

D. L. Adair

Office of **CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

The North American Bee-Keeper's Society.

Hawesville, Ky. January 31 1873.

Prof. Asa Gray

Dear Sir. At the meeting of the North American Bee Keepers society at Indianapolis in December, the question was asked, "Is there such a thing as honey?" and also, "What is honey?" Some very odd if not original answers were elicited. (I send you a copy of the American Bee Journal containing the transactions.)

My object in writing to you is to get some information that I do not know where else I can find. And if it would not be taxing you too heavily I would like to have you write a short article on the elaboration of sugar (sweets) not only as it appears in the nectar of the flowers but in the sap and fiber of plants, as we know it exudes from the leaves and young wood of the Lime (*Tilia*) and other trees, and is secreted in the cells of the sugar-cane, and

THE First National Society of Bee-Keepers was organized at Indianapolis, Ind., in December, 1870, under the name of North American Bee-Keeper's Society—Rev. L. L. Langstroth, President—with a representation from fourteen States and Territories.

In February, 1871, a rival Society met at Cincinnati, Ohio, of which Mr. Langstroth was also elected President. It had about the same representation, and took the name of American Bee-Keeper's Association.

On the 6th day of December, 1871, both Associations met at Cleveland, O., formed a union under the name of "The North American Bee-Keeper's Society," and elected Mr. M. Quinby, of New York, Pres.

The Second Annual Meeting of the Society was held at Indianapolis, Ind., on the 4th, 5th, and 6th days of December, 1872. Rev. W. F. Clarke, of Ontario, Canada, was elected President; Rev. H. A. King, of New York, Secretary; D. L. Adair, of Kentucky, Corresponding Secretary; Hon. M. L. Dunlap, of Illinois, Treasurer, with Vice Presidents from 26 States, Territories, and Provinces in which the Society has a membership.

The Third Annual Meeting will be held at the City of Louisville on the first Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of December 3d to 5th, 1873.

All persons interested in the development of the interesting science of Apiculture are solicited to attend.

other plants. It is also produced by the sprouting or germination of many seeds, as in barley before malting.

The use I will make of the article will be to publish it in "The Annals of Bee Culture" for 1873, an annual publication I have been editing since 1869. I send you the last volume, with this that you may see the character of the work. You will see that it numbers among its contributors the most eminent Apiculturists and also some prominent Naturalists.

Bees use any and all of the sugars, and from them generate wax, rear their young and subsist, equally well.

Can you throw any light on the process by which the different species of *Aphides* produce what is called honey dew, or on its origin otherwise?

D. L. Adair,
Cor. Sec. N. A. B. K. Society.



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