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CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

NEW SERIES
VOL. II, No. 4.

BRANTFORD, ONT., OCT., 1894.

WHOLE No.
336.

There is no doubt that there has been a slight touch of honey dew in some parts of the province, just before and at the opening of clover. The old hives are those most likely to have some of such stores still left in the hive. There is great danger of loss during winter from the consumption of such. All such hives should at least have a very liberal feed of sugar syrup. Of course it would be better yet, to remove dark stores gathered early, if the hive contained any.

* * *

The annual meeting of the North American Bee-Keeper's Association takes place at St. Joseph, Mo., October

The North American Convention. 10th, 11th, 12th next, a change from the first date fixed. It will be remembered that last year we

almost succeeded in getting the convention to Toronto. Our failure was a keen disappointment to Canadian bee-keepers and especially to those who regretted that any misunderstanding should have arisen over incorporation between a few Canadians and our United States brethren. After St. Joseph, Mo., was selected, there were quite a few expressions and especially from southern friends that they would give the convention to Toronto at the next meeting. It is always a difficult matter to get those not attending a convention to pay their membership fee, but we should like to see as many as possible send the membership fee to the secretary Frank Benton, Depart-

ment of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. It is our intention to go to the convention and give as full a report as possible of the proceedings, it will be a long and expensive trip but we have, as long as peace and good will reigned, always been amply repaid for attending conventions. It will be a beautiful time of the year to visit St. Joseph and we should like to meet there as many Canadian friends as possible.

* * *

In the July 5th number of the American Bee Journal, J. A. Green presents some strong arguments in favor of a separate set of combs for extracted honey and that these shall be shallow.

In brief his claims are, that it injures the honey to have it stored in combs in which brood has been reared, that the different size of extracting combs prevents their use as brooding combs. Extracting frames being shallow they are more easily broken. The bees enter a shallow super more readily than a deep, and room may be added more gradually when needed.

Mr. Green also favors fixed frames, his supers are six inches deep. He uses 7 frames in 11¼ inch for extracting. Eight frames are used in the same space for the brood chamber. We must confess that this is the strongest claim and the most reasonable we have seen in favor of shallow extracting supers. It is we believe very desirable that the extracting combs be not used in the brood chamber, with the majority, the vast majority, the way to secure

this is to have them a different size. Readers will notice Mr. Green does not favor an extremely shallow super, its depth is six inches.

The problem of fixed frames for extracting supers has engaged our attention a good deal this summer. Thus far, however much we like them in the brood chamber, we do not favor them strongly in the supers.

.

The son of a former slave owner lately met one of the colored "boys" of the old plantation, and stopped Strictly Business to have a chat about as Editor. "matters and things."

"Well, John," said he, "and what are you doing these days?"

"I see a zorter, Massa Bob."

"An exhorter, you mean?"

"Yes, sir, a zorter; dat's it!"

"I thought you were a preacher. What is the difference between a preacher and an exhorter?"

"Diff'rence 'twixt a zorter an' a preacher is zactly this: preacher he stick to de tex', but zorter he hit all round!"

The moral of this story is that Editor Holterman is from home and did not leave enough copy for the voracious printer, and in consequence he has been after me with an empty stick. Editor H has stuck very faithfully to the text of practical bee-keeping for some months, so I decided to "hit all round." There was two good reasons for this—first, you gentle, indulgent, good-looking, patient reader will appreciate the return next month to solid fare all the more for a little diversion, and—secondly, I did not dare even make a selection on practical bee-keeping for fear of exposing my wisdom and knowledge of the noble art.

.

The report of Mr. N. Awrey, M. P., Ontario Commissioner to the World's Columbian Exposition is to Report of hand. It is a report of which Awards. Ontario can be justly proud Under the head of Honey we find the following:

Under the department of agriculture,

comes that of honey, and in this class the Province of Ontario represented the Dominion. This department was under the management and direction of Allen Pringle, one of the most expert apiarians of the American continent. We came into competition with almost every state in the American Union, and the result shows the superior excellence of this product coming from our province, Ontario obtaining seventeen awards, while all the States of the American Union together only obtained twenty-eight. We secured what was granted to no other country, a collective award, representing 8,500 lbs of extracted honey and almost a similar quantity of honey in the comb. These results are a sufficient comment upon the excellence of the display, without any further remarks by your commissioner.

AWARDS GROUP IV.

Goold, Shapley & Muir Co., Brantford	20 lbs. clover comb honey, 1892	
Ontario Government	Toronto	2,500 lbs. Extracted honey.
Ontario Government	Toronto	Extracted and comb honey.
A. F. Sherrington	Walkerton	Linden extracted honey.
J. B. Hall	Woodstock	Clover comb honey, 1892.
D. D. Chalmers	Poole	Thisle extracted honey.
J. Newton	Thamesford	Clover comb honey.
J. B. Aches	Poplar Hill	40 lbs. clover comb honey.
Goold, Shapley & Muir Co., Brantford	40 lbs. clover comb honey, 1898.	
Goold, Shapley & Muir Co., Brantford	Brood foundation.	
S. Corneil	Lindsay	Bee smelter.
George Wood	Monticello	Linden extracted honey.
Abner Fickett	Nassagaweya	Linden extracted honey.
George Harris & Son	Dungannon	20 lbs. clover extracted honey.
J. B. Hall	Woodstock	25 lbs. clover comb honey, 1893.
R. McKnight	Owen Sound	Linden extracted honey.
Goold, Shapley & Muir Co., Brantford		Honey extractor.

We notice that in the above the late S. Corneil is credited with an award on his

smoker; at one time he was so credited, later Mr. Pringle corrected the statement, saying it was on comb honey.

.

We feel sure our readers will be more than pleased with the report of our visit to Mr. C. W. Post. He is not a well-known bee-keeper, but of the very best in the Dominion. Not at all adverse to giving others the benefit of his wide experience, it is a difficult matter to get him to contribute to our apicultural literature, which our readers will very much regret. We have however the promise of something from his pen and before long we expect to be in a position to give our readers some idea of the appearance of Mr. Post and of his home and apiary. It is not for us to dictate to the Ontario Bee-Keeper's Association, but a retiring disposition should not prevent a man's worth and value to an association from being recognized either in the position of director or even a higher office.

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Those shipping queens from the United States to Canada should be very careful to mark the cages "Live Bees." We know of some which were delayed in the Customs, owing to the lack of such marking and such delay may mean death to the queen.

We sent last fall some queens to Detweiler of Florida, marked "Live Bees," they never reached their destination.

Later From C. F. Muth.

FRIEND HOLTERMAN:—I am advised today by the C. M. & D. R. R. Co. that the round trip between Cincinnati and St. Joseph for bee-keepers, will be one and one-third fare. It may accommodate a number of friends if you advertise the above. Get a railroad certificate and purchase single fare to St. Joseph from Cincinnati.

Yours truly,

CHAS. F. MUTH.

The Exhibit of Honey at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition

Although honey throughout the province of Ontario and even Quebec is only half a crop, the Toronto Industrial, in its display of honey, has no indication of it. The exhibitors are more numerous than ever. Those showing are: J. W. Sparling, Bowmanville; G. A. Deadman, Brussels; Chas. Brown, Drumquin; Geo. Laing, Milton; R. H. Smith, St. Thomas; the Goold, Shapely & Muir Co. (Ltd.) Brantford; W. A. Chrysler, Chatham; Will Ellis, St. Davids; Mrs. J. D. Hall, Woodstock, and R. F. Whiteside, Little Britain. Without entering into the merits of every exhibit, it is conspicuous that there is comb honey in the building fully equal to that of any other year, and it is quite evident that the best 20 lb. comb honey is ahead of last year's, showing that Canadians are making progress in the art of producing comb honey. The average throughout the entire building is higher than formerly. As to extracted honey, the color is good, if any difference from last year it is in favor of the past season's crop.

From the displays it would almost seem as if perfection had been reached. Messrs. Sparling and Deadman have more originality of design in their exhibits. Mr. Deadman exhibited once some eight years ago, Mr. Sparling exhibited for the first time. Both gentlemen have done well and promise with more experience to become powerful rivals for the big prize.

