

almost imagine that you had been studying the tactics of the British soldiers in the Soudan to prevent the Mahdi from annihilating them. During the honey season it makes little difference whether the hives are facing north or west, but in early spring or late in the fall we would much prefer to have them facing south or east. That your bees starved with plenty of honey around them shows clearly that they lacked the means of getting to it. Had you adopted the Hill device it would have enabled them to pass over the tops of the frames to their stores. The latter part of your report is certainly very encouraging, and is a further proof that proper management gives good returns. What other business could you have invested in that would have returned your money three or four fold?

Rural Canadian.

EXHIBITION GRIEVANCES.

THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL of September 30th, contains the following paragraph: "At London, because the directors could not or would not give sufficient space to bee-keepers, several loads of comb and extracted honey were driven right home again. If the directorate of the Western Fair expect to retain the interests of the bee-keeping fraternity they will find it necessary to use them a little differently, and to endeavor to meet their views in the matter of accommodation. For a certainty we know that their demands on the directors were extremely modest, and *should have been* acceded to."

A trifling error has crept into the above statement. The blame is attributed to "the Directorate of the Western Fair." This is a mistake. It was the Directorate of the Provincial Fair which had the control of arrangements, and the above is only one of many complaints as to bad management at the recent exhibition, so much so that the local papers have joined in a chorus of condemnation; and there seems to be a general wish that the Provincial may not be appointed at London again. The Toronto Industrial is the only one of our great exhibitions at which the honey product is properly appreciated. Usually, honey is dumped in among "Dairy Products," and a solitary prize offered for it along with butter, cheese and bacon. At the recent Guelph Central, there was a prize offered for comb honey only. No notice whatever was taken of the extracted article. Mr. J. R. Morison, a young bee-

keeper who has recently started the "Royal City Apiary," was obliged to pay \$1 entry fee for the privilege of making an exhibit of his honey, and was then taxed \$2 for the additional privilege of selling. The sum total, \$3, was quite a percentage to deduct from the small profit on his sales.

Exhibition directors must be made to know that honey and bee-keepers' requisites are as deserving of premiums as a great many other things that figure on their prize lists. Bee-keepers have the matter very much in their own hands. Let them attend the annual meetings of the agricultural societies, and urge the claims of apiculture to more prominent recognition. The conspicuous place assigned to the honey department at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition was mainly obtained by the energetic efforts of Mr. D. A. Jones, and if other producers will go and do likewise, there will be fewer grievances of this kind to complain of hereafter.

If we have blamed the wrong parties we are truly sorry. That "someone blundered" is however not disputed.

Rural Canadian.

NOTES FOR NOVEMBER.

IN addition to the two most generally adopted modes of wintering which I gave in detail last month, I will give a third, which often proves successful in sand or gravelly soils. Some bee-men of experience, indeed, prefer it to either of the methods already given. It is called the clamp method, and consists in burying the bees beyond the reach of frost. A peculiar modification of this has existed in Russia for generations past. There perpendicular pits resembling wells are dug, which they fill in the fall with hives placed one above another, commencing about twenty feet below the surface. After the pit is filled in this manner as far as the frost line, it is covered by a platform perforated by a ventilating shaft, the interval between the platform and the surface of the earth being filled up with straw or leaves, trodden down. There the bees remain undisturbed during the long and severe Russian winter; and the fact that Russia produces a very large amount of wax and honey is sufficient to attest the efficiency of this method of wintering in a severe climate. The mode generally adopted in America, however, is by excavating in sandy loam a trench two feet in depth, and the same in width, and as long as will accommodate the number of hives you wish to bury. Make a drain sufficient to draw off all the water likely to accumulate; fill the clamp one foot in depth with dry leaves or straw well trodden down; place a few boards over this at inter-