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— THE —

SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

— PUBLISHED BY —

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY COMPANY,

BREVILLE, TEXAS, : : : March, 1899.

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Vol. IV.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, MARCH, 1899.

No. II.

Gerstung's Theory.

(By L. Stachelhausen.)

In three chapters.—CHAPTER II.

Gerstung says not very much about the awakening of the impulses in early spring. I think that this takes place as soon as the blood of the bees is getting somewhat richer in albumen. During the winter the bees eat very little albuminous food; while they are semi-dormant the muscles are very little used and do not need much renewing, but they eat honey as fuel to secure the necessary temperature. This honey contains some albumen by pollen grains being mixed with it. I always observed in different climates that the colonies having consumed the most honey, especially if they were exposed to low temperature, would have the most brood. If the bees have a cleansing flight, albumen is consumed by the motion and consequently the consumption of pollen stored in the hive is incited and thereby the breeding impulse. This explains the fact that after such a cleansing flight breeding is usually com-

menced. In our climate the first brood will appear nearly every year with the first pollen flow and at the same time the bees commence carrying water.

I showed in my article in January number of *THE QUEEN*, how the breeding impulse by progressing development of the brood is re-enforced to the building impulse and then to the drone impulse.

I am of the opinion that the building impulse can be incited by other circumstances too. The bees secrete wax if a sufficient amount of blood is present and enough sugar as food. Sugar is the material from which wax is formed in the body of the bee; different experiments have proven this. This state is always present during a good honey flow. In all these cases the bees secrete wax and if they have no occasion to build combs, this wax is lost for the bee-keeper. Certainly the bees can be forced to eat honey expressly for the purpose of building combs, but then this comb building will diminish the honey crop in more than one way.

Here, again, I have to speak of the most prominent opponent, Dr. Dzierzon. If Gerstung is of the

opinion that the breeding impulse is changed to the building impulse by a simple increase of the blood, is incomprehensible to Dr. Dzierzon. A quantitative change cannot cause a qualitative one. This is again correct, according to the old way of thinking, but we meet the same thing very often in nature. Dzierzon thinks the building impulse should appear at first and the breeding impulse later on. He says: "If we cut away all empty combs about the beginning of April and only the upper combs remain in the hive, the bees are forced to build combs before they can breed, and they build combs even if the weather is so bad that they cannot fly out."

By the way, this practice is still recommended by Dr. Dzierzon, although it was proven more than 30 years ago, by long discussions, that it is a very bad way to torment the bees, and to-day there is no bee-keeper anywhere, except Dr. Dzierzon, thinking of it.

But is this fact a proof against Gerstung's opinion? If the combs are taken away the bees cannot breed, the unsatisfied or not sufficiently satisfied impulse to breed causes the tension of the blood and consequently the secretion of wax. Dzierzon's objection, if rightly understood, is a proof for Gerstung's opinion.

We will now consider again the progressing development of the brood. We have seen how the drone impulse is incited. Now the number of young bees will still get larger every day and the drone larvæ cannot consume the superfluous chyle, the bees get more and more eager for young larvæ to be fed, and because the ovary of the queen seems to be not sufficient, the only way which remains is to procure a new ovary. Queen cells are started and now the queen, which always is governed by the same impulses as the worker bees, receiving the same rich food, deposits eggs into them. Now the swarm is a necessity or the queen will be superseded. This explains why queens reared under the swarming impulse are said to be better than other ones.

The old school cannot explain the cause of swarming at all. We know small hives, a good honey flow and many other circumstances will cause swarming, but many times they do not. That the desire of the young bees for larvæ causes the swarming and this desire overbalances all other impulses can be seen by different practical observations. With afterswarms the small hive cannot cause the swarming fever, but the lack of all open brood forces the bees out of a place where they cannot satisfy the impulse for

nourishing the young brood and sometimes they swarm out even when no queen is with them. Our theory explains why a hived swarm will stay in the hive if open brood and eggs are given to them, but surely will swarm out again if a comb of capped brood is given into the hive, whereby the same condition is created which had driven the swarm from the parent hive.

It can be called a triumph of the new theory, that by scientific speculation a new way to prevent swarming could be invented, even if it should prove of little practical value. If we give to a colony which shows the desire for drones, a comb or combs with open larvæ and eggs (of course before queen cells are started) and repeat this at the right time swarming can be prevented.

With the swarming impulse the progressing development of the brood has reached the highest degree and from now the development is degressing.

In the young swarm a new progressing breeding will appear and if the queen is old and cannot lay a sufficient number of eggs, it can develop to the swarming impulse again.

Gerstung does not say much about the degressing development of the brood; mainly outer influences shall cause it, as diminishing

of the honey flow, lower temperature a. s. f. I think that besides this other influences will be in action. It is known that a very good honey flow prevents swarming. In my locality all swarming is stopped nearly every year as soon as the horse-mint flow commences.

It is a well known fact that the young bees nurse the brood while the older bees are carrying honey and pollen. Gerstung is of the opinion that the breeding impulse will disappear with the age of the bees as soon as this impulse is satisfied; that is, the nurse bees lose by age the capacity to feed the larvæ. The fact that bees breed in early spring is explained by Gerstung: Because a part of the bees could not satisfy the breeding impulse in the fall of the previous year. This explanation seems not quite sufficient to me and is in contradiction with the fact that a swarm formed of field bees exclusively, will, after some delay, feed larvæ.

I am of the opinion that the bees after a play-flight or if they fly to the field, will lose the breeding impulse, because by their movements muscles are used and nourished by albumen; the blood loses some albumen and in the same way as the breeding impulse is incited by albumen, it will disappear if the albumen in the blood is re-

duced. If old bees only are in the hive, a part of them will remain in the hive and their blood will get richer in albumen for lack of movement, consequently the breeding impulse is incited in the same way as with young bees. The same condition takes place in early spring. During a very good honey flow the breeding impulse is lessened considerably. I presume that in this case the field bees do not eat pollen, but chyle is fed to them by the young bees; hereby many consumers for the chyle are created.

The impulse for gathering honey and pollen seems to be present all the time as soon as the bees are able to fly. How much the young bees are helping in preparing honey and how they are incited to do so and cease feeding brood remains unsolved as yet.

The main influence in the degressing development is the lack of a pollen flow, the chyle contains less albumen and consequently the blood of the bees and the queen also. The queen lays less eggs and the bees have no desire to feed larvæ; finally the breeding impulse distinguishes. The low temperature at the beginning of the winter will not cause this as many believe because in our dry and hot summers, when nature spends no honey and no pollen, the bees cease breeding at all, if not fed. In the

fall, when new flowers open again, the breeding impulse appears again and disappears with the first frost, which kills the vegetation.

The driving out of drones is in close connection with the store of food-jelly of the colony. As soon as the drones receive no chyle any more they get weak, and will be removed by the bees. Queenless colonies have no brood to nurse, consequently can feed the drones and do not remove them.

Gerstung is of the opinion that the bees growing with age feed larvæ of a corresponding age, in such a way that the youngest larvæ are fed by the youngest bees and the oldest larvæ by the oldest nurse bees. He further thinks that every bee assimilates from the chyle what she needs and feeds the remaining chyle to other bees so that a circulation of the chyle takes place through the whole colony. I am not inclined as yet to accept this opinion. It is selfevident that many other questions remain to be answered, but the above will give an idea what is meant by the name "organic conception."