A defect, pointed out before, is that there is no award on quality of honey alone, display comb in almost every prize. That display should be a strong factor is desirable, that is the only way to make honey conspicuous; but bee-keepers throughout the country should be able in some sections to send in a 10 or 12 lb. lot wherein quality only is counted. In bees wax there is no species of reasoning that makes it just to exclude comb foundation makers, in fact it is a glaring injustice and the Toronto list is responsible for having this copied throughout other lists in the province.

The awards are as follows:

Sec. 1. Best display of 100 lbs. of extracted granulated honey in glass: 1st, R. H. Smith, St. Thomas; 2nd, Geo. Laing, Milton; 3rd, Chas. Brown, Drumquin; 4th, G. A. Deadman, Brussels.

Sec. 2. Best display of 500 lbs. of liquid extracted honey, of which not less than 250 lbs. must be in glass, quality to be considered: 1st, Geo. Laing; 2nd, R. H. Smith; 3rd, Goold, Shapely & Muir Co. (Ltd.), Brantford; 4th Chas. Brown.

Sec. 3. Best display of 500 lbs. of comb honey in sections, quality to be considered: 1st, Goold, Shapley & Muir Co. (Ltd.); 2nd, R. H. Smith; 3rd, Chas. Brown; 4th, J. W. Sparling.

Sec. 4. Best display of 20 lbs. of comb honey in sections, quality to be considered, that is to say, clean sections and best filled: 1st, Chas. Brown; 2nd, Mrs. Hall, Woodstock; 3rd, Goold, Shapley & Muir Co. (Ltd.); 4th, Will Ellis, St. Davids.

Sec. 5. Best display of 100 lbs. of extracted liquid linden honey, in glass, quality to be considered: 1st, Smith; 2nd, Laing; 3rd Brown.

Sec. 6. Best display of 100 lbs. of extracted liquid clover honey, in glass, quality considered: 1st, Brown; 2nd, Smith; 3rd, G. old, Shapley & Muir Co.

Sec. 7. Best beeswax, not less than 10 lbs. (manufacturers of comb foundation excluded): 1st, Laing; 2nd, Brown; 3rd, Henry Smith, St. Thomas.

Sec. 8. Best foundation for brood chamber: 1st, Goold, Shapley & Muir Co.; 2nd, W. A. Chrysler, Chatham; 3rd, R. H. Smith, St. Thomas.

Sec. 9. Best foundation for chamber: 1st, Goold, Shapley & Muir Co.; 2nd, Smith; 3rd, Chrysler.

Sec. 10. Apiarian supplies: 1st, Goold, Shapley & Muir Co.; 2nd, R. H. Smith.

Sec. 11. Best style and assortment of glass for retailing extracted honey: 1st, Goold, Shapley & Muir Co.; 2nd, R. H. Smith.

Sec. 12. Best section super for top story and system of manipulating, product to be exhibited in super as left by the bees: 1st, Laing; 2nd, Brown; 3rd, Goold, Shapley & Muir Co.

Sec. 13. Best and most practical new invention for the Apiarist, never shown before at this Exhibition: 1st, Smith; 2nd, Goold, Shapley & Muir Co.; 3rd, Brown; 4th, Goold, Shapley & Muir Co.

Sec. 14. Largest and best variety of domestic uses to which honey may be put, prepared by the exhibitor or a member of his household, illustrated by samples of the different things into which it enters as a component; for example, say one or two samples each in canned fruits, cakes, pastry, meats, vinegar, etc.: 1st, Laing; 2nd, Smith; 3rd, Deadman.

Sec. 15. For the largest, most tasty and neatly arranged exhibit of honey in the apiarian department, all the honey to be the production of the exhibitor, quality to be considered. Beeswax may be included in the exhibit: \$25 of this prize is given by the Ontario Beekeepers' Association: 1st, Laing; 2nd, Smith; 3rd, Brown.

A Rule of Growth.

One of the most difficult problems in life is to adjust the burden of one's immediate work to the conditions of one's largest development. Earnest young men and women are constantly tempted to pour their vitality so copiously in the channels of immediate duty that they frequently deny themselves the conditions of the highest growth. No young man can put all his force into the work of the day, if it be along intellectual lines, without dwarfing his ultimate development. There ought to be behind every specific force a general force, and in the long run the value of the specific force will depend upon the volume of general force; but it is this general force which is suffered to diminish by reason of the pressure of daily work. A young minister goes into a new parish. If he happens to be a brilliant man, he is immediately assailed by calls to take part in every kind of enterprise, to speak on all occasions, and to become a leader in every movement in the community. In the enthusiasm of his strength and devotion to his profession, he gives himself body and soul to the solicitations of all these enterprises, every one of which involves a certain tax upon his strength, time and thought. His congregation, meanwhile, anticipate from him freshness, force and growth in his pulpit work, and for a time they get it; but no man can grow into full stature, develop strong lines of thought and mature himself on the highest possible plane who does not reserve a good part of his time for study, investigation and meditation. In the course of ten years the man who gives himself to every demand begins to show a decline of freshness, a decay of force; and very soon the congregation that has been drawing on him relentlessly, and the community that has called him at every turn with imperative voice, begin to comment on his failure to fulfill the promise of his earlier years. Disappointment is followed by dissatisfaction, and the man often embittered by a sense of ingratitude, finds his influence waning, his force declining, and steps down in order that some other and fresher man may step up into his place.

Every man must protect himself against the demands of his position, of the community in which he lives, and of the causes which solicit his support, if he is to secure his highest growth and do his best work. He must heed not only the imperative demand of the duty of to-day, but the equally imperative demand of the duty of the next ten years. The young minister must defend himself against the not unkindly but often too exhausting demands of his congrega-

gation and the community. This is true of the teacher, of the writer, of every man who, by position or talent, addresses the public, or is engaged in any kind of public work. The world does not, and, in the nature of things, cannot stop to think of a man's future. It leaves that to him. If it is denied its requests, it may sometime grumble, but ten years afterward, instead of discarding a spent force, it is cherishing and following a growing leadership. There is a duty which every man owes to himself which is quite as great as that which he owes to community. Indeed it is in the widest sense a duty to the community; for the greatest thing which any man can do for the world is to make the utmost of the power, the force and the character which are given him, and he can do this only by taking constant thought of the conditions which elicit what is deepest and greatest in his nature.—The Outlook.

The Apiary of B. O. Lott, Austin, Ont.

I was very much pleased to renew my acquaintance with Mr. Lott. He has some 150 colonies close to Mr. Post's apiary, taking advantage of the flow from buckwheat. Last year, besides getting enough honey for winter from buckwheat, Mr. Lott, with only foundation in the supers, had the combs built out and an average of twenty pounds per colony in the supers from buckwheat. Mr. Lott had an old queen and a young queen (the daughter) depositing eggs quietly side by side. He first noticed both queens on July 5th, on Aug. 13th he saw both queens in the act of depositing eggs. The day before my visit he found the young queen in the act of pouncing upon the old. He removed the young queen placing her upon another comb and upon inspecting the hive during my visit both queens were found in the hive. Mr. Lott killed the old queen and found an abundance of eggs in all stages in the ovaries. Mr. Post stated he had lately found three hives with the old and new queens, but he had not seen the old queen in the act of laying, upon killing the old queens there was however every indication of a large number of eggs in the ovaries.

Mr. Lott is a great hunter, the number of deer he shoots each autumn is only limited by the number the law allows. But even after hinting that the bump of destruction was largely developed in my head, he never said come out this fall and share expenses with us. Mr. Post and his sons are also good hunters and after the season's work is over take a season in hunting.

Preparation For Winter.

Warrington Scott.

