

have not only had success, but don't stand with mouth gaping to swallow all the lies that some greased hypocrite sees fit to inflict upon us in reference to their great knowledge of what the honey season will be in certain localities—even coming down so fine as to predict honey flows for certain counties. Our present gay deluder of this class, I think, lives south somewhere, his present victim being the A.B.J. (poor thing!)

But as my dinner is getting settled, and it is a busy time of the year, I must hasten to close these few thoughts, with strong and well defined admonitions to my brethren not to work their bees to death in the fall at getting poor honey to sell at a poor price, to make a poor market, and to leave poor and scanty stores for winter. How can you expect poor old worked-to-death bees to winter on such poor stores and come out in spring—if alive at all—in any other condition than poor enough to make you poor, and compel you to send in a poor report, and charge your poor prospects to a poor season—you poor fellow! when it was only your poor management that brought about such poor results? Why didn't you allow forty or fifty pounds of honey per colony, leaving a case of sealed honey in every colony besides the hive full, so that your bees are quiet and not worn out trying to scrape up stores for winter after you have robbed them? The season may be a good scapegoat, but that goat will never fetch you bread and butter.

Yours &c.,

JOHN F. GATES.

Ovid, Erie Co., Pa.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Preservation of Combs for Future Use.

SIR,—Some time ago I promised to send you a description of my method of preserving surplus combs for future use; and as the season is now fast approaching for renewal of the supers containing combs for future use, and although hard pressed by other duties, I snatch a moment to do this; and if it only benefits a solitary bee-keeper, I will count myself well repaid.

After extracting all the combs I intend carrying over, I return them to the supers, and set them on a bench made of plank, about ten inches high, and situated about one hundred feet from the yard, spacing the frames about an inch apart, or in other words, putting five combs into an eight-frame super, or empty hive. I then pile them up four tiers high, without cloth or cover except the top tier, leaving an entrance at or near the bottom of the first hive, so that on fine days the bees can get in and clean up any honey that may still be adhering to the combs.

In this way I have no trouble from moths. The only trouble I experienced this season was that a chipmunk made its home in one house and a field-mouse hers in another. The damage, however, was light in comparison with the ravages of the bee moth, where the combs are not properly kept.

Owing to the failure of the honey crop this season, I have still on hand some of last year's combs which are perfectly clean and sound.

HO! FOR THE COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION! AND HURRAH!
FOR OUR WORTHY COMMISSIONER.

As a bee-keeper, I heartily endorse the sentiments of Mr. McKnight in the C.B.J. of the 1st ult. Very truly the bee-keepers of this Province ought not to lag in their duty in presence of all that their representatives at Toronto have done for them. But I fear that what he says of this year's crop is only too true. As for the honey crop here I may say it is a total failure. Where I took over three thousand pounds last year, I only get four hundred this year, and that of very inferior quality compared with that of 1891. Then, what are we to do? Surely, not send an inferior article; whilst to send none would, under the circumstances, be still worse. Let me suggest, then, that some competent judge of honey be appointed by the Executive of the Ontario Bee-keepers' Association—that all those who desire to exhibit at Chicago, and are in any way doubtful of the quality of their honey, send samples to the judge, and be guided by his advice. From what I have seen of Mr. McEvoy, our foul-brood inspector, at London, with some samples which he was called on to test, I think he would be the right man in the right place; and this could be done without any great expense, as it would only cost two cents to send a sample by mail.

I have not the least doubt that Ontario can and will make one of the best exhibits of honey at Chicago, of any country in the world, provided we give "a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether." And without this the whole affair will be a failure.

Yours, &c.,

W. J. BROWN.

Chard, Ont., Aug. 12th, 1892.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Report 1891-2



Y engagements in bee-keeping at Kalmar, an isolated station on the main line of the C. P. R., some ten miles from the Manitoba boundary, and 109 miles east of Winnipeg, have been merely experimental.