If we can determine by what circumstances the different impulses are incited, it still remains unanswered why and how just a certain and the right impulse is incited for the corresponding purpose. But this seems to be outside of the ability of our perception.

Freaks of Nature in Bees.

(By J. A. Golden.)

I have been reading several bee journals and after due thought upon the various topics being discussed by those classic and scholarly apiarists I have come to the conclusion that the novice bee-keeper who wishes to learn something about bees, their nature, instinct and habits, will conclude that they have no use for the bee journals that title their publication "to be devoted to bees and to the interest of bee-keepers" and at the same time foster and permit writers to indulge in spicing their articles with political insinuations without retitling their journals by adding "to the interest of politics also." They will sooner or later learn that such a course will be disastrous to such a publication. We see that Ed Hutchison, of one of the brightest and up-to-date publications on bee culture, "The Review," pages 23 and 24, January, 1899 issue, has caught a glimpse of the future welfare of his highly appreciated journal and calls a halt and will not recognize farther publications along the line alluded to, but will be content to plod on in the good old way, striving simply to make a good, full-measure bee paper. Also we see other bee journals drawing the same line and we hope THE

SOUTHLAND QUEEN will do likewise, and now if THE QUEEN will allow us the space we will give some experience with bees during 1998 that is a little out of the usual custom of the little frisky honey bee, and if any one has ever known of such an occurrence please stand up and tell us all about it. But here is the story:

Mrs. Wm. Hastings, living two and one half miles south of the writer's apiary, in June, '98, had one of the strongest colonies of bees, numerically, that it has ever been the writer's privilege to see. Having remarked to Mrs. Hastings that I thought her bees would cast a swarm soon she laughingly said: "Not this year." When Mrs. Hastings and the writer agreed on a wager the writer wandered his way home contemplating what a nice time he would have smoking the nice havana cigar he was so sure to get. On August 25th this colony had completed 50 one lb. sections of honey dew honey and cast an exceedingly large swarm which Mr. Wm. Hastings hived upon drawn combs in a ten frame hive. But now comes the riddle. Will some one please solve it and report through THE QUEEN. After some time had elapsed (same day) this swarm cast a swarm, leaving about one half of the bees of the former swarm and a laying queen.

The latter took a north-east course, settling two and a half miles from starting point, by the road side in a cavity in the bank one-half mile from the writer's apiary, remaining there from the 25th to the 28th, and by looking at the picture which was taken afterwards will clearly show that house-keeping had begun, there being eggs in the combs. The bees are pure Italians and the queen was purchased from the A. I. Root Co., Medina, Ohio.

The bees being within a few yards of a Mrs. Foster's residence, no one seemed disposed to disturb them in their effort to build up. Mrs. Foster's son and others thought they did not possess a queen and thus they were left, thinking they would soon become extinct. However, on that beautiful Sabbath I had taken a walk, looking at the beauties of nature and came upon the scene. Mr. Foster, knowing me as one of those bee cranks, said I might have the bees if I would take them away from the road side, but, said he, they haven't any queen. Alright, Mr. Foster, have you an old sack? Yes, sir, here's one. I invited Mrs. Foster and her son to assist in bagging the bees, but I could not persuade them nearer than a stone's throw. However, I placed the sack as handy and convenient as possible, then gently lifted hand-

full after handfull and placed them in the sack until I could secure the little twig containing the combs where the queen reigned supreme, of which was supposed not to be, but you know a bee crank knew better. Having placed the combs and queen inside of sack it wasn't long till all the bees were in. Shaking the cluster to the bottom and withdrawing the combs we had the bees nicely bagged and did not have to tie knots in our trousers' legs and slip into town by some back way, as some one of our former bee cranks did on procuring their first swarm of bees, but slung the sack over my arm and passed up our main street, the pedestrians giving us plenty of room. Arriving at home I turned the sack inside out, shaking the bees upon my hiving board, when they entered a hive containing 6 frames of drawn comb and 4 frames filled with foundation comb and placing ten lbs. of extracted honey in my combination feeder and hive cover on top, and no one could have enjoyed hearing the joyful hum of those bees more than the writer did, feeling that I had accomplished at least one act of charity in my life. On the 30th, I went down to Mr. Hastings' and cut out all queen cells but one of the parent colony whose brood combs were almost solid with brood and but little hon-

ey. I then examined the self divided swarm that remained and found the queen depositing eggs as indurtriously as the one that I had procured and the writer returned home smoking the waged Havana also being assured that I was very welcome to the bees that I had saved from starvation. Here is my answer to the riddle:

First; the colony had made preparation to swarm and from some cause were prevented.

Second; two royal daughters had hatched and were permitted to perform the duties of a queen along with their mother queen, being prolific, which resulted in over population, causing a forced swarm.

Third; having swarmed with two laying queens and hived together, being possessed with the instinct that in setting up a new kingdom only one royal majesty should rule. Thus, either mutually or by compulsion, a separation took place, each queen taking their own progeny. Now let the wise men answer, also foot note by the editor. Reinersville, O., Feb. 1, '99.

Bro. G.:—We think that we can see by reading your article that you have done right and also done wrong. You did right by taking care of the poor bees and wrong by betting and smoking and by asking us all to unfold your riddle and then making the interpretation

yourself. We do not understand by your statement that there were two hatched or young queens, but only one, and both mother and daughter came off with the swarm. It may have been two hatched queens after all, and the old mother may have been killed. Again, there was a possibility of a chance for there being only one queen when the swarm issued and two swarms joined hands and were hived together, and after remaining so for a few days, concluded to divide up the house, one taking the inside and the other the outside. We have at different times through life hived two swarms in one hive and in a few hours they would divide forces, one coming out and the other remaining. If we remember correctly the majority of such cases were when we only used boxes and logs and they were hived in the empty gums. We often wondered if each swarm clustered sort o' to itself in the gum or all together. You say each took their own progeny, but now do you KNOW that? Maybe they just divided forces by mutual consent, regardless of which was which. We have once or twice had double swarms to divide up from the limb where two had clustered together, but then we did not know whether the bees were thoroughly mixed or not. You had a

good chance to ply the seeing and smelling recognition theories.

Why did you not take some of that self divided swarm back to the first swarm and see if they would fight. There is one strong point about the sight recognition, and that is, the sight is much the strongest. We sometimes take a walk through the cantaloupe patch and think we smell a ripe one, but when we see it we trust no more to scent but we KNOW it. When the hound strikes a cold trail he likely thinks it has been there, but as soon as the "varmint" jumps up before his eyes, he pays no more attention to smell, but he KNOWS it is there. We switched off from the subject, but we thought of the smell and sight business and made these remarks to call J. A. Golden to the stand on the recognition of bees by one another. We are interested in it.

You gave such a good solution to your own problem that we do not know how to answer better.

