

diligent student of the ways of the busy bees. It is rare to find any one so familiar with what has been done and written relative to bee-keeping. As a business, Mr. D. has made bee-keeping a success, although he has never kept a large number of colonies, principally if not wholly because he prefers to keep no more than he can manage without outside help. In 1886 he wrote in the American Bee Journal, "From less than 50 colonies of bees (spring count) I have cleared over \$1000 each year for the past 13 years, taken as an average. I have not hired 13 days' labor in that time in the apiary, nor had any apprentices or students to do the work for me, although I have had many applications from those who wished to spend a season with me. Besides my labor with the bees, I take care of my garden and a small farm (20 acres), have charge of my father's estate, run my own shop and steam-engine, sawing sections, hives, honey crates, etc. for myself and my neighbors, write for seven different papers, and answer a host of correspondence." Mr. D. works for comb honey, and also makes quite a business of rearing queens for sale. Although a prolific writer, his fund of information never seems exhausted, and he is uniformly practical and interesting. His writings give evidence of the close and careful thinker. In personal appearance Mr. D. is of commanding presence, being large and well-formed, of sandy complexion, and in manner he is a genial Christian gentleman.

The price of Mr. Doolittle's book is \$1 by mail and may be procured of the publishers, Messrs. Thos. G. Newman & Son, or from this office.

For the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Bees Fighting a Windmill.

DOUBT but you have heard of the farmer who had a cross ram that would butt everything movable, so one evening he tied a maul by a long rope and let it swing from a tree. Next morning the ram had butted itself all away but the tail. I had a very good illustration of the above to-day with the bees.

I have a small windmill up on a pole close to the bee-yard, and when the wind blows it runs rapidly, the bees took to fighting it to-day and would dart savagely at it and be clicked off several feet. Some of them would return to the attack several times before giving up the battle. It was really amusing and something I never noticed before. I did not examine to see if any of them had left their tails.

MORAL.—You had better part Dr. Mason and Mr. McKnight before anything serious happens. Springfield. JOHN YODER.

Improved Methods in Honey Production

ADDISON County, Vermont, celebrated for its pure-bred Merino sheep and horses, also stands high as a honey producing region. The heavy clay soil favors an abundant growth of white clover which usually yields large quantities of the finest honey. Basswood trees also abound. The surplus honey field being of short duration and very heavy, allows quick work by the bees, which insures delicate white comb, and, with good management, completely filled boxes. This, with its fine quality, gives Addison comb honey its justly deserved reputation. Numerous farmers and a few specialists scattered about the country keep bees. In some cases 200 colonies are kept in one yard with good results, while from forty to 100 is the usual number. Many with no love for the pursuit, but who have engaged in it simply for the dollars and cents to be made by following the instructions of leading bee masters, have found it as profitable or more so than any other branch of their farm work, and now market their ton or two of comb honey yearly. The specialists who run a number of large yards in different locations and make it their principal business, have also been successful in securing from ten to twenty tons of honey in a single good season.

The most extensive apiarist in this section and probably the one having the largest number of colonies in New England is A. E. Manum. He commenced in 1870 with two colonies and, although like other bee-keepers he soon found that a good season was usually followed by a poor one, his success led him to extend the business, and in the spring of 1885 he had in five different yards 470 colonies. That season was an unusual one, and he obtained from them nineteen tons of comb honey and three tons of extracted honey, and an increase in bees, making 850 colonies in the fall. This large crop was nearly all gathered in twelve days, and one of the best colonies on scales at Yard No. 2, while working on basswood, gathered in one day thirty-three pounds and in four days 124 pounds. The largest yield from one hive was 228 pounds of comb honey. His greatest yield in 1883 was 312 pounds of comb honey from the bees in one hive. As an offset to this and the previous good years, each season since 1885 has been a poor one, and his bees have not paid expenses. With a few exceptions in favored localities, bee-keepers everywhere have fared the same, although three such poor seasons in succession are unparalleled in the history of the industry in this country. Mr. Manum's out-apiaries are from two to sixteen miles from the home yard. The long row