GENTLEMEN.—Your letter of the 17th inst. to hand, asking for an article on the wintering of bees I will begin by describing the preparation they should have. Early in the season as possible all surplus should be removed. Soon as the honey flow ceases a good tight fitting cover, entrance closed up small as possible and allowing ventilation sufficient according to strength of colony. That the stores may get well ripened I use eight framed hives and seldom extract from brood chamber. As the time arrives for cellaring, which is about the fifteenth of November in my locality, I first prepare the cellar, which is an ordinary cellar, walls of stone and bottom of Portland cement, the size of which is 13x14 feet and 5½ feet high, under the kitchen, getting the benefit of the fire above. There is a partition of inch boards to one side, forming another compartment used for vegetables, size of which is 6x14 feet; there is one window in this compartment through which is the only means of ventilation used now, the cold air first entering the small cellar then admitted, to the bee-department through a door, both left open at the same time. I used to ventilate by means of a 6 inch tile drain 280 feet long, coming in at the bottom of cellar another pipe connected to the chimney drawing out the air from the bottom of cellar. Not being satisfactory, the tile drain I closed up, and removed pipe to chimney. Hives are placed on horses about two feet from bottom of cellar. When the time arrives for setting, in the summer quilts and covers are taken off and quilts free from propolis used. These are of old carpet some cotton some woolen. I have not noticed any difference respecting thickness of quilt. The hives are carried in and placed in rows close together, when one row is in place inch strips are placed at each end holding bottom of second row one inch from top of bottom row and so on to the top of row which reaches within an inch of floor above. The temperature during winter ranged from 44 to 50 up till March 1894 the weather changed warm and remained warm the temperature ran up to 50 and 54. The cellar doors were opened every night and closed promptly in the morning, thus filling the cellar with fresh air which kept the bees quiet during the day. Those who have not practiced open-

ing cellar doors would at first be alarmed as the fresh air excites the bees and they make considerable roaring but all will be quiet by morning.

Bees wintering almost perfect, as mine did last winter, make but little noise. I have often gone into the cellar when everything was quiet over head, the only noise made by the bees was a sort of a hum sounding like the approach of a wind storm in the distant tree tops. My bees were placed on their summer stands on April 14th, 1894; the temperature then was 54 at the bottom run of hives, but no bees left their hives to make any bother in handling. If the cellar had not been filled with fresh air the night before I could not have handled them without their leaving the hives in great numbers. After placing them on their summer stands, I examined a few of the eighty colonies as I was requested to do by Mr. Post, of Murray, who saw my bees in winter quarters, these, as well as nearly all of them were apparently strong in bees as when placed in cellar, but no brood could be found of any importance, I saw a few capped cells of brood in one comb. I neglected to say that there was about three inches of very fine dry bass-wood sawdust placed on the cellar bottom at the time bees were put in cellar.

WOOLER, Aug. 1894.

[Hearing from Mr. Post that Mr. Scott had been very successful in wintering his bees and that the conditions were exceptional or rather that the conditions were such that one would not look for the best results. we wrote Mr. Scott for an article and he has kindly replied as above. Mr. Post, who visited the cellars, substantially bears out the writer's remarks as to condition of bees. Mr. Post said after entering the cellar, the bees were so silent he felt sure they were dead, but upon bringing in the light he saw differently. Some of the hive fronts were completely covered by bees.]

Carpenter-Bees and their Nests.

Of the instincts of insects, says a writer in "Chambers's Journal," we find examples to parallel those of the larger animals; by one important test—the construction of buildings and habitations—the sagacity of these tribes outstrips that of all others, and vies, in its way, with the most singular efforts of humanity. Urged by the necessity of the preservation of their species, many whose term of life does not admit of them nurturing their young—which, moreover, are peculiarly exposed to danger—exhibit a foresight truly marvelous and an indomitable perseverance in anticipating wants which they cannot supply at the time of need. In like manner, other insects, in their architectural skill, while they have the interests of their offspring at heart, chiefly or otherwise, as the case may be, keep also their own conservation in view against changes of temperature and natural enemies.

The art of boring symmetrical tunnels in wood culminates with the carpenter-bees, so termed from their carpenter-like capabilities. Numbers of the members of this class are enormous and very beautiful. *Xylocopa violacea*—the generic name signifies a wood-cutter—larger than the largest humblebee, exhibits choice contrast of color in its brilliant, velvety black body, its wings of a rich violet. Several African species claim more than a passing glance from those to whom beauty affords delight: black body, with bronze-green iridescent wings; body black and orange, with iridescent wings; body pale yellowish-green, with transparent wings—these are lovely combinations of hues displayed. England is believed to possess no specimens of these charming creatures. Their tasks are as interesting as they themselves. They show partiality for old posts or railings, or the woodwork of houses which is soft because commencing to decay; but apparently they do not form fresh tunnels save when old ones are not to be had.

The bee usually begins boring obliquely across the grain of the wood, about two days being taken to make the workman's own length; but this may not be so easily done as the remainder, which runs parallel with the sides of the wood for from twelve to eighteen inches. Sometimes an excavation or two suffice, which generally take opposite directions from the opening; sometimes the bee cuts extra galleries, one above the other, using the same opening. Sharp jaws, moved by powerful muscles, are its only tools; and as it descends into the heart of the solid wood the tunnel is swept clean and regular with stiff brushes of hair on

Report Ontario Bureau of Industries.

BEEES AND HONEY.—There was about the usual amount of swarming in most apiaries, and colonies are reported as remarkably free from disease. Comparatively little honey was made from clover, but there was a good show of linden and the bees made the most of it during the time of bloom. The drouth lessened the supply of nectar in flowers, and the average yield will be less than usual, being but a trifle over thirty pounds per colony. Honey is somewhat darker than usual, but of good flavor.

the legs, and all raspings made in eating the burrow out are cast forth from the entrance. The sawdust expelled becomes of subsequent use. One by one, successive partitions of the chippings, caused to adhere with some sticky fluid, probably saliva, are constructed, dividing the entire tunnel into cells somewhat less than an inch long. Each is supplied with an egg and a compound of pollen and honey; the door is closed; but before deserting her bevy finally, the bee forms a lateral opening from the outside to the bottom of the cells and chokes it with sawdust paste; and through this the young escape when the time for their emergency arrives.

For Dairymen Bee-Keepers

About this time, as the almanac says, fix up the cow stable. Fix it up so that it will be warm there for the cows next winter. Don't forget that it should also be ventilated. Provide for this important feature in a special sense. Proper ventilation is as necessary to perfect health as suitable food. Keep that thought before you when the "fixing up" is going on. Don't neglect the horse's stable either. Above all don't neglect yourself in the fixing up. In consulting the welfare of your cattle and stock do it in a manner that will lighten your labors at stable and barn.

Try warming the water your cows drink this winter. Of course to do so is some bother, but the result will pay handsomely. Look around to see how the advantages that suggest themselves on cold days last winter can be made. Plan out how, gather the tools and material at the point where they are to be used and commence operations in good time. Don't let winter catch you unprepared in this important matter. It may be an open one or it may be a hard one, but in either event it is your duty to provide a comfortable home for your cattle and stock. We write these lines to stir the careless dairymen into action. We heard so much about the suffering of cattle last winter that was caused by the thoughtlessness of their owners that we believe there is a large field to be worked in this direction. Fix up as a matter of duty. If that does not move you do it as a means of conserving your own selfish interest. Anyway, fix up stable, barn, shed and pen for the period when the winds blow cold, and the days are sharp and frosty.—Kansas Farmer.

ST. DAVIDS, Aug. 16th, 1894.

I must say here that your BEE JOURNAL is the best I have read, it gives so much information,
A. SLEEMAN.

Selection in Breeding and other matters.

DR. C. C. MILLER

Attention to the really practical matters in bee-keeping and especially the little things, seems to be well to the front in the C. B. J. It's what makes a good bee journal. There's the matter of getting bee glue off the hands. I'll have to try your plan with coal oil, friend Holterman. I'm wondering whether it will work any quicker than butter. I've used that for years. It's easily got, doesn't have the bad smell of coal oil, and will not run off. Coal oil is cheaper and possibly better.

It is seldom that I give the opinion of another without quoting the author. I see I have got myself into trouble by failing to do so in one case, for you give me credit that belongs to T. M. Cowan, or rather to Dr. von Planta. Cowan says, p. 189. "The Honey Bee-wax, when pure, is pale yellow, but sometimes nearly white, and the coloring is due, as Dr. Planta has pointed out, to pollen consumed by the bees. For instance, when bees are collecting pollen and honey from heather, pollen being white, the wax is also white; whereas, when collecting from sainfoin, the pollen being orange-coloured, the wax also partakes of this colour."