We shall try to steer clear of the political danger and be content hereafter to learn all we can about bees, but suppose some of our honorable bee brothers get so absorbed in politics that they have to slip in a word once and occasionally about political sweets. You know some of our brightest bee torches belong to the public as congressmen. We

do believe that bee-keepers are entitled to their share of benefits from PURE legislation as well as big folks and when it becomes our duty to urge our readers to push for their rights and use their influence through their representatives in congress for our mutual benefit we trust you won't object to it, but we do not believe in a bee paper entering into general politics and we will try to keep out of it. ED.

Some Experience in Bee-keeping.

Dear Editor:—I have some little experience in bee-keeping and it does interest me so much to read *THE QUEEN*. I find so many letters from bee-keepers of so much more experience than I have that are indeed instructive. I began to experiment with bees five years ago and have made it my principal study ever since. I got my first bees by finding a bee tree and saving the bees which I hived in an empty nail keg. These bees were very gentle and peaceable so I soon began to love them and began to believe that there must be a more convenient hive than the nail keg so I managed to get the address of Mr. A. I. Root and wrote him for a catalogue and price list which was promptly mailed and I will say that there may be a few practical bee-keepers that can imagine my

surprise and delight to be in possession of this catalogue. It gave me the very information I wanted and made things plain to me that I had never thought of, so I soon had the bee fever as bad as anyone ever had it and my pulse ran so high that I did not know whether I would get over it or not and if my pocket-book had not been so small I would to-day own as many bees as could I manage. But the latter being the case I contented myself to read the experience of successful bee-keepers and try all kinds of experiments. I commenced to study and practice bee-keeping near Lake Charles, in Calcasieu parish, La. I remained there three years and two years ago I sold out, lock, stock and barrel and moved to this place (Hinston, La.) I made a start again by finding a bee tree and saving the bees, but I did not hive them in a nail keg. Fortunately, I am a house builder and mechanic and I buy my lumber and make my hives at home. Well, my experience has been with blacks only, but I think after anyone is able to manage blacks successfully they can also manage any other kind. I have learned to get bees in shape to swarm early, how to prevent swarming, how to produce comb honey, how to produce extracted honey and in fact almost anything

that is altogether essential in successful bee-keeping. This is a very poor country for honey and I have not allowed my bees to swarm much and have only increased my bees to 19 colonies in two years. They are all blacks except one colony. I got a nice 5 band Italian queen from The Jennie Atchley Co., last September, and that colony is nearly all Italians now. I like the five bands and I am going to get a breeder of that strain and Italianize all my bees this spring.

Well, I don't want to impose on any reader of this valuable journal, but I have made three discoveries that I have never seen mentioned in print of which I will give two and if I am lucky enough to see this in print I will give the third. Two of these discoveries are quite essential to ventilate the colonies to suit the temperature of the weather and the other is to catch your swarms in a convenient place to hive them. Well, to commence with the plan of ventilation that I am going to give at this writing, I would ask every bee-keeper that reads this journal to bore two 1 inch holes at an equal distance $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches down from the top of your brood frames in the front of the hive; then take a block of wood $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long by $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch thick by $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches wide, put a small hole $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from one end

and in the center in width and place it one inch from the edge of the hole to the right of the hole on the right when in front of the hive and the other the same distance to the left of the hole on the left. Fasten them with a small screw which fits loosely in the small hole through the described block $1\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{3}{8} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ on a horizontal line with the center of the one inch holes. Now, when the weather is warm place these blocks perpendicular, leaving the screw at the top and when it is cold place them horizontally by turning each to the center of the hive. Run the screws down till the blocks are held firmly against the hive.

The swarm catcher is this: Get a small pole, say $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick and about 10 ft. long, take some black moss and wrap it tight around the pole near the upper end, making it about 18 inches long and 4 inches thick. It is best to wrap the moss with a black thread. Now make a hole in the ground deep enough to hold the pole firm and at the same time it must be loose enough so that you can take it down and take it to your hive that you want to put them in. If you will put one of these poles for every 20 colonies of bees you have in your apiary I will insure you that four-fifths or more of your swarms will settle on them. Don't

put them all at one place, but put them all about over the yard. Now if you don't believe this, all I ask is a trial. May God bless you all and give us a prosperous year is the prayers of your humble servant.

W. T. CRAWFORD,

Hineston, La., Jan. 30, 1899.

The Way to Market Honey.

(By BEE CRANK.)

I see friend Hyde is almost fighting mad because the "Yankees" think southern honey is of inferior quality. Now, I never tasted any southern honey, nor have I ever seen any buckwheat honey, but if Mr. H. will come up here and help me chop down timber a few days in this bracing zero weather, I will bet he will enjoy our hearts-ease honey that is so thick you can hardly make it let go of a spoon.

Now, see here, friend Hyde, IS it "our place to supply the demand for honey in whatever form the market calls for?" Can we not MAKE a demand for whatever form pays us best?

Now, I am not in the bee business for sentiment nor for pleasure, but to support my family, and if I can make more from extracted honey or from chunk honey, all things considered, I will put it up in the way that pays best and then I will make a demand for it. My best

way is to extract my honey, and I very soon had all the demand I wanted, yet there had never been any extracted honey on the market here till I began to sell. The main point is to offer nothing but good RIPE honey and if people do not care to buy, have them taste it. I often give people a taste without asking them to buy and when I was nearly sold out I refused to sell by the dollar's worth, but would let only a few pounds go to each family. You see I expect to have some to sell next season and I want everyone to know what good honey I have.

I KNOW THE QUEEN is a BEE paper, but allow me to put in a word for fruit. Every bee-keeper should have all the fruit his family can use and many could manage to raise some to sell.

We have out now $\frac{1}{3}$ acre of strawberries for a money crop, besides a lot of raspberries, blackberries, gooseberries, currants, plums, peaches and apples for home use and will put out $\frac{1}{3}$ acre more of strawberries in the spring.

I have raised strawberries ever since I was "knee high to a duck" and let me tell you a small patch well cared for will give you a lot of fruit. If given good care a patch of 10 square rods will give a fair sized family all the fruit they can eat every day for a month if a few extra early and extra late are planted.

QUEEN REARING.

Why everyone Can't be a queen Breeder.

(By Willie Atchley.)

(Continued from last issue.)

Queens use their wings to help them get about over the combs and through the bees. They cannot combat with an intruding stray swarm queen as well without wings and as a rule queens with maimed legs or wings are superseded earlier than queens not so mutilated. I wish that I knew better how to argue that it is wrong to clip queens' wings, as I feel about as sad to see a good mother queen hobbling around trying to attend to her duty and to perform the duties assigned her by our creator as it does to see a one legged man trying to plow walking. They both may do tolerable well for a while, but sooner or later they are bound to give way quicker than if they had their limbs. After this little weak effort to explain why it is best not to clip queens' wings my friend with the small apiary in Ft. Worth said: I will now tell you what a fix I got into by reading an article in some one of the bee papers advising all bee-keepers to clip their queens, as they would find by doing so that they would have less trouble and not lose a single swarm. So I soon had all my queens clipped and

said to them, now I guess you won't get so high up in the tops of the trees. Well, as I was a beginner and young at the business, I did not know that virgin queens were of more service with their heads cut off than they are with a clipped wing. I was so crazy on the clipping business that I clipped laying queens, big, little, old and young, uttering the words: "You bloody rascals, I have got you now." About half the swarms I hived had virgin queens that year, and I cut the wings of all alike as I hived them and gave nothing except empty frames and of course no brood nor anything to rear a queen with and if I had they would not have reared a queen while the clipped virgins were with them. Well, I began to examine my bees in a month or so after swarming was over and I found some alright and increasing, while others were decreasing and I just let them go, thinking they would all come out right (as my bee paper had said so) because my queens were all clipped, but to my surprise I soon found 5 had played out entirely. Well, I knew that would not do, so I began to search bee books and soon found out my mistake and I know all five of those that died out had virgin queens. After that, my old clipped queens would get lost when they swarmed. If ever I get done kick-

ing myself for following such foolish advice I will never be guilty of clipping another queen.

