

THE FREE LANCE.

*His good blade carves the casques of men, for the Free Lance
thrusteth sure."*

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BEE KEEPING.

"If the weather continues fine next week," said the bee keeper to his assistant one morning in early April, "we will look over the bees at the different yards."

The weather had been fine and gradually getting warmer for a week before the remark was made. In the work-shop where the bee keeper and his helper were at work were piled up three thousand supers, each containing thirty-two sections. Sections are the little wooden boxes in which comb honey is made and put on the market, and supers are larger boxes the size of the hive in which the sections fit tightly.

You may wonder what one man would want with ninety-six thousand sections for honey. It seems a large number, but let us suppose the man owned six hundred colonies of bees situated in six apiaries, and each about six miles distant from any of the others. The reason he had them in six places instead of one is that one hundred colonies of bees will usually stock one locality. As bees fly, as a rule, within a radius of three miles, if apiaries are situated six miles apart the territory of no two apiaries will conflict.

Ninety-six thousand sections! One hundred and sixty for each colony of the six hundred. Some may think that a good many, but even greater numbers have been used by a single colony in one season. One colony in a single season has been reported as producing five hundred and sixty-six pounds of