I wrote Mr. Cowan that I thought I had seen wax that was entirely white, but he replied that it was never entirely white, but if taken in any considerable quantity and laid upon white paper it would look quite yellow. I have never fully tried it.

According to Planta it is the kind and not the quantity of pollen that decides the color of the wax. This would be easily in accord with a new theory advanced by a German writer, who asserts that wax is not manufactured by the bee, but is obtained ready-made as a covering on the grains of pollen. If this is true, it may be of some practical importance that we know it. It would help to explain why we should have such varying opinions as to the amount of honey—from three to twenty—required to produce a pound of wax. According to this German writer, the amount of honey would have little or nothing to do in the case. He claims that with all pollen wax is consumed, and if needed in the hive the wax is found in little scales under the abdomen, otherwise it is passed out as excrement. If this is true, there would seem no great economy in furnishing heavy foundation to the bees. On the other hand in a late number of the American Bee

Journal, the general testimony seemed to be that bees secreted about as much wax when fed on sugar as when fed on honey. It might be insisted, however, that when fed on sugar the bees had access to pollen at the same time.

Queer, that fashions prevail in bee-keeping as well as in ladies' dresses. There's the carbolic acid cloth to drive bees out of sections. In common use this long time in England, hardly known here, and practiced less. Same with Apifuge. On the other hand something will go into general use over here, and we'll wonder why they never touch it in England. I hardly know why I never tried the carbolic cloth, but if you'll promise not to tell I'll whisper in your ear that I make very little use of bee escapes. Haven't time. I never want supers of comb honey left out over night. Too risky. And by the way, if it should become generally known that supers of honey were standing around in apiaries with no bees to protect them, don't you suppose a good many of them would disappear before daylight. And when I go to an out-apiary I want to bring home the honey with me that day.

So in taking off supers I give a pretty heavy dose of smoke, and I think that drives down all the youngest and most of the other bees, then I pile up the supers five or ten high, put on the top a Lareese escape—I like that better than the little mosquito net tent of my own devising—and when I'm ready to go home the bees are all out.

In Selection for Breeding, p 346, all your markings seem to refer to the quality of the honey and not to the quantity. I hardly believe you can consider quality of comb honey of more importance than quantity, but it may make that impression. It may easily be, however, that up to a certain point, quality is of more consequence than quantity. For instance, if No. 34 gives 45 pounds of very choice honey that I can sell at 14 cents as readily as I can sell the 50 pounds of watery honey I get from No. 104 at 12 cents, then it is better to breed from No. 34 even though it gives less honey. for the better price more than makes up for the lesser quantity. But if No. 104 yields 60 pounds, then I'd rather breed from it, as the greater quantity will net me more, even at the lower price.

Marengo, Ills., U. S.

FAITH.

A solitary star can light
With loveliness the blackest night
Hold fast to faith, and it shall be
A star in Sorrow's night for thee!

Autumn.

Sweet summer with her flowers has passed,
I hear her parting knell;
I hear the meaning fitful blast,
Sighing a sad farewell.

But while she fades and dies away,
In rainbow hues she glows;
Like the last smile of parting day,
Still brightening as she goes.

The robin whistles clear and shrill;
Sad is the cricket's song;
The wind, while rushing o'er the hill,
Bears the dead leaf along.

I love this sober solemn time,
This twilight of the year;
To me, sweet spring, in all her prime,
Was never half so dear.

While death has set his changing seal
On all that meets the eye,
'Tis rapture, then, within to feel
The soul that cannot die;

To look far, far beyond the sky,
To Him who changes never,
This earth, these heavens shall change and die;
God is the same for ever.—Sel.

Rhubarb and Honey.

Another most excellent vegetable that should be grown in your garden—since it can be had so easily—is rhubarb, or “pie-plant.” I do not recall another vegetable that is so useful, and so pleasant in a hundred instances. Nothing can be more healthy or enjoyable than pie-plant stewed with honey. The children love it, liberally spread on their big slices of bread! Incidentally, you save your butter. It not only tastes good, and nourishes well, but it is excellent to keep the stomach and bowels in natural condition. Jelly made from it rivals that made from currants or crab. By all means, can lots of it for winter's supply. Set out big roots this fall for next year's use.

Indeed, I look upon “pie-plant” as the poor man's orchard. It possesses all the good qualities of the fruits, beside some special merits of its own. When I visit farmers—I may come to take tea with you some day—and don't find plenty of this excellent vegetable in the garden, I know there is something wrong with their judgment.—Dr. Piero in A. B. J.

MURRAY, Aug. 20th, 1894.

Scales gained eight lbs yesterday and will go about the same to-day, also two swarms to-day.
C. W. Post.

Notes Gleaned From a Visit to the Apiary of C. W. Post.

(Continued.)

In reply to the question, Do you use more than one extracting super? Mr. Post said: "Oh, yes, two and three sometimes. In a good season more than one extracting super is an actual necessity." "Do you use full sheets of comb foundation?" "Yes, sheets in everything, sections and brood frames. I have about 7,000 combs and there is not a natural comb in the whole apiary." "Do you wire?" "No, I have never used a wired frame in my life." "Do you not think many fail because they throw a swarm on full sheets of foundation when they should have combs built out in some other way and hive on combs?" "Certainly. Nature never intended a sheet of wax to undergo the strain it must when the bees are hived on sheets of foundation. The foundation will come down very often, especially when the hive is not shaded and the bee-keeper blames the supply dealer." "How do you manage?" "I hive on drawn comb as far as I can. Remember, I have not put a swarm on foundation for four years." "How do you get your foundation drawn out? In the top stories. In what way do you select brood combs?" "When I extract and come to a model comb, I put it aside for the brood chamber. Then in the fall of the year, I get foundation drawn out on the buckwheat flow as you would in fruit bloom." "What do you mean by a model comb?" "One that just reaches the bottom bar and not an imperfect cell from sagged foundation. The bees can then use every cell for brood rearing." "If a bee-keeper has to use foundation in connection with swarms, how would you advise using it?" "I advise moving the swarms on empty frames the first day. The next morning I would quietly take out an empty frame and replace by foundation, disturbing the bees just as little as possible." "Do you think that the absence or presence of drones in the hive has any effect upon the swarming impulse?" "I do not know." "Have you any opinion upon the question?" "Yes, I think with many drones in the hive, the bees are likely to swarm."

By this time we had reached a large honey house with the upstairs for a workshop. I never saw a choicer lot of combs. Everything bespeaks the careful and successful bee-keeper. Mr. Post makes his own comb foundation. In reply to a question as to

how Mr. Post tests bees-wax for purity, he said: "I have an easy test for tallow. If I suspect impurity through an admixture of tallow, I scrape a portion of the cake clean. If pure you can write on it with ink and pen, if adulterated with tallow, the ink will run in globules." "What about the profits to be derived from bee-keeping?" "I could ten or twelve years ago make \$1,000 to \$1,500 a year as easily from 120 as I now can out of 300. This is largely owing to the seasons and the only way is to everlastingly stick at it. Of course the price of honey is less, but this is in part balanced by better known methods of keeping bees."

With many colonies as Mr. Post runs them, there is the expense of branching out. Yet he claims the expenses are largely met by the wax produced. "Do you think the production of wax is voluntary or involuntary as claimed by some?" "Well, you see that wire cloth screen under the frames before mentioned. You also see there is a space under the wire cloth, and if any scales of wax fall, they would be found under the wire screen and upon the bottom board. I have had hundreds of colonies in this way for many years and watched this for years, and I have had flows giving 75 pounds of surplus in a week, and I find bees will not secrete wax unless they need it, and the bottom board is free from wax scales, although you see other excrement." "You have about four hundred colonies here and Mr. Lott, practically in the same apiary has 150. What do you think about overstocking?" "I have tested overstocking and in a good locality I do not put much stock in that. I have compared in buckwheat what our bees were doing and those of a bee-keeper with a few colonies miles from others. There is no difference. We are making the same test again this year. Here are 500 colonies; four miles from here, similarly located, are twenty. I have no doubt there will be no difference." "I see one side of your hive an ugly red. What is that for?" "In the spring of the year I face my hives southwest and have the side to the sun painted metallic red. The sun strikes right in and this helps to build them up. About June 1st these hives are distributed to our apiaries and they are then placed the other way. The red never exposed to the sun, you have a cool hive." "What are those apple barrels for?" "If you touch them you will find they are filled. They contain honey. When I extract in out apiaries, I put the honey into common apple barrels. It takes up less room in the car, and the cans are not soiled before marketing. The way of preparing the barrels is as follows. Select those which have the

staves snugly together around the chime. The barrels should be put where they will season perfectly. Then drive the hoops firmly and nail them. Go over the heads and around the chime outside and pour melted beeswax or paraffine in the cracks and with a hole bored in the side for filling, they are ready. The honey is brought from out apiaries in there, but unless granulated and ordered in this way, they are emptied into sixty pound cans before marketing."