Now, friends, I have went through all this friend's troubles just to show how careful one should be in giving advice, as it is most sure to be the innocent beginners that will suffer, as the veteran will, of course, know better, but it is those that don't know that ought to be abvised, as the veterans usually have plans of their own, matters not what they read and our aim should be to protect beginners. Now, I wish to submit to you one more case in conclusion to the queen clipping business and here it is:—

"I have just returned from the Spanish-American war and find that I have lost 40 colonies of my bees by swarming and moths taking queenless colonies, as I had my queens clipped, and they became barren and unfertile and did no good."

J. C. WALLENMEYER,

Evansville, Ind., Jan. 1, 1899.

What a pity! 40 colonies lost, and all on account of clipped queens. I think that I could have the matter weighed up all over the country and find that more loss is caused by clipped queens than by those not clipped; then I think it is wrong to clip them anyway.

While I was in Ft. Worth I also

made our great bee doctor (Dr. Howard) a short visit. I soon found that he had too much business on hands to devote much of his time to bees and their diseases and I only stopped a short while at his beautiful home, but while there he showed me through his laboratory and there I was shown bees with different diseases and he had just been dissecting some bees that were affected with paralysis and was determining the cause of the disease. He has added paralysis to his book on foul brood and every bee-keeper ought to have a copy of it. If any bee-keepers have diseased bees and wish to know what the trouble is just send a few of the diseased bees to Dr. Wm. R. Howard, 502, Main St., Ft. Worth, Texas, and he will tell you what the disease is.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Clipping Queens' Wings.

(By L. B. SMITH.)

I see an article in the February QUEEN, pages 10 and 11, where Willie Atchley comes down on us old foggies pretty hard on clipping the wings of our queens where he says, "I would not advise any such cruel business, and any apiarist that could not keep bees without it and kept it up ought to be punished for cruelty to animals."

Now, my dear sir, don't you think the above just a little hard on us that have been following this practice for years and see no good reason why we should stop it now. The point he makes where he says "If the kind Creator had wished the insects mutilated he would most likely have caused the wings of queens to drop off after mating for the benefit of mankind," &c. &c. I do not think is sound reasoning. While I am a strong believer in nature and in nature's ways, still I know that man has improved on nature in many ways. It is true that nature placed the wings on queen bees for a purpose, but after they have mated and commence to lay, I cannot see for the life of me what advantage the wings are to them, only to cause the apiarist to chase after them and climb high trees for swarms, etc. etc. As for my part, I cannot see but one objection to the practice of clipping queens' wings, and that is, it does injure their looks, but I don't suppose she thinks or cares much about how she looks, especially after she has commenced the duties of egg laying, so I cannot see how our good friend, Willie A., should look on it as a cruel practice.

So far as its being nature for queens to have wings and that they should not be cut off on that account, I hardly think is sufficient

reason to justify him in the above statements. Why, what would he think of a man that had a herd of cattle or horses and would not castrate any of the young animals just because it was not in accordance with nature? I know very well that there are many things done with bees and animals too, that seem cruel and wicked, but still, if in doing these things we benefit mankind I don't think we commit any sin in doing so. As for myself, I don't see how I could well keep bees without clipping my queens, as I am a farmer and many times when I am away at work the bees swarm and my wife or one of the children picks up the queen, cages her and hangs her in the shade of a tree until I come in and find the swarm clustered around her and can hive them at my leisure, when if I did not clip they would have to be hived at once, or lose many swarms, which no bee-keeper would be willing to do. But if I gave all my time to bee-keeping, as the Atchleys do, I might change my mind, but don't think I would.

COLD WEATHER, AND BEES SUFFERING FROM IT.

We had the coldest weather on the 11, 12 and 13 of this month, this country has ever known, the thermometer registering as low as six degrees below zero, and the bees have suffered from it badly.

They had commenced gathering pollen and started brood rearing when the blizzard came and were scattered all through the combs and nearly one-half the bees in each hive were frozen to death, and most all the colonies are weak in numbers. I would not object to this so much if it was not for them robbing each other so bad at this season of the year. I have had more trouble with robbers since the blizzard than I ever had before. But perhaps this extreme cold will yet be a benefit to the bee-keepers in the south, as it has kept down early breeding and bees will not use up all their honey in February and March, as they sometimes do and then starve in April and May.

BEES GATHERING DUST AND USING IT AS POLLEN.—FEEDING WHEAT FLOUR.

I was in the apiary a few days after the blizzard and noticed bees very busy hovering over a pile of dust as though they were gathering pollen. On investigating I found they were gathering this dust and packing it on their legs the same as pollen. I at once took the hint and went to the house, got some empty boxes and some wheat flour, set the boxes in a sunny place near the apiary with some chips in them, put in the flour and soon had a perfect swarm of bees

working on this flour, apparently with as much energy as they ever worked at gathering natural pollen. I have now had them working at this artificial pollen a week and it has started brood rearing nicely again, but they are deserting the flour now and going to work again on the water elms. It is very dry here now and prospects are not very good for a honey crop for '99. "But we will live in hopes if we die in despair."

Lometa, Texas, Feb. 20, 1899.

Friend Smith:—All I have to add more to my argument against clipping queens' wings is, when I see a queen hobbling around with one wing or likely both wings off, it makes me utter the pitiful exclamation, "poor thing! a cripple for life and no chance for a pension." Half value gone, and the owner damaged. Don't clip your queens; it won't pay, in my judgment.

W. A.

Heavy Loss.

I have been looking for that X opposite my name, but as yet I have not seen it. THE QUEEN is a welcome visitor, and read with interest. There is a heavy loss here in the north, and many bees will be lost yet.

SIMON KEISER,

Blissfield, Ohio, Feb. 24, 1899.

Friend K.:—We seldom mark the amount of indebtedness until it reaches \$1.00.

ED.

OUR SCHOOL.

Mrs. JENNIE ATCHLEY,
INSTRUCTOR



Mrs. Atchley:—Will you kindly inform me if you know anything about the country around Kerrville, Kerr Co., Texas? Is cotton a good honey plant. You know I have to keep bees, and I desire to know the sources of the main honey flows of Kerr Co., as I am desirous of moving there on account of its altitude, being 1650 feet elevation. I have asthma and think that would be good for me with such high elevation. I will be very glad to get the information in next school.

S. M. CARLZEN,

Montclair, Colorado, Feb. 20, '99.

