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about bee-keeping than there is about keeping any other kind of stock. It is just the way you care for them, and it is easy when you know how. Study the nature of the bees. Be out in your bee-yard whenever you have leisure time and get acquainted with your bees. Most all new beginners dread bee stings. Never mind bee stings. You must get used to it. The oftener you are stung the less it will affect you when once you get thoroughly inoculated with the poison. It will have no ill-effect on you. All old bee-keepers will tell you that bee stings are healthy—no better medicine for rheumatism than bee stings. If you are nervous and cannot sleep good at night, go into your bee-yard and get stung a few times, and it will make you sleep good, even if you do get up in the morning with one eye swelled shut.

I am an old bee-keeper 81 years old, having kept bees 52 years, and have always made my own hives and attended to my bees without any help up to the present time, and having been stung thousands of times by the bees, I never feel better than when working among them and getting stung every day. In the spring, when the bees commence to fly, I often go into my bee-yard on purpose to get stung by the bees. It is the best spring medicine you can take to cleanse your blood.

Some years ago I sold half a dozen swarms of bees to a man living not many miles from me. This man was too stingy to leave honey enough in the hives for the bees to winter on. His bees all starved to death. I knew another man who extracted all the honey from his hives just at the close of the honey harvest. He, too, lost all his bees. You never should extract from the brood-chamber from hives you intend to winter over.

The wise bee-keeper will not blow smoke into hives when a flow of honey is on, as bees always fill their sacks with

honey when smoke is blown into the hive and when filled with honey will remain at home and will not leave for the fields to gather honey for a whole day. A strong colony of bees will store from ten to fifteen pounds of honey in one day. We should give the bees all the help we can to store honey when the honey flow is on. A bee-keeper also should never blow smoke into the hive when putting on surplus boxes or when taking off surplus boxes. When using a smoker, do not fill it with old cotton rags, shavings or dry, rotten wood. This makes too hot a smoke. When hot smoke is blown among the brood it kills the life germ of the larvæ. This makes a bad smell in the hive, and worries the bees, so that they dwindle down and will not prosper as they should. The best thing I have ever used to burn in a bee-smoker is bee fungus. This fungus grows on the outside of old maple stumps, and is the shape of a half-moon, and is white on the under side and of a punky nature. Dry it and cut up in small pieces about two inches square. A smoker filled with this fungus will burn for a long time and make a mild smoke and not too hot to do any harm to the bees and brood, and will quiet the bees in less time than any kind of smoke I have ever used. Never blow tobacco smoke in a hive; it stupefies the bees and retards their work. I would just say to young men who take a fancy to bee-keeping, before commencing to keep bees, if you are in the habit of using tobacco and drinking whiskey, you had better lay aside this bad, filthy habit, as the breath of such a young man is very offensive to the bees. You know the good Book tells us to cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh, and what is more filthy to the bees than to have a young man smoking tobacco in their sight? They are most sure to go for him and use their sharp weapons to drive him out of the bee-yard. You know the little Italian chaps are tidy house-keepers, and like a nice tidy cottage to