Notes From a Practical Poulterer.

Be regular in feeding and caring.
Keep the best and earliest pullets for laying.

Have a good reason for every change in the management.

Watch that cat. No matter how honest it may seem or to whom it may belong, it may bear watching.

While the hens are maturing they should not be fed too much fattening foods, as this will often prove unhealthy.

Eggs are going up in price and those April and May hatched pullets should be getting ready to lay. If they do not, see why.

Generally, with poultry as with other classes of stock, it will not be for a profitable to keep old stock. Young, vigorous fowls of all kinds will return the most profit.

"Like begets like," and a good layer will beget a good layer. The qualities of a strain of fowls are improved and their egg production increased as well as their plumage, size, etc.

One acre of good stock hens will prove more profitable in twelve months than four acres of wheat or corn, and instead of exhausting the land they improve it. But they must be properly divided and housed.

Chickens to eat are well enough, but eggs we must have. Eggs come nearer being current cash than any other product of the farm or door-yard. Twelve eggs are good for twelve cents, and the more egg-producers we have the more cents will follow as a natural consequence.—Kansas Farmer.

A Business Partner.

A gentleman went to New York on business. As he went away he said something to his wife about buying her a new dress.

Just before starting homeward, he telegraphed to his wife: "Which shall I bring you, a diamond ring or a silk dress?"

The reply was concise and explicit—one word: "Both."

Bee-Keeping as a Business.

—Will Ellis.

SOME SEASONABLE COMPARISONS.

I have chosen the above subject after 12 years of practical work in the apiary, and will proceed to give my views in bee-keeping as a business. I am in it to stay a while yet; I have not thought much of giving it up at present. When I first began I sold extracted honey for 18 cents, then 15 cents, 12½ cents and 10 pounds at \$1.00. I have always thought bee-keepers of Ontario could drive the cheap syrup off the market, but I have not seen my dream begun to be real-

1. Since I began bee-keeping I have had three total failures and for that reason I would not care to make it a specialty. If a person has a bank account sufficient to carry him over a poor season, then all well and good, but I have none and have got to hustle. Although the price of honey has declined, take a look at other things and I guess you will find them the same. How came it so with wheat, 50 cents per bushel, the world's greatest staple product. The farmers always said it could not be raised for less than \$1.00. Tea, 35 to 50 cents. I have seen it 75 cents, and I think \$1 per pound; sugar, now 4 to 6 cents; a few years ago 10 to 12½ cents. Flour, \$1.45, and so on. I shall not pretend to say what business will best go with bee-keeping. You must choose for yourself. You ask any person why he keeps bees, and he will tell you it is for the money that is in it. Ask the young man that goes out west, enters the professions, learns a trade, not for fun by any means. I have seen men living on farms and could not make a living. They would move off and another person would take that farm and soon make sufficient to buy a place for themselves. Management, with a big M, is the secret of the whole thing. So it is in bee-keeping. One of my neighbors came to me a short time ago and asked me how my bees had done. I told him very fair. Might have done better, and might easily have done a great deal worse. He said his had not done anything. He was away from home and the folks at home did not manage them properly. I suppose the average number of colonies I have kept has been about 50. I have had as many as 100, but never started in the spring with that many. I have now about 75. I started this spring with 50. More anon.

St. Joseph, Missouri.

In a beautifully illustrated book published by The News Printing Company will be found a history of St. Joseph, and from it an idea may be formed of its natural advantages, its leading places of business, its private residences and many of its citizens. The book alone speaks well of the enterprise of its citizens. Amongst other leading citizens we find an excellent half tone cut of the president of the North American Bee Keepers Society and the following lines:



EMERSON T. ABBOTT,

President North American Bee-Keepers Association, St. Joseph, Mo., U. S.

Emerson T. Abbott was born in Brown County, Ohio, March 19, 1847, and in his various callings, farmer, teacher, preacher, etc., resided in different States in the East. Mr. Abbott became fond of bees, and studied them thoroughly, and soon after his arrival in St. Joseph in 1883, he together with others, embarked in the bee-keeping culture. He soon bought out his partners, and together with his excellent wife, who is also thoroughly conversant with the busy bee, are owners of the St. Joseph Apiary Co. Mr. Abbott's knowledge of bees is not alone confined to this immediate section. He has contributed numerous articles to the public press and bee journals on the bee, and in October, 1893, was elected president of the North American Bee-Keepers Association. At every exhibition given under the auspices of the different fair as-

sociations in St. Joseph, Mr. Abbott has had on exhibition large and varied qualities of his supplies, bees and honey, and the display made by him, at the New Era Exposition several years ago, was without doubt the largest and best individual display ever made in the world. No one takes more pride in the industry than does Mr. Abbott, and at the present time his apiary can only supply bees for the establishment of colonies and supplies necessary for their successful propagation and care.

The Soul's Language.

In education there should be the purpose of expression. Any soul is limited that does not give expression to the thought that moves it, either through art, music, literature, or in conversation. To be dumb, to find the world a prison house, to feel the life within one throb, and yet to be unable to give expression to that thought, that life—this is to but half live. Child-training, self training, should be so conducted as to give the soul some medium of expression. By giving that purpose to education it becomes a part of one's life, not a mere tool to earn a living, a varnish to attract, or a selfish enjoyment. Music that is rendered as the expression of the inner life that is lived with God, moves men to a better life, if only for the moment. Art that arrests thought, literature that gives a sense of companionship, conversation that inspires thought in the listeners, are possibly only when education gives freedom of expression. It is the mastery that triumphs. No half-attainment ever gave complete freedom. No acquirements that are the result of less than a complete love ever sent the song into the heart of a listener, or moved him to bless the speaker as the inspirer of life's purpose. It is as the soul finds its true medium of expression that it gains freedom and power. Not to find the key that turns its lock is to prove one's self but a careless steward of the jewels intrusted to one's keeping. God never shackled a soul so that it could not make men conscious of its divine fire if it sought to find its true life. It may be one meant only to light the family circle, it may be a beacon for the world's redemption; each fire was caught from the same spark, and its growth depends on the knowledge that feeds it, the purpose that keeps it alive.—The Outlook.

FRANKFORD, Aug. 17th, 1894.

Honey is coming in splendid here, colonies are gaining five to seven lbs per day.

WM. H. HUBBLE.

Reply to a Question From a Subscriber.

I am requested to give in the C. B. J. my system of wintering. Well, now, it really does not seem of much use to respond for I do not know of a single case where my plan has been carefully carried out. Some variation will be made just for some cause or other. And that change may be, strikes at the most vital parts of my system, but for all that, I will give it briefly.

First the bees must be in nominal condition with 30 lbs good stores. They should be set in the cellar before hard freezing weather, at least 16 inches from bottom of cellar, the back end of hive 3 inches higher than front. Now pry up back end of hive and slip in bits of lath three-eighths of an inch thick, and leave the front end on the floor board with entrance open full size which should be clear across the front.