Friend C.:—I am well acquainted with the country around Kerrville, and think it a very high and healthy place. Bees do well in Kerr Co. most seasons. Cotton is a good honey plant, but yields sparingly some seasons, the same as most other honey plants. Mesquite, cat's claw, horse mint, buffalo clover, and many other plants furnish honey there. I think, on account of your asthma, it would be a good location for you. You will find it a very pleasant place to live, anywhere from Llano to Kerrville. The wind blows a great deal in early spring, but you would soon get used to that.

Please inform me if your southern bees and queens will live in our northern climate, as we have winter here from November till May, as a rule. Will you advise me how to make a start and succeed with bees, as there are no apiaries here for me to learn from?

W. E. CUNNINGHAM,
Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 28, '99.

Yes, our bees and queens will live as well in your climate as any other bees as far as I know, as I have sent bees and queens, more or less, to your state for many years, and they have always done well as far as I know. I have mailed you our book on profitable bee-keeping, and I think you will find in it sufficient information to help you on to success. It would take me quite a while to tell you all of it in answer now, but if you do not find all the information desired, in the book, let me know, and I will help you out further. To be careful, not learn too fast, be up and doing, and run the bees for all they are worth is one of the plainest roads to success. Study your bees closely, learn to handle them properly, and do not neglect to gain knowledge of the time of the blooming of the plants that furnish your honey and try to have the bees ready and good and strong in numbers when the flowers come

into bloom, and you have then learned another plain road to success.

I send you some dead bees in this letter, and I wish you to tell me whether they are pure Italians or hybrids.

E. C. WINSTON,
Alvin, Texas, Jan. 26, '99.

The bees you sent are mashed almost beyond recognition, but from what little there is left of them, their marks show to be hybrids, but I cannot tell for sure, as all dead bees and queens turn dark soon after death. In sending me bees to test for you, better send live ones, as then I can better judge them. I can furnish you a cage ready provisioned post paid for only five cents.

Find inclosed postal note for \$1.45 long since due. My excuse is, part of the time I was absent and when at home I would not think of it. I have been in tropical Mexico January and part of February, looking at that country for the purpose of locating there to raise fruit and honey. I found the GARDEN OF EDEN. Perpetual summer. I saw blooms in the woods and wild bees working on them just like they do here in June. I saw one colony of bees in a banana grove where they had

built their combs in the open air. No one pays any attention to bees there except to rob them. I will write an article of my trip there and what I saw if you will publish it in March number of *THE QUEEN*. We are trying to start a colony of Baptists in that country next fall. Inclosed find our circular. I believe we will lose at least 12 or 15 colonies of our bees here on account of the cold. We have had the coldest weather and more of it than I ever saw in Texas before and great handfuls of bees are dead under the hives every day. I find a great deal of young brood dead. Will the bees, after it gets warm enough, pull out all the dead brood or will I have to clean them out? I don't want to get foul brood in my bees. Please answer. I have about 15 colonies in old box gums. How early can I transfer them to dove-tailed hives?

C. S. PHILLIPS,
Waco, Texas, Feb. 9, 1899.

Friend Phillips:—Your proposed Mexico move is quite interesting. Yes, the bees will pull out all the dead and clean up the hives, if they are not too much depopulated. You need not fear foul brood by any dead brood about your hives, from any cause, as it don't appear that way, as my experience has long since taught me. You can transfer your bees now, at any time when the weather is warm and the bees are gathering new honey.

Mrs. Atchley:—Your very kind favor received, also the catalogue and *SOUTHLAND QUEEN*. Thanks for the same. I desire to ask a few questions before ordering hives. How much foundation wax would do for five hives? Would it be best to use some foundation of both kinds.

MRS. C. B. GATLING,
San Augustine, Tex., Feb. 23, '99.

It is owing to how wide you desire your starters how much will be needed per hive. If you use full sheets for 8 or 10 brood frames it will take about one and one-half pounds for each brood chamber, and less according to the width of your starters. Some only use about one inch of foundation for starters just to insure straight combs, and some use more. It will be best to have some brood and surplus too if you desire starters in sections or super frames. If you desire, you can use full sized starters in your sections or shallow frames, or only starters if you wish to begin cheaply, and you can soon tell by experience whether it will pay to use full sheets in your locality or not.

As I have some bees and wish to go into the bee business, I will thank you for the information I desire. What must I sow for the bees

to furnish blooms for them to work on? I have sent for some buckwheat and when must I sow it? Tell me all about the bees, as it is a new business to me. T. M.,
Chico, Texas.

It will not pay you to sow anything for your bees in your county (Wise) as when the buckwheat has a season sufficient to make it yield honey well, there will also be an abundance of wild forage that they will love better. I cannot well tell you all about bees in one answer, as it would make quite a book to hold it all, or all I have learned. I send you my free lessons on bee-keeping, which will help you.

Can I send to you for a pattern hive and be allowed to make my own hives. I am a mechanic, and think I can make my hives much cheaper than I can buy them.

T. MERRIMAN,
Chico, Texas, Feb. 28, '99.

Friend M.:—We will send you a sample hive and you can make all you choose, as there is no patent on the hives we make. I hardly think you can make them cheaper than you can buy them, even if you are a mechanic, if you count your time as worth much, as hive making by hand is very slow.

Please inform me what is customary to pay good apiarists for work in the bee yard. I mean for a person that thoroughly understands the business. I have 135 colonies of bees and wish to get a helper to take charge of them for a month or two. J. L. SCHRODER,
Missouri City, Tex., Feb. 28, '99.

For such a person as you desire you will have to pay about \$1.00 per day and board, just for a month or two. Should you desire an apiarist by the year, then about \$20.00 per month, with board and lodging, will be about right. We can send you a good man, we think, for \$1.00 per day.

How many colonies can I keep profitably in Brazos River bottoms, in Brazoria County? Or what is the most that I can reasonably keep to advantage in one place?

A READER,
Columbia, Tex., Feb. 26, '99.

I would not advise you to keep more than 200 colonies in one apiary one year with another, as that number will use the territory in reach and not over stock in ordinary seasons. In good seasons your location would support more and in bad seasons less. It is a hard problem to tell just exactly how many colonies a given locality will profitably support.

THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

E. J. ATCHLEY, - - Editor and Business M'gr.

...ASSISTED BY..

WILLIE, CHARLIE AND AMANDA ATCHLEY.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY, Editress and Manager
of School for Beginners.

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One year, in advance, - - \$1.00
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 " " " year, - - 10.00

An **X** opposite your address signifies that your subscription has expired, and when date is also given it indicates that you are indebted to us from that date to this issue. If you desire your paper discontinued, drop us a note to that effect, or we will continue to send the paper.

General Instructions.

Send money by registered mail, P. O. order, express money order or by bank draft. Do not send private check under any circumstances. One and two cent stamps will be accepted for amounts under one dollar—must be in good order. Our international money order office is Beeville, Texas, and all remittances from foreign countries must be made through that office.

Address all communications to

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY COMPANY,
Beeville, Bee Co., Texas.

Entered at the Post Office at Beeville, Texas, for transmission through the mails at second class rates.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, MARCH, 1899.

Our piping froze and burst six inches under ground. How was that for the Sunny Southland?

Notice our new ads. this month, as well as our old ones. We think

any advertiser in THE QUEEN will treat you right.

