



LIBRARIES

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

The Nebraska bee-keeper. Vol 6, No. 4 April, 1895

York, Neb.: L.D. Stilson, April, 1895

<https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/O3H3AXWXWOHKW8O>

<http://rightsstatements.org/vocab/NKC/1.0/>

For information on re-use see:

<http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/Copyright>



The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.

VOL. 6.

NO. 4.

APRIL, 1895.

 THE NEBRASKA BEE-KEEPER. 

DEVOTED TO BEE-CULTURE.

YORK,

—50 cts. per year.—

NEB'

L. D. STILSON, Editor.

THE NEBRASKA BEE-KEEPER.

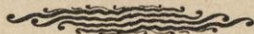
DEVOTED TO BEE-CULTURE.

Vol. 6.

YORK, NEBRASKA, APRIL, 1895.

No. 4.

"WATCHMAN, TELL US OF THE NIGHT! What its Signs of Promise Are!"



AS SPRING SUNSHINE begins to enliven the earth and bursting buds greet the eye, the toiler for bread looks with hope to the future, but with sad memories of the past, and asks, "will the present season give better returns than last?" With the beekeeper it is on the same line, and wonders if his days of buying sugar for feed for his bees to live on are ended. With some, empty hives greet their inquiring gaze. Depleted colonies will yet give way to spring dwindling and then "what shall the harvest be?"

Conditions have, and are constantly changing and the person in this, as in other pursuits, who fails to recognize this fact, and meet these conditions, is soon crowded to the rear as a back number and is soon forgotten.

These conditions are so well brought out in the following articles, the first by W. Z. Hutchinson, editor of the *Review*, and the next by G. M. Doolittle that we print them in full and hope our readers will read them carefully as both writers are practical, progressive beekeepers and well able to give instruction.

WILL THE BEE-KEEPING OF THE FU-

TURE DIFFER FROM THAT OF THE
PAST?

W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

All well informed beekeepers know something of the beekeeping of the past. They know that in the early times bees were kept in log "gums" or in straw hives. Next came the box hives, made of boards. In those days there were no specialists; at least not in this country, and as we understand the word. Probably not every farmer kept bees, but a large share of them did, and in the fall the heaviest and the lightest colonies were brimstoned. Then came the grandest invention of which modern bee-culture can boast—the movable comb hive. With the birth of this hive came the specialist. Then followed the bellows bee smoker, the honey extractor, the section honey box, comb foundation, and queen excluding metal, and new journals sprung up and disseminated apicultural knowledge broadcast over the land, and bee-culture soon attained to the dignity of a profession, in which ignorance, superstition and slipshod management were supplanted by scientific knowledge and positive and accurate methods that

brought certain and profitable results.

Our country was in just the right condition to bring the best results from bee-keeping. It was not a howling wilderness in which there could be found no white clover, no orchards with their blush of bloom in the spring-time, and no fields white with buck-wheat in the autumn; neither had it reached that stage where all of the grand lindens had been made into broom handles, barrel heads or buggy boxes, the hedge rows supplanted by the barbed wire fence, and the swamps once gorgeous with the purple and gold of autumnal flowers had been drained and converted into meadows of timothy. Then there were great forests that acted as meteorological balance wheels. They prevented floods in the spring, and drouths in the summer. Under these conditions bee-keeping flourished until the greatest problem connected with business was the disposal of its product. Farmers dropped the business because they could buy their honey more cheaply than they could produce it.

But a change has come in many parts of the country. Good crops are the exception. I know of no reason for this change except that the natural honey pastures are cut away and the artificial resources are not sufficient to make the business a profitable calling. Added to this the summer drouth that results from the clearing away of the forests. A forest is like a sponge for holding water. The earth is shaded and covered with a thick coating of leaves that acts as a mulch. Then the fallen and decayed logs, brush and tree tops, all of which absorb water and retard its flow. The amount of water that a forest will absorb and hold is astonishing. Slowly the water evaporates or soaks into the earth to reappear in the shape of springs. With cleared fields the water is off for the sea with a rush, and when the July sun pours down his rays there is no water with which to moisten the

parched, bare earth. The time will come when irrigation will be needed in places where it is not now dreamed of. Man will be obliged to store up artificially the water that nature once stored for him before he destroyed her reservoirs.

I have always advocated specialty, and I still believe that the highest success can be hoped for when only one business is attempted, but there are many localities now in which I should not dare to depend for a living upon bee-keeping alone. Unpleasant as may be the admission, it seems to be true that in many localities bee-keeping as a specialty is doomed. Letter after letter comes to me saying "I have no fault to find with the REVIEW, but three years with no honey crop are more than I can stand, and I am going out of the business." Some mention four and even five failures in succession. The trouble is drouth and lack of blossoms. I am not a croaker, and I also know that, as a rule, the best time to buy is when everybody else is selling; that the time to embark in a business is when others are abandoning it, but not so if the natural conditions are against the business. There are probably localities where bee-keeping as a specialty will always be a success. In mountainous regions where the forests cannot be cleared away nor the posies plowed up; in Florida where there are orange groves and there is no inducement to cut down the saw palmetto or the mangrove growing with their roots in the tide-water; or those localities where alfalfa sends its roots in the earth so deep that it can smile at dry weather; in these favored spots, and in the newer portions of the country, bee-keeping as a specialty can be followed with every hope of abundant success; but in those localities where the forests have been cut away, and the swamps drained, and fields of corn, wheat, rye, oats, potatoes and grass stretch away mile after mile,

it is folly to attempt making a living by the keeping of bees. To attempt to make a poor honey locality a desirable one by planting for honey is still greater folly. If the the conditions are such that it will pay to raise honey producing crops for the crop alone, such crops will be raised—otherwise not. Where three, four and five years of failure come in succession, it is foolhardy for men to cling to bee-keeping alone hoping that "next year will be a better one than last." In fact, unless the purse is a long one, necessity will *compel* the adoption of some other business. If one has kept bees so long that he would feel lost without them, and I am one of that class, he can take up some other vocation as his main business, letting the bees become a side issue. It is astonishing to see with how little care an apiary can now be managed. It may be almost reduced to this: setting the bees out of the cellar, putting on the supers, hiving the swarms, taking off the honey and putting the bees in the cellar. Possibly the swarming may yet be done away with.

To sum the matter up in a few words, bee-keeping in the early days was a side issue, then it became a specialty and will remain such in favorable localities, but over a large portion of the country it will again become a side issue; but improved hives, implements and methods will make it of a more desirable and profitable avocation than it was in days gone by.—*Review.*

CONDITIONS THAT BEE-KEEPERS WILL BE COMPELLED TO MEET.

G. M. DOOLITTLE.

It was with more than usual interest that I read the editorial in the last REVIEW under the title "Will the Bee-Keeping of the Future differ from that of the Past?" for it seemed like a bit of history all of my own, and one which I was glad would be preserved through

the REVIEW, so that our children's children could know something of what bee-keeping was in the nineteenth century. I can well remember the box hive days, with the rows of board hives on the benches in the back