

## NOTES AND COMMENTS

By a York County Bee-Keeper

### Best Kind of Hive Tool.

Hardly a week passes without having some new-fangled idea as to "best hive tool," illustrated and described in one or more of our bee journals. This reminds me that in managing three yards I have not so far this season used any kind of tool at all excepting my fingers. To be sure, later on in the season, when any manipulation is necessary during cool weather, something stronger may be needed, and in such cases I know of nothing better than the old-time screwdriver. A correspondent in August "American Bee-keeper" describes a hive tool patterned after a burglar's "jimmy," and made from a piece of carirage spring, which he says is "powerful enough to tear the cover off a hive or the roof off a house, if you have leverage enough." He also adds that it works well with propolized frames. Presume he means Hoffman frames, of the kind Editor Hutchinson is railing at.

### Be careful of Quality of Winter Stores.

In view of approaching winter, and the necessity of having good winter stores in the hives, we feel, with the "American Bee-keeper" to "caution our readers who live in cities, towns and villages against permitting their bees storing the juice of electric currents."

### Apiaries and Babies.

That extensive Californian apiarist, J. F. McIntyre, in an article in June "Review," says: "It is my opinion that a man cannot run out-apiaries and be as happy as he was when one apiary, one wife and two or three babies were all he had." The "American Bee-keeper" wonders if we are to in-

fer from this that he adds a wife and set of babies with each apiary. While not in a position to answer the question positively, I would presume that such was not the case, as, aside from Mr. McIntyre being a former Canuck, to the best of my knowledge such combinations and privileges are only customary in the vicinity of Salt Lake City.

[This would certainly be "bringing them up among the bees;" but, say, how would half-a-dozen be like that "bouncing boy" we heard of arriving at the "York Co. home yard" a short time ago? Afraid there would be swarms absconding, eh?—Ed.]

### Bisulphide of Carbon as a Fumigator.

Just at present quite a few writers are advising against the use of this drug, owing to it being of such an explosive nature. If we had combs affected with moths would not hesitate to use it in preference to sulphur, which always makes the writer sick. With proper precautions there is no more danger in using the bi-sulphide of carbon than in using gasoline, kerosene and other articles of common use. Of course, it is understood that it is positively dangerous to take fire in any way into a room where the stuff is evaporating.

[We thoroughly agree with you using the same precautions with this drug as with the other explosives. But mention there should be no danger. Besides being much more convenient than sulphur, it is superior in that it not only kills the insects, but also destroys the vitality of their eggs.—Ed.]

### Quality of Honey Used by Manufacturers.

Editor Root, commenting in "Gleanings" on a recent sale of 70 casks of loads of honey to the National Biscuit Co., expresses the opinion that the bulk of this honey would be adulterated and off-grade. While he may be right in his surmise, judging from conditions, it