she could hold. Of this material there was plenty to be easily obtained from cells full of it, fresh gathered which had not yet been finished by being covered over with neat caps of wax. Thus supplied, they went and gathered in a cluster on a branch of a tree. Any one could have told by their buzzing that they were engaged in consultation, the result of which might have been presently seen in the departure of a number of individuals in different directions. These were scouts and they went with instructions to hunt up some suitable place for a new home.

SELECTING A NEW HOME.

After a little while they came back and made their reports, of which one excited more favorable attention than any of the others. It was submitted by a bee, who said that she had discovered a very remarkable and attractive location for a hive just above and to the left of the main entrance to the large brick building facing 13th street, in the neighborhood of which there was a profusion of flowers. Accordingly the migrating swarm struck out for the locality indicated, where before night they had fairly set up house-keeping—a sort of St. Simon Stylites colony on top of the column. Furthermore it will presently be seen that they brought with them the materials requisite for beginning the furnishing of their freshly adopted home.

(To be concluded.)