Now place on the top of hive a good dry chaff or saw-dust cushion; across the front of this cushion place a piece of lath; this keeps the top hives from tipping forward too much. The cellar must be as near air tight as may be, with adjustable windows. Boards should be placed in front of the windows to exclude the light and throw the incoming air up. It distributes better. Curtains of open cloth should be hung near the hives in front of the windows; this breaks anything like a draught on the bees near the windows. For over 100 hives a 5 inch pipe should extend from about 8 inches of the cellar bottom; in this there must be a valve or damper to control the ventilation and temperature. This pipe should connect with a stove pipe, and a little fire should be kept going most of the time, especially in very quiet weather. The fire makes a draught. The temperature should be from 38 to 42. The cellar must be absolutely dark. When you go in the cellar, use a tallow candle, a coal oil lamp never. Your visits to the cellar may be often, but very brief. Your presence will disturb the bees if you loiter.

To prevent crushing bees, I have walks made as follows: Take boards 12 inches wide and nail strips across them to walk on. For this purpose take lath and saw it in four places; these pieces then rip in two and nail them on edge, about one inch apart. On these you can walk all about in your cellar and never crush a bee—a luxury not to be despised. S. T. PETTIT.

Belmont, Sept. 6th, 1895.

P. S.—I do not succeed well wintering in tall hives. I can bring them through but they seldom are in as good condition as those in a nine inch hive. My system is for hives not more than ten inches deep, and with frames extending from front to rear of hive. A hive with frames extending across the hive is of no use to me whatever.

S. T. P.

The Foundation of Life.

The close relation between integrity and success is too lightly regarded. In business life, professional, social, and home life, success depends on the foundation of truth which underlies each effort. "Electricity cannot follow a broken wire, nor success a lying life."

The artist moves men to higher thoughts, nobler emotions, truer aspirations, as his own life is lived on the plane of truth. The home sends out equipped men and women as it has expressed truth; as there has been harmony between the inner life of the home and the life the world sees. Pretence of feeling may seem real to the world, but men and women who live in a home where it exists carry the mark in their own souls of the falseness of their lives; truth is valuable as it is lived, not as it is believed. Truth is the foundation of friendship—truth in its highest sense; and there can be no friendship that is worth the name where truth is a matter of expediency.

Truth is the foundation of life, and it is its crown. Without it men live over a volcano. The dual life is for the stage. In real life singleness of aim and purpose is the surety of success. A picture is great as the artist made it true, and it is true as he is true. The false life cannot hide itself in any act it seeks to express. Its falseness leaves its tone, and men see it though they may not recognize it; it falls just so far short of full expression. Nor must truth be the chance result of freedom from temptation. That is highest which is the result of effort, of endeavor. Not freedom from temptation, but mastery of it, makes a man truest to the divinity in himself. It was the "thou shalt not" of the temptation on the mount that marked the mastery. It is the allegiance to an ideal divinely conceived that brings success.—The Outlook.

WORTH HAVING.

Three things are great,—

Conscience and will,

And courage to fulfil

The duties they create. —Selected.

—Frank D. Sherman.

Wintering Bees.

[American Bee Journal for September.]

The first and all-important thing in wintering bees, is to have stores enough to carry them through and to have plenty of young bees, and during August and September the bees should be filling their brood nests with young bees and honey for winter. And when the hive has been contracted for getting clover and basswood honey, towards the last of July it should be enlarged and filled with comb for foundation, so the bees can get them filled in their own way and not have to be fed later. I have no trouble in getting the hives filled for winter in this way. At this writing I think my bees are well supplied with stores and are working in supers. They are working hard on buckwheat and fall flowers just now. About the first of November, or when cold enough to put winter cases on, I place absorbents over the brood nests, put on the hive covers, and leave the entrances open all winter the full width of hive, three-eighths inches high. Then set the winter case over the hive, with no filling of any kind between the case and hive. This keeps pure and dry air for the bees. In the front of the winter case I cut out an entrance 2x8 inches, then take a thin board 3x10 inches, with a screw hole through one upper corner to fasten it, and an entrance out of the bottom edge 3x4 inches, which stands open in the winter. Now, I put this right over the 2x8 inch hole in the case, fastening it with the screw at the corner, leaving the outside entrance 3x4 inches, so that whenever a warm day comes, and I wish to have my bees fly more freely, I turn the 3x10 piece up, leaving the entrance 2x8 inches. With this arrangement, with the Falcon or Winter cases, my bees came through last winter without any loss and in good condition. I never had bees winter so well before. It makes very little work to clean house for them in the spring, and there were no dead bees to speak of, excepting in one hive, in which there was a small handful of them.

In conclusion I would say contract the brood nest the first half of the season until the white or light honey is obtained, then enlarge it, the latter part so the bees can fill it up for winter in their own good way, with no bother of feeding.

Yours truly,
S. M. KEELER.

Chonango Bridge, N. Y.

Our Pure Honey Bill.

It may be well to state that our efforts to secure a Pure Honey Bill for Canada has

had the effect of having two bills pass the House of Commons; of course that was too many; but they both came to grief in the Senate. I have letters from members of parliament congratulating us upon the progress made, with assurances that if we follow the matter up and push it vigorously, that success will crown our efforts. Of this I have no doubt whatever; but of course it means expense and possibly a good deal of patient, hard work. The opposition encountered from within our own ranks adds materially to the cost and work, but that sort of work inspires to greater efforts. I found it necessary to go three times to Ottawa, but I am not grumbling at the work involved. It is done willingly and cheerfully. The interest of the country demands the legislation we seek and that we must have it at any cost is the solid conviction of

S. T. PERRIN.

P. S.—For very good reasons this letter has been withheld to the present. A full account will be given at our annual meeting. Belmont, Ont., Sept. 10th. S. T. P.

Rockland Fair, Russell Co.

To the Editor :

I herewith send you a short report of the honey exhibit and the names of the two most successful winners of prizes at the Rockland Fair. A general prize for the best 25 pounds of extract honey and 20 pounds in the comb (three prizes on each lot) was given by the Township of Clarence Agricultural Society, jointly with the the County of Russell Bee-Keepers' Association. This was very keenly contested for by A. Edwards of Rockland and W. J. Brown of Chard, Mr. Edwards taking first place in both comb and extracted; but this order was reversed in the contest (friendly contest of course) for the first place in the special prize offered by the Agricultural Society of Clarence for the best 100 pounds extracted honey, 25 pounds comb honey and 10 pounds beeswax, and the best equipment in bee-keepers' supplies or appliances. Mr. Brown took first prize in both, with Mr. Edwards second. The exhibits of both Mr. Edwards and our old beeking, Brown, were grand and would undoubtedly hold their own in some of the largest fairs in Canada. It was very attractive and caused the swinging crowds to halt and wonder. Live bees in a crowd like that and nobody stung. Certainly that was something strange for those of our population who had no experience with the gentle honey bee. Many times the writer was asked if that was a new kind a churn (the honey extractor).

Yours, FROM THE FAR EAST.

**FIRST STEPS IN....
....BEE-KEEPING.**

**KEEPING EVERLASTINGLY AT IT
BRINGS SUCCESS.**

QUESTIONS SENT IN BEARING UPON FIRST STEPS
IN BEE-KEEPING WILL BE ANSWERED IN THIS
DEPARTMENT BY THE EDITOR.

During the month of October all hives which have not already been abundantly supplied for winter should receive immediate attention, and only hives with a good queen and of at least average strength be wintered. Be prepared for winter, and do not keep putting off what should be done to succeed. There is no use intending to provide for your bees from day to day, and neglecting it. A great many bees are a loss to the keeper and perish each year through lack of stores to carry them through the winter and spring.

Cornwall, July 23rd, 1894.

I take the liberty of asking you to give me some idea of what it would cost to start bee-keeping in a small way. What kind of bees do you recommend and what is the best time of the year to start. Perhaps I could not succeed, but I rather think I could. Everything I have is thoroughbred and they are the best.

W. D. W.

It is a difficult matter to say just what you mean by beginning in a small way but our advice to beginners is not to start with more than two or three colonies and as experience and success warrants increase. In this way you are far more liable to succeed than if you begin with ten or twenty, get confused, discouraged and fail.