W. S. Pender, from Australia, will not reach us before the last of April, as we learn since he has reached America.

While bees were swarming at this date last year, it will be at least a month later this year, even if the weather is favorable from this time on.

Willie thinks he will reach home inside of 10 days, or by March 10. He has been absent since Oct. 13, and has been through zero weather in north Texas.

We have warm weather again now, March 1, and bees are doing as well as could be expected. We lost but few colonies outright, but all colonies lost more or less bees, and some are reduced to mere handfuls.

Four pages extra last month and four this month and still we have lots of good matter that ought to have went in February and March numbers. Please bear with us, friends, and we will have all your articles and reports appear soon.

Reports have come in from most parts of the country, and the loss

in bees is going to be heavy where bees were wintering out of doors unprotected. Likely, we will not be putting it too strong to say at least one-third of the bees wintered out of doors without protection are lost.

We made a big mistake in not printing a large number of extra copies of January issue, as new subscribers have come in so fast, and all wanted to begin with January number, that our January issue gave way soon, hence our call for that number. We now have plenty of January numbers, having received several to date.

Wm. Schorer, of Vining, Kansas, made us a visit a few days ago and he is well pleased with the appearance of the Sunny Southland. He was in a position to appreciate our genial weather, such as we were having at that time, as Mr. Schorer's nose was very sore from being frozen while he was in Kansas, during their 30 degrees below zero weather. We had it as cold here as we wish to see it; 10 degrees above zero for two days.

We received, during one day, in February, 25 new subscribers, and the sun has not rose and set but few times since January 1st, without bringing us more or less new

subscribers. Thank you, friends, thank you. We do not know now when we will be able to drop back to our 24 pages again, and we again increase the issue. Will our friends scattered over the bee-keeping world please accept our thanks for the kind support and interest they are giving THE QUEEN.

We are now making our Hoffman top bars only one inch wide with the comb guide a little to one side, so when the starter or sheet of foundation is put on the widest side from comb guide it will hang exactly in the center. Then when top bars are only one inch, it gives the bees better space to enter the supers, and we find that no brace combs are built. These improvements we have proven in our own yards, but when you wish your frames $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches wide and comb guides in center you can have them so. When we find any advantage gained by experiments made in our own yards we will give them to our friends. We are looking out for REAL improvements all the while. If any of you have improvements to offer we will be glad to have them.

Ice again, thick as a knife blade, this March 6th. More cold weather this winter than for several years all put together.

Our early honey flow was entirely cut off by the late freeze, so we will get no honey till April.

Queen excluding zinc, and all metal supplies have gone up 10 per cent, and in sending orders, please bear this in mind.

We have just received a large lot of extra snow white sections, made ESPECIALLY for our trade, and we can recommend them.

We will give as a premium for every new subscribers for one year, one copy of Dr. Howard's foul brood book, post paid. We will also make the same liberal offer to all old subscribers that pay up and one year in advance.

If any of you want a bran new imported Italian queen to breed from this year, better put in your order now. We expect a fine lot of imported queens in April, and you can have first choice for \$5.00; second, \$4.00; third, \$3.50.

Still more and more news reaches us by every mail of the great loss in bees, on account of our recent zero weather, in central and northern Texas, and we are very sorry to learn that some of our friends have lost all they had.

The queen and bee trade bids fair, at present, of being large this season, and queens now go out by nearly every mail. We are getting queen rearing now under good head way, but nearly one month later than common on account of the very severe winter.

Willie has started home and is now visiting our old friends, O. P. Hyde & Son, at Hutto, and will make his Pearsall apiary a visit this week, and then return home to take up his stand at the old post of queen rearing. He will give some interesting write ups in near future issues of THE QUEEN.

The hum of our little factory is heard day and night now, and no telling when we will get a rest spell. We had supposed that the cold weather had killed so many bees that most people would have plenty of empty hives for this year, but it seems there is a demand for hives and supplies in spite of the great loss in bees.

We have entered on our X list the "Western Bee-keeper," published at Denver, Colorado, 50 cts. per year. We welcome the new sister and wish her every success. It is printed on good, heavy paper, and brim full of good, interesting matter. Send for a sample copy

and take a look at the western "lady," read it and then subscribe for it if you need another good bee paper.

KIND WORDS.

Mrs. Atchley:--THE QUEEN is still punctual in her monthly visits and I must confess I have been a little remiss in not returning the compliment. To show my appreciation of her faithfulness I'll endeavor to be more mindful of my duties hereafter. I continue to read THE QUEEN with interest and imagine myself a bee man while I have only a half dozen colonies sitting around the garden half covered up in dust. The truth is, I don't have time to work with them only when they are ready to rob. Then, with an ordinary case knife, a hatchet, a large pan and smoker I get the honey with a few stings after a primitive style and a secondary result of a visit from ants, bee moths and robber bees, with an empty and deserted hive as a final result. I can't lay such success to the dryest and poorest country on earth, but to my—I won't say laziness, because I don't believe a successful bee crank or bee hunter can be so accused truthfully and if coursing bees through mountains and robbing bee caves with a Winchester rifle constitutes a bee crank

then defendant pleads guilty. I think every year I will visit your associations, but never find time to neglect my practice so long. I often have time, but not the right time. Well, I only started with the intention of inclosing you a dollar for your QUEEN and when she is paid for it will be my QUEEN.

Mrs. Atchley, tell us when it will rain. It is so dry fall oats are all dead and wheat is just living. Nothing planted can sprout and survive. Foster, DeVoe, nor Earl Hicks can console us. I must close. It is no trouble to start my tongue on the bee question and if the spirit ever enters my pen I may give you another squib by way of passtime. J. S. EDDINS, M. D.,
Ingram, Kerr Co., Tex., March 3, '99.

We desire to thank you, Dr., for your very kind words and remembrance of us and we appreciate kind words from all of our friends. Let the spirit move your pen a little oftener, Dr., and keep us posted on the doings in bee culture in and around your city. ED.

APIS DORSATA FOR THE UNITED STATES.

An American soldier now in the Philippines at Manila has kindly volunteered to secure APIS DORSATA, of which he says there are a great many in and about Manila,

and further that the natives have offered to furnish him the bees. He has asked for instructions how to ship, etc. We have given him the necessary information, and have offered to pay him \$25 00 for one queen, \$35.00 for two, and so on. We will publish his interesting letter in our next issue.

I for one feel sanguine that we shall be able to obtain the big bees, because Mr. Uglow says Manila is only 20 days from San Francisco. Of course, he will have to arrange to get direct steamer connection so the bees will not be caged any longer than is absolutely necessary. If any of our subscribers desire to communicate with Mr. Uglow, his address is, John C. Uglow, Co. M, 2d Reg. Ore. Vol.—“Gleanings.”

Foul brood is on the decrease in Ontario, Canada, if we are to judge by the report of Mr. McEvoy, Inspector of Apiaries for that Province. In his report for 1898 he reported that in 1890 he examined 160 apiaries and found 150 of them that were infected with foul brood; while, in 1898, he examined 150, and found the disease in only 35 apiaries.—Bee-Keepers' Review.

