

## CORRESPONDENCE.

Written for this Paper

## VOICE OF THE BEE KEEPER.

I have read a maxim, said to have been David Crockett's, "Be sure you are right, then go ahead." It matters little how sure or positive we may be that we are right, to run up against nearly an entire community and with very little help is anything but encouraging. While we were just assured last year that we were right in asserting that the moth deposited their eggs on the apple and not in the blossom, the odds were so strong against us that we could make but very little progress. It was almost a life and death struggle to save the bees from destruction by those who supposed that the only proper method to get rid of the codling moth was to spray when the trees were in bloom, bees or no bees. Over three hundred people remarked to me last year that the spraying would have been more effectual if the trees had been sprayed while in bloom; but when we asked this people to give their reason for this belief, the only answer we received was that the prevailing opinion was that the moth laid their eggs in the blossom.

Now, if I did not know that I am right in this matter I would not press it further; and if it were not that this method of spraying in the bloom did not threaten the very existence of the tree, the beekeepers might let it pass. But knowing, as we do, the inconsistency of spraying in the bloom and also its injurious effects on the bees and fruits, we do not feel like shirking the responsibility of adding our mite to try and protect this valuable industry.

Now, then, those who are opposed to us in this matter and the few that are so positive that the moth lay their eggs in the blossom, should offer some proof that they are right, or they should investigate the proof we offer them. Every person in the Territory who sprayed in the bloom last year and once after, if they know anything of its effects, will tell you that it was a total failure; while the spraying done later was from a partial to a full success. Aside from what we have said before on this matter, every one knows or can know if they will interest themselves, that the moth do not lay their eggs in the bloom, and they may easily see the effects of their work in the apple. We have the assurance of Prof. Cook to this effect. We have received the following letter recently from the professor on the subject of bees and spraying:

CLAREMONT, California, Feb. 5th, 1895.—Mr. E. S. Loversy: Dear sir—Say to your people that the codling moth do not lay eggs till the blossoms fall. Say also that the poison is slowly removed so that it is never wise to apply it till necessary. Thus, to spray before the blossoms fall is unwise to say nothing about its effect on bees. No one should spray till blossoms all fall. Policy and justice alike affirm this.

Yours truly,

A. J. COOK.

I wish to say to all our fruit growing friends that, having read much of Prof. Cook's works on fruit and other insect

pests and how to destroy them, and also from a personal acquaintance, having met him in this city and also in Chicago, at the World's bee convention, in 1893, we conversed with him on the subject of fruit pests and spraying, and also of his many experiments with formulas to destroy the pests and protect the bees and fruit. It is generally conceded that the professor is one of the best, if not the very best, authority in the United States on these subjects. He states that any mixture strong enough to kill the codling moth will also kill the bees. With the experience that we have had we can assure our fruit growers that the eggs are deposited on the apple and not in the blossom. We can show them in all stages from the new-laid egg to the tiny larva as it commences to bore its way into the fruit. When it reaches maturity it leaves the apple and in some concealed space spins its cocoon, and in about six weeks from the time the egg is deposited on the apple the moth issues from its cocoon, only to repeat the same destructive operation. The fact that the early fruit is comparatively free from the moth is proof against the blossom theory; as in that case it would suffer as much as the late fruit.

Now the facts are these: In Utah the moth do not appear in sufficient numbers to do much harm before the 10th to the 20th of June, varying some with the season. Hence we see that the very early fruit is so far advanced that if it were attacked much of it would ripen and fall before the larvae could reach development; hence they work more on the late fruit. For this reason also the spraying commenced last year about the middle of June and kept up until September was a success, while the early spraying was a total failure.

It is the nature of the moth to glue its eggs on the fruit for safe keeping till they hatch, and this could not be done on the blossom, and our friend, C. P. Dudent, of Hamilton, Illinois, agrees with us in the statement that the moths do not and cannot deposit their eggs in the blossom, even if they were present, owing to the fact that the petals' points to all bloom protect the embryo fruit from injury by any insect. We have been challenged to prove that the bees are not the cause of the codling moth. Many assert that the bee moth and the codling moth are one and the same. Until some of our horticulturists make assertions to public that they believed this to be true we did not deem it necessary to reply, having supposed it to be too absurd for belief. The cause of this absurd theory is because the codling moth was imported to Utah in fruit boxes and bees were imported at about the same time—soon after the Pacific railroads were completed.

In regard to the bee and codling moth, there is very little resemblance. The bee moth is twice as large as the codling moth, and also is the larva; and the larva of the bee moth is a milky white, while the larva of the codling moth is of a pinkish hue. We have plainly shown that the bees are not responsible for the codling moth and

we have also shown the inconsistency of spraying the bloom to kill the bee, and destroy the fruit by washing the pollen off.

At the Ontario convention the *Review* says Mr. Hall told of a neighbor who sprayed his plum trees while in full bloom, his reward was the getting of not more than half a dozen plums from his plum orchard, while other neighbors that didn't even spray at all had fair crops of plums.

Some fruit was destroyed in this way last year. A heavy rain storm will destroy fruit in like manner. A case in point is that of a gentleman living at Troutburg, New York, near a lake. The cold breezes from the lake retarded his trees so that they blossomed a week later than his neighbor's, when, just as his trees came into bloom, a heavy rain set in. The result was that he had no fruit on the late varieties. A few of the early varieties bore a part of a crop; while his neighbors whose trees blossomed a week earlier had full crops. We have heard of a case of a fruit grower in Oregon; when his trees were in bloom, being chilly cold weather, he noticed that his bees worked mostly on the warmest side of the trees and in the same ratio the most of the fruit was on that side.

We could give many illustrations to prove that bees are necessary for fertilization, for the successful growing of many fruits and plants. Thus we see that it should be to each other's interest that they work in harmony, both in raising and disposing of their products. If our beekeepers, horticulturists and agriculturists would form an exchange and unite as they should, they could do much to prevent the utter demoralization of our home market.

Respectfully,

E. S. LOVERSY.

## TROUBLE OF THE TWO KINGDOMS.

STOCKHOLM, February 16. [Special correspondence of the *Desert News*.] Never before has the situation in Norway been as acute as now. The difficulties for the monarch to obtain a new cabinet are so great that many people believe that he will depart from his Norwegian realm leaving it without any legal government. The king, as known, wants the Storting to enter into an agreement with Sweden in regard to the adjustment of the consular and diplomatic difficulties, while the radical majority of the Norwegian Diet insist upon settling this matter without any advice from Sweden.

The king's ultimatum to the Storting is as follows:

"To the Acting President of the Storting Sivert Nielsen:

The conditions for the authorizing of a new cabinet, which conditions I have verbally, stated to you, I hereby render in writing in order that every misconception and misunderstanding shall be avoided. My words were: No union between independent countries can be rendered *valid* without mutual compliance. Differences of opinion must be solved according to agreement. On that account the majority of the Storting must not refuse to negotiate, when a change in mutual relations, which have existed since 1814, is at stake, and if my pur-