3 colonies Italian bees.	\$21 00
3 hives with supers made up for ex- tracted honey.	4 80
8 lbs brood foundation	4 00
1 smoker.	1 00
1 veil.	30
1 honey extractor.	7 00
1 book \$1.25 or \$1.50.	1 25
Canadian Bee Journal	1 00

\$40 35

You might say about forty dollars. An additional Journal will do no harm. See the Journals we club with for prices. When the honey crop fails or bees do not do well many want to drop their bee journal for a time. This is about the last expenditure in connection with bees that should be dropped.

QUESTION.

Could you give us any information as regard some bees we have in British Columbia? We have one hive that swarmed three times within the last ten days and have gone back to the old hive every time. About half of them get clustered on to a branch of a tree, and then they will commence all at once to go back. Now this is not the only one, there are several others doing the same. The hive above mentioned has been clustered out-side since the 7th or 8th of July until now, the 25th of July. The hive is one of my own make a bar frame, and everything good and clean about it. There is a report here about a large fly called the Dragon-fly, supposed to kill the queen as soon as she comes out of the hive. Do you think there is anything in it. You will oblige by giving me an answer through your valuable Bee Journal, as it is causing much comment among the few who keep the busy bee. Yours truly,

Vancouver, B. C.

C. S.

The above would indicate that in some way the queen is lost at the time the swarm issues. We do not think the fly you mention would be likely to single out except in rare instances the queen as a victim. Hence we do not feel inclined to put much stock in that theory.

The strain of bee makes a decided difference in regard to swarming, some are more inclined to give difficulty in swarming than others, those with undesirable strains should not be bred from.

Convention Notices.

The annual meeting of the County of Russell Bee-Keepers' Association will be held in the town hall, Clarence Creek, on the sixteenth day of October, 1894, at the hour of 10 o'clock, a. m. All are hereby cordially invited to attend.

W. J. BROWN,
Secretary-Treasurer,
Chard F. O., Ont.

There will be a Bee-Keepers' Convention at the Central Hotel, Brockville, Tuesday, Oct. 9th, 1894. Morning session at 10.30; afternoon. 2 o'clock. All are invited.

M. B. HOLMES, Athens.

I have been taking the JOURNAL for a number of years and find it greatly improved within the last year. I hope you will continue in the same line and success.

Yours,
RICHARD WHITE.

Bothwell, Sept. 31st, 1864.

NORFOLK BEE-KEEPER'S ASSOCIATION.

Mr. Editor :

Having noticed in the press that a meeting of the Norfolk Bee-Keepers' Association was to be held at the residence of Mr. Robert B. Emerick, near Tyrell, in Townsend, on Saturday, Sept. 1st, at 2 o'clock, and as the good lady who presides at our house has during the last two or three years been working with bees with greater or less success until she has now over 20 colonies, we resolved to attend, thinking we would learn something that would be to our advantage. Nor were we disappointed. So partaking of an early dinner we set forth. The day was warm and the roads very dusty and as the wind was blowing mainly in the direction of our journey we were enveloped in a dust bath most of the way, which necessitated a water bath on our return. We passed many fine farms on our way with beautiful brick and frame dwellings, with spacious lawns and shrubery, extensive orchards, immense bank barns and other indications of prosperity and comfort even though wheat is only 50c. a bushel and other things in proportion. We noticed many windmills used in pumping water for stock and on top of one fine barn we saw an original windmill of immense size which we were informed was utilized by the owner for cutting feed, slicing roots, chopping grain, sawing wood, churning and many other things that saved a lot of hard labor. We passed by a market garden and despite the drouth that is prevailing it was a very pleasing sight to see the long rows of cabbage, cauliflower, beets, parsnips, carrots, cucumbers, tomatoes and other fruits and vegetables looking so nice and green. Adjacent was a fine berry patch of a couple of acres which by the piles of old canes that lay beside the fence showed that it had just been cleaned out after the season was over. The ground had been thoroughly cultivated between the rows, and the plants and bushes looked thrifty and bid fair for a good crop another year. Further on by the roadside some wise, benevolent individual had placed a watering trough which was overflowing with beautiful clear cold water carried to it by a trough from a spring a few miles away. It would have done your heart good to see our dusty and thirsty steed plunge his nose in and slake his thirst with the sparkling liquid. We mentally offered a vote of thanks to the thoughtful individuals who had made this excellent provision for supplying the wants of man and beast. Would it not be a great boon to the public if there were more of these wayside watering places, either a

trough or way of driving through a stream. We knew by the number of bees working on the golden rod that we were nearing our destination. On reaching it we found the worthy secretary, Mr. Emerick, confined to his bed with a broken leg which occurred on the 13th ult., by accidentally falling from a straw stack. Mr. Emerick, sr., who by the way is a practical bee-keeper, acted the part of host and cordially welcomed the members of the convention. They have some seventy colonies in the Langstroth chaff hives in their neatly arranged apiary. We were conducted through the apiary, honey house, tool house, work shop, etc. In the honey house we were shown many devices such as extractors, smokers, introducing cages, queen cell protectors, wax extractors, etc., used in the manipulating of bees and the securing of the honey. The meeting was opened in the residence of Mr. Emerick, jr, by the President, Mr. Simmons, of Courtland. Mr. Chas Culver, of Woodhouse, kindly acted as Secretary for Mr. Emerick. The minutes of last meeting were confirmed. Discussion took place relative to the ripening of honey. Some were of the opinion that it would ripen as well off the hive as on if it were kept at the same temperature. Others thought that honey ripened on the hive had a better flavor. The next discussion was concerning the best way to prepare honey for market. The idea was advanced that light colored honey was better in glass as it pleased the eye and taste of the consumer, while dark honey sold better in tins with neat labels. Best markets was also discussed. Mr. Simmons exported nearly all his surplus to Manitoba. Mr. Culver sold to local grocers and private customers. Some reported having shipped to Hamilton with good success. Others had worked up a good trade with private customers whom they supplied regularly. There was some discussion relative to the best strain of bees. One gentleman who had tried three and five banded Italians and Carinolans thought the latter were quieter, better breeders and superior honey gatherers. The president described his method of preparation of his colonies for winter. The meeting then adjourned. The next meeting will be held in Simcoe when the election of officers for the ensuing year will be held. Seven new members joined the Association. We were pleased to see the interest manifested in this important industry, one speaker remarking, "It was too bad to allow so much of the sweet provided by nature go to waste for lack of a little care and attention on the part of many farmers who had facilities and time for carrying on this important adjunct to agriculture." Among others present we noticed ex-Reeves Pegg

and Wyckoff and their wives. It was a pleasant and profitable meeting.

ONE WHO WAS THERE.

—From Waterford Star.

What Has The Harvest Been?

With your permission, Mr. Editor, I would like to state through the C. B. J. what the honey harvest has been so far as I have been able to gather, also some of the lessons we may learn from the season just past. Taking it as a whole the honey crop has been considerably below the average. In some localities we hear of fair crops, but in the majority of cases the reports seem to indicate about one third of an average crop, or in other words about thirty pounds to the colony, spring count. In most of the reports mention is made of the amount of swarms that have issued, which is generally the case when honey is coming in steadily but slowly. I think the shortage of the crop is due in the first place to the drouth of last season killing off the clover and then the extreme drouth of of the present season. This reminds me of what an old box hive bee keeper used to say years ago, it was this: if you want to see the honey roll in we want to have plenty of wet and heat. We have had the heat minus the wet this season. In this section clover was almost an entire failure. Basswood done better than it has for the last three years. It is very seldom that detestable weed, wild mustard, is good for anything, but our bees gathered quite a lot from it this season. The honey from it is a little dark and not so good flavored as that from clover or basswood, but is superior to buckwheat or goldenrod honey. It came into bloom about the middle of June and the bees worked on it until basswood opened.

Well, what are the lessons to be learned from the past season? I think one of the most prominent of them is that we demand a good price for the honey we have. I don't mean by this that we should ask exorbitant prices, for that would be unreasonable in this time of depression, especially when nearly everything else is selling so low, but we will have no occasion to rush our honey on the market and take any price that is offered for fear some one else will get ahead of us and thus beat us out of some sales, a thing which is very often done, thus damaging the market for the entire season.

Another thing, supposing we haven't reaped an abundant harvest this season, don't let us get discouraged and soured at the business, but let us be more determined

than ever that we will put our bees in the very best shape possible for winter, and if we stick to our editor's motto, keeping everlastingly at it, we will most assuredly find success. It makes no difference what kind of business we go into we will find out that it has its poor seasons as well as its good ones, and we will as certainly have some good seasons and who knows but next season may be one of them. Another lesson we should learn is frugality. Barnum said in his lecture "How to make Money" be sure and spend a little less than your income each year, and put the balance out at interest. I suppose some of you will say that if we have to live on less than we get from our bees this season, we will be ready for the rag and bone man by the time another season rolls around. But what I mean is this, don't let us go in debt for anything unnecessary, and do with less cigars and other luxuries that you can do without, and if next season brings a good crop and fair prices, we will find that those things will taste far sweeter for having done without them during the present season.

JOHN MYERS

A Bee and Snake Story.

The boys went out deer hunting a few days ago, and Charles found some bees watering in a knot on a tree, and he traced them to their hive very soon, and found them in a small live-oak tree, scarcely larger than a common candy jar. The bees went in about three feet from the ground. Well, the boys were in a "bad box," as they call it. They had no smoker, nor anything that they could smoke bees with and they feared that if they left the spot without taking the bees, they would likely not find it easily again, as it is very thickly wooded. So when Willie came up, they concluded to tear the left pocket out of their pants (as they can best spare that one), and made a smoke, the moss and rotten wood being wet. They blew in smoke at the entrance, and cut the tree above and below the bees, put their coats in the ends of the chunk, and moss in the entrance, laid the treasure in the buggy, and brought it home and transferred it—a nice colony of Italian bees.

There was a snake about eight feet long that also lived in the tree with the bees. It was coiled right on the top of the combs, and the bees clustered all over it, and it seemed to be quite at home. The boys said it seemed to be a pity to break the poor snake up in the bee-business, but the temptation was too great for them, so they killed it and took its bees.—JENNIE ATCHLEY in American Bee Journal.

To the Bee-Keepers of North America.

The North American Bee-Keepers' Association was organized in December, 1870, with the avowed object of "promoting the interests of bee-culture throughout North America." All who are familiar with its work know, and its published proceedings also show, that it has adhered to this purpose, and has contributed as much as any similar society in the world to the spread of a knowledge of practical and scientific apiculture. Reviews, translations, and citations from these Proceedings appear in the apiarian journals of all European countries. Much has in this way been done by this Society toward giving to the American system of apiculture the recognition which its great merits justly entitle it to receive.

APICULTURE PROGRESSING AND THE SOCIETY FLOURISHING.

The Association itself was never in a more flourishing condition than at present, having reached at the last meeting the highest membership it has ever possessed. But the remarkable progress made by apiculture in the United States and Canada within the memory of many who are still among the active members of this Society—in fact, the development of this industry until it has become one of considerable importance—makes it certain, when we consider the wide fields yet unoccupied, that still greater things may be expected. If all who are interested in this pursuit and are proud of the rank which the apiculture of America holds are willing to assist the objects of this Association to the extent at least of becoming members and retaining continual membership, results not merely gratifying to all but substantial benefits to every member will follow. It is not a trade union nor a sociable society to promote strikes and boycotting, but a peaceful joining of scattered forces which by numbers, interest, and enthusiasm shall command respect and recognition with those whose work in life has not made them familiar with the extent and need of this industry. The field is wide enough for all, and there should be no holding back through a spirit dictated by a feeling that one's own advancement is hindered by the well-earned progress of his fellow-man. Each should have instead a just pride in the knowledge that he has contributed to the general advancement.

WHAT THE SOCIETY CAN DO.

The North American Bee-Keepers' Association might aid in obtaining National and State legislation favorable to the interests of apiculture, both in securing and pro-

moting attention to this branch at experiment stations and in checking the sale of adulterated apiarian products. Should this body be composed permanently (as it certainly ought to be) of three-fourths or more of the intelligent apiarists of the county, its opinions, resolutions, and requests would carry with them far more weight and influence than they do at present. The time has come, in fact, when apiculture, having arrived at the dignity of a distinct pursuit and having enlisted the attention of some 300,000 of our citizens, has within itself forces worthy of much consideration—forces that should be united in order to do more effective work.

EVERY BEE-KEEPER,

therefore, whose eye falls on these lines is personally requested to ally himself with the members of our Society, whether he can be present at the regular meeting or not. The Proceedings, published in pamphlet form, are sent to all who pay the annual membership fee, and the names of members appear in the printed list.

The next Annual Convention will be held at Saint Joseph, Missouri, October 10th, 11th, and 12th, 1894. To avoid confusion at the time of the meeting and just before, members or those who wish to become such are requested to forward their dues \$1.00, at the earliest date possible, to the Treasurer of the Association, Mr. George W. York, 56 Fifth Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, who will return a neat membership-card. Those who attend the convention are requested to present membership-cards and secure badges. State or local apiarian societies paying an annual affiliation fee of \$5.00 receive medals to be given to their own members as prizes, and delegates appointed by these societies to attend the conventions of the North American receive membership-cards and badges free.

For further information address:

FRANK BENTON,

Secretary North American Bee-Keepers' Association, Washington, D. C.

BITS OF FUN.

Office seeker—Mr. President, don't you remember me? President—Yes, but I cannot place you.—Truth.

"Did you ever try faith cure, Tom?"
"Yes. It cured me, too." "What of?"
"Faith in the faith cure."—Judge.

Miss Trill—I love to hear the birds sing.
Jack Downright (warmly)—So do I. They never attempt a piece beyond their ability.
—Tit-Bits.

A Short Review of the Season's Work.

For the Canadian Bee Journal.

The spring opened out beautiful and about two weeks earlier than usual. Everything came on with a rush and a bound, until about the middle of May, when the cold rain began which continued for weeks, causing spring dwindling—a thing rarely seen here. The bees killed off the drones the same as in the fall of the year.

The clover appeared to yield very little nectar and with no basswood in the neighborhood. The flow of light honey was small. But during the month of August the bees were working hard on golden rod aster, bonset and other wild flowers, and at present they are building up very well; pollen being carried in as fast as I ever saw it done in the month of May or June, and there is no attempt to kill off the drones yet at this date August 27th, in fact the tendency is to swarm, as I had a swarm come of on the 16th inst., and one on the 5th.

I received a yellow queen, from the Experimental Union, and she soon became mistress of the house prepared for her reception, I shall experiment with the hive.

W. J. BROWN.

Chard, Ont., 24th August.

LITTLE KINDNESSES.

If you were toiling up a weary hill,
Bearing a load beyond your strength to bear
Straining each nerve untiringly, and still
Stumbling and losing foothold here and there,

And each one passing by would do so much
As give one upward lift and go their way,
Would not the slight reiterated touch
Of help and kindness lighten all the day?

If you were breasting a keen wind, which
tossed

And buffeted and chilled you as you strove,
Till, baffled and bewildered quite, you lost
The power to see the way, and aim and move,
And one, if only for a moment's space,
Gave you a shelter from the bitter blast,
Would you not find it easier to face
The storm again when the brief rest was past?

There is no little and there is no much;
We weigh and measure and define in vain.
A look, a word, a light responsive touch
Can be the ministers of joy or pain.

A man can die of hunger walled in gold,
A crumb may quicken hope to stronger
breath,

And every day we give or we withhold
Some little thing which tells for life or
death.

—[Susan Coolidge, in Sunday School Times.]

A letter to the Secretary of a horticultural society says: "Sir—I partickly wish the Satiety to be called to consider the case what follows, as I think it mite be mid Transaxtionable in the next reports. My Wif had a Tomb Cat that dyd. Being a torture Shell and a Grate favirit, we had him berried in the Guardian, and for the sake of inrichment of the mould I had the carkis deposited under the roots of a Gosberry Bush. (The frute being up till then of the smooth kind.) But the next Seson's Frute, after the Cat was berried, the Gosberries was al hairy—and more Remarkable, the Catpillers of the same bush was All of the same hairy Discription. I am, sir, your humble servant, Thomas Frost." —P. S.—I think it was the Cat, as some of the Catpillers are of a torture shell discription.

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