Editor QUEEN:—Please say in next issue of QUEEN that the next convention of the U. S. Bee-keepers' Association will be held at

Philadelphia, Pa., commencing Tuesday evening, Sept. 5th, and closing on Thursday evening, the 7th. R. R. and other rates will be given as soon as known.

DR. A. B. MASON, Secretary,
Sta. B, Toledo, O., Feb. 28, '99.

New York Quotations.

Market well stocked with comb honey, Buckwheat and mixed especially. Fancy white finds a ready sale. Extracted of all kinds finds a ready demand. We quote as follows:—

Fancy White,	12 to 13 cts.
Fair White,	10 to 11 cts.
Amber,	9 to 10 cts.
Buckwheat,	6 ¹⁻² to 7 ¹⁻² cts.
White Extracted,	6 ¹⁻² to 7 cts.
Amber,	6 to 6 ¹⁻² cts.
Dark,	5 ¹⁻² to 6 cts.
Florida White,	6 ³⁻⁴ to 7 ¹⁻⁴ cts.
Florida Light Amber,	6 to 6 ¹⁻² cts.

Other grades of southern honey from 55 to 65 cts. per gallon according to quality.

Beeswax in good demand at 26 to 27 cts. Write us.

FRANCIS H. LEGGETT & Co.,
Franklin & Varick Sts.,
Jan. 21, 1899. New York.

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PUBLISHER.

F. L. THOMPSON,
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CYPRESS BEE HIVES.

Best in the World! Prices right too. Send name on postal card and get our catalogue telling all about them and full line of bee-keepers' supplies.

Crossman Mfg. Co.,

109 COMMERCE ST., Dallas, Texas.

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Please mention THE QUEEN.

WANTED—A position by a practical bee-keeper, or will rent an apiary on shares.

A. SIRES, HARTFORD, ARK.

We can use all the beeswax we can get at 25 cts. per pound delivered at Beeville in exchange for other bee supplies.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY CO.,
Beeville, Texas.

LARGE Apicultural Establishment

(Established in 1860)

for the Rearing and Export of Queen Bees

PURE SELECTED ITALIAN KIND

Cav. Prof. PIETRO PILATI,

Via Mazzini No. 70,

Bologna, (Italy.)

PRICE LIST

	March April May	June July August	September October November
1 tested Queen	Doll. 1.75	Doll. 1.25	Doll. 1.00
6 " Queens	" 9.25	" 7.00	" 5.75
12 " "	" 18.00	" 14.00	" 10.00

The ordination must be united with the payment which shall be effected by means of post-money-orders.

The addresses and the rail-way stations are desired exact, and in a clear hand writing.

If by chance a queen-bee dies upon the journey, it must be returned accompanied with a Post-Certificate and another queen-bee will be sent immediately in its stead.

We have been pleased with all the queens purchased from Prof. Pilati. Ed.

tf

Please mention THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN in answering this advertisement.

NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF
MEETING OF THE THREE TEXAS
BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

Texas State:—April 5 & 6, '99,
at the factory of W. R. Graham &
Son, Greenville, Texas. This will
be the 21st annual session. J. N.
Hunter, Leonard, Tex., Secretary.

Central Texas:—July 20 & 21,
'99, at Milano, Texas. 5th annual
meeting. S. W. McClure, Round
Rock, Texas, Secretary.

South Texas:—August 16 & 17,
'99, at the home of the Atchleys,
Beeville, Texas, which will be the
5th annual meeting. E. J. Atchley,
Beeville, Texas, Secretary.

Duncans' Self Hiver and
Non Swarmer.

For the next six months we will sell a farm
right, with hive complete ready for frames, \$7.50.
Farm right and colony of Italian bees, \$10.00. With
instructions. **Satisfaction guaranteed.**
DUNCAN & SON, Homerville, Ga.

Holy Land **SAY!** Golden
Italian

JONES REARS all the QUEENS he sells.
He don't sell anybody else's. **Every queen
guaranteed.** My '99 queen circular free.

E. R. Jones, Milano, Texas.

QUEENS—either 3 or 5 banded.
The very best tested queens \$1.25; un-
tested, 1.00. 1 frame with queen 2.25
Dovetailed bee hives and all kinds of
bee-keepers' supplies. Send for cata-
logue.

Deanes & Miner,
Ronda, N. C.

For Sale.

One town lot, $1\frac{1}{4}$ acres, 2 story,
8 room dwelling, barn, store house
25x30; all in the very best condi-
tion, new and painted. Also 25
colonies of bees in 8 framed chaff
hives. Also 2 acre lot situated 1
mile from R. R. station, suitable
for out apiary; one of the finest
locations for bees in western N. C.
ALSO HAVE ONE 12 H. P UPRIGHT
BOILER AND ONE 10 H. P. HORI-
ZONTAL ENGINE with other ma-
chinery suitable for the manufact-
ure of dovetailed bee hives &c.

Any or all of the above men-
tioned property will be sold cheap.
Climate unexcelled for health.

Ronda Mfg. Co.,
Ronda, N. C.

Job Printing for Bee-keepers.

Did you know that we are well
fixed to do printing for bee-keep-
ers? White wove envelopes, good
and strong, also neat, printed \$2.00
for 500, or \$3.50 for 1000. Letter
heads, same price. You pay ex-
press or postage, or they can be
sent along with other goods. We
get out cards, circulars and cata-
logues as cheap as the cheapest.
Prices quoted on application, as we
would have to know the size before
we could make a true estimate.
Give us some of your printing.

The Jennie Atchley Co.,
Beeville, Texas.

Our Clubbing List.

We will club with THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN the following papers, which will be a saving to the subscriber in case both or all the papers named are wanted. The Modern Farmer & Busy Bee \$1.00. THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN \$1.00; both papers for one year 1.40.

Gleanings and The Southland Queen \$1.75. Bee-Keepers' Review and The Southland Queen \$1.75. The Progressive Bee-Keeper and The Southland Queen \$1.35. Cash must accompany each order at the above prices. Address your orders to **The Jennie Atchley Co.,** Beveville, Bee Co., Texas.

Promptly Mailed

Untested queens of the golden or the leather colored at 75 cents each; 3 for \$2. Tested, \$1. each, 6 for \$5. My custom grows every year, and my queens give satisfaction. I send queens to the leading bee-keepers by 50 and 100 lots. Safe arrival on all queens. Try my beauties.

W. H. LAWS, . . . **LAVACA,** Sebastian Co., Ark.

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Bee Bulletin.

The official organ of the New South Wales and Victorian Bee-Keepers. It circulates through all the Australian colonies, New Zealand and Cape of Good Hope.

Subscription—5s per annum in advance, if booked, 6s 6d.

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Our large illustrated catalogue of Bees, Hives, Smokers, &c.

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Theodore Bender, Canton, Ohio.

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Begin early by placing your orders now.

Free to
Bee-keepers.

Our 36 page catalog,
it tells you about
bees, hives, bee fix-

tures, etc., as well as

How to manage bees

And produce honey

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THE A. I. Root Company's GOODS by the car load, thereby saving freight charges to nearby patrons. Are prepared to furnish most anything in the bee line on short notice at Root's prices.

IF YOU ARE

Looking for a good stock of Italian queens don't fail to give us a trial.

One, 2 and 3 frame nuclei a specialty.

John Nebel & Son HIGH HILL, Mo.

HOLYLANDS!

I can now supply Holyland queens, untested, at 1.00 each, 6 for \$5.00, or 12 for \$9.00. Tested, \$1.50 each. Breeders, the very best, \$5.00 each.

WILLIE ATCHLEY, Beveville, Tex.

The Midland Farmer,

—SEMI-MONTHLY.—

The representative modern Farm Paper of the Central and Southern Mississippi Valley.

Send us a list of your Neighbors (for free samples) and 25 cents in one cent stamps, and we will send the paper to you for

A Whole Year!

(The Biggest Measure of Real Value Ever Given for the Money.)

This is the last time this advertisement will appear, so send in your name at once.

The Midland Farmer,

Wainwright Building,

ST. LOUIS.

W. M. BARNUM, Editor.

THE RURAL HOME,

S. H. PILE, Pub.,

810 Oliver St., - - St. Louis, Mo.

A Semi-Monthly, devoted to

BETTER FARMING and

MORE MONEY for

the **PRODUCER.**

Subscription price, 50 cents a year. Cut price for awhile, 30 cents a year, or **FOUR MONTHS FOR A DIME.**

A Liberal Offer.

We will give as a premium for every new subscriber with \$1.00 this year, one nice untested Italian queen, and to all old ones that will pay up and one year in advance.

Concluded Not To Rise.

We have concluded not to advance the prices of supplies and queens for the present. Lumber has gone up some, but we will maintain old prices as long as we can. See our 1899 catalogue for prices on anything you want in the bee-supply line.

Our '99 Prices for Queens and bees.

CHEAP QUEENS AND COMPETITION.

We are often asked why we do not sell queens as cheap as Mr. so-and-so. To this we will say that we do not enter into competition with any one in the queen business. We think we have been in this business long enough to learn what is a "live and let live" price, and we think you will agree with us when you note our prices given below. We must place a guarantee upon all queens sent out, and we try to send nothing but good ones, and after all dead queens are replaced, cost of food, cage and mailing comes off there is only a small portion left for our work, and if we should sell queens at less than cost we fear we would not hold out another 22 years in the business. We try to send you value received when you order anything of us. Untested queens, either from imported Italian stock, Carniolan, Cyprian, Holyland, or our best 5 band strains, February, March, April and May, 1 dollar each, 5 dollars for 6 or 9 dollars per dozen. June to Nov. first, 75 cents each, \$4.25 for 6 or 8 dollars per dozen. Tested queens of either race, \$1.50 each, at all seasons of the year. Fine breeders, from previous season's rearing, 5 dollars each. We will select you a queen from any race or strain for 50 cents extra to prices given. Bees by the pound, 1 dollar; 10 or more pounds, 90 cents for each pound, and untested queens to go with them, 75 cents each. If you wish a large lot of bees and queen write for wholesale prices.

The Jennie Atchley Company,
Beeville, Bee Co., Texas.

PRICES OF **Bingham** Perfect BEE Smokers and
Honey Knives

Patented 1878, 1882 and 1892.

		Per Doz.	each
Smoke engin { largest smok- 4-inch stove { er made } }		\$13 00-Mail,	\$1 50
Doctor, 3½ inch stove		9 00 "	1 10
Conqueror, 3 "		6 50 "	1 00
Large, 2½ "		5 00 "	90
Plain, 2 "		4 75 "	70
Little Wonder, 2 "		4 50 "	60
Honey Knife,		6 00 "	80

Direct-Draft Perfect
BINGHAM
Bee Smoker



PATENTED
1878, 1882 and 1892.

All Bingham smokers are stamped on the metal



Patented { 1878 } Knives, B&H
 { 1892 }

The four larger sizes have extra wide shields and double coiled steel wire handles. These SHIELDS and HANDLES are an AMAZING COMFORT—all

ways cool and clean. No more sooty or burnt fingers. The Plain and Little Wonder have narrow shields and wire handles. All Bingham Smokers have all the new improvements, viz: Direct Draft, Movable Bent Cap, Wire Handles, Inverted Bellows, and are in every way ABSOLUTELY PERFECT.

Fifteen Years for a Dollar! One-half a Cent for a Month!!

DEAR SIR: Have used the Conqueror 15 years. I was always pleased with its workings, but thinking I would need a new one this summer, I write for a circular. I do not think the 4-inch Smoke engine too large. Yours, etc., W. H. EAGERTY, Cuba, Kansas, January 27, 1897.

T. F. BINGHAM, Farwell, Mich.

Are You Looking For It?
WHAT?

Are you looking for Foundation to use this year? Then, don't look any farther; as DADANT'S, have now been before the bee-keeping world, for many years, stands without a rival today. If you never saw any of Dadants foundation, send a Postal for free sample, together with their catalogue. They guarantee every inch of their foundation to be as good as sample sent, and no complaints ever come against it. They have also revised, Langstroth on the hive and Honey Bee, and you can scarcely afford to do without this large and valuable book. Post paid \$1.25. We sell every thing needed in the apiary.

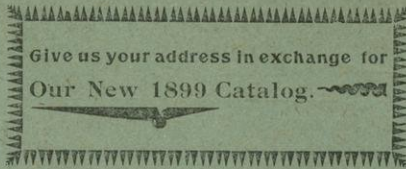
CHAS. DADANT & SON, Hamilton, Hancock Co., Ills.



INFORMATION!



Give us your address in exchange for
Our New 1899 Catalog.



We are pleased to inform the readers of **THE QUEEN** that we have purchased a New Process wax sheeting machine, and we will be glad to sell you your foundation for 1899. Our catalogue tells all about our new foundation, supplies and everything that bee-keepers need.

W. R. Graham & Son, Greenville, Hunt Co.
Texas.

BEE-KEEPING FOR BEGINNERS.

A NEW BOOK—Price 50 cents. It is up to date—Tells you all about bees; how to manipulate and manage them in order to secure the most profit. Posts you in queen rearing. This book has been written for the South, but it can be used as a guide, where the honey bee is cultivated. Every bee-keeper should have a copy.

Bee-keepers' supplies at bottom prices.

J. P. H. BROWN, Augusta, Ga.

J. M. Jenkins,

Wetumpka, Ala.

—ESTABLISHED—

1884

Steam Bee-Hive Factory,
talian Bees, Full line of bee-keepers' supplies.
Send for sixty page catalogue—Free.

NOW IS THE — TIME TO ORDER.

Don't wait until your bees are

Hanging on a Limb,

to order your hives and supplies,
but order them now, and be
ready for them when

They do Swarm.

REMEMBER



That we carry a full line of Bee-Keepers' Supplies, and everything in the Bee-Keeper's line. Such as Hives, Frames, Extractors, Smokers of all kinds, Foundation, and anything you may want, in the Bee line. Bees and Queens. Catalogue free. Read the following testimonial—such

we are receiving:

FRIENDS:—The hives to hand in good condition. I am more than pleased; the lumber is good, and the workmanship is all right too, and a few (one or two) pieces of each kind allowed for splitting. Please accept my thanks for the way you filled my order.

Yours Truly, MERRILL W. SMITH, Cuero, Texas.

The Jennie Atchley Company,

Beeville, Texas.