

This particular spot is about 80 rods south from the apiary, in the centre of 20 acres of timber that had been cut off and is growing up in second growth. Where they congregate, the ground is more open than the rest. Between that and the apiary, or anywhere else in the timber, no sound of bees could be heard. And now comes the important part. Day after day, when drones were flying, I would go to that spot and there they would be, as many as ever. I have seen them dart at the devil's darning-needles, and have often amused myself by throwing up small chips or pieces of bark, to see three or four follow them nearly to the ground. There were 165 colonies in the apiary then before I divided it. This year there are over 100 colonies and the drones still fly in the same place. I was throwing at them just the other day. I believe nearly all the drones on the wing congregate there. My observations have extended over two seasons, and any one can see that I have made no hasty conclusions. If there should happen to be a doubting Thomas among those who read this, I should like the privilege of dispelling that doubt. And now come the question: Do drones all congregate at a particular spot for the purpose of mating with the young queens? Why do they select that particular spot two years in succession? Last year there were a good many other bees in the neighborhood; this year very few.

ROLAND SHERBURN.

Lone Tree, Ia., Sept. 2.

From the American Bee Journal.

N. A. B. K. A., NOTES.

THE North American Convention at Columbus, O., was a small but a very enthusiastic annual gathering of the bee-keepers of the Continent. Some seven States were represented, and our friend Holtermann, of Brantford, Ont., represented the Province of Ontario, Canada. It convened last Wednesday morning, and held six sessions. Then, as it was generally desired by those present to visit the Centennial grounds to view the attractions there presented, including the bee and honey show, the last day was spent on those grounds in social and fraternal intercourse, while examining and commenting upon the exhibits of bees, honey and apian supplies.

Some of the principal exhibitors were A. I. Root, Dr. A. B. Mason, Dr. H. Besse, Dr. G. L. Tinker, Mr. McPherson, etc.

The honey exhibit was very fine, and conferred credit upon all the exhibitors, many of whose names we cannot now recall.

Mr. Root's exhibit of apian implements

was large and varied, covering almost everything used advantageously in apiculture. In the "Power Hall" Mr. Root had his machinery running which makes one-piece sections complete, from the wood in the rough. The saws make such fine work that the sections looked as though they had been sand-papered. It is a triumph in the art of making sections to have them beautiful as well as useful. To say that in workmanship they were fully equal to those four-piece sections made by Dr. G. L. Tinker, is no small praise, for the Doctor's work has heretofore excelled almost everything presented in that line.

The magnificent coliseum building on the grounds is a marvel. It is said to hold ten thousand persons, and seat about six thousand. The speaker can be distinctly heard anywhere in the hall, so perfect are the acoustics thereof. It is about 250 feet across, and 100 feet in height.

Our visiting company consisted of Mr. A. I. Root, Dr. Miller, Mr. McLain, Dr. A. B. Mason and ourselves. We prevailed upon Dr. Miller to play the organ and sing several pieces, accompanied by the rest of the party. We went to the further side of the hall, and we could hear the words distinctly—but we cannot enumerate all the things that were very attractive to us.

Mr. Ernest Root, son of A. I. Root, an estimable young man, was accompanied by his charming and affable wife. He had with him his instrument for taking instantaneous photographic views, and it was well employed. He "took" the members of the convention, the bee and honey building on the grounds, and several views of the exhibits.

Father Langstroth has taken a severe cold, and is again unable to leave home. For that reason his promised essay for the North American Convention was among the missing.

Eight States were represented at the International Convention. The following are the officers elected for the ensuing year:

PRESIDENT—Dr. A. B. Mason, Auburndale, O.
VICE-PRESIDENTS—Thos. G. Newman, Chicago.

Prof. G. W. Webster, Lake Helen, Fla.

Joseph Nysewander, Des Moines, Iowa.

R. L. Taylor, Lapeer, Mich.

O. L. Hershisier, Jamestown, N. Y.

Martin Emigh, Holbrook, Ont.

Frank A. Eaton, Bluffton, Ohio.

F. Minnick, Bessemer, Wis.

SECRETARY—R. F. Holtermann, Brantford, Ont.

TREASURER—Dr. C. C. Miller, Marengo, Ill.

Place of meeting, Brantford, Ont.

Singing was made a feature of the convention. Dr. Miller is an organist, and had composed the music for two bee-keepers' songs, which were written by that poet-laureate of bee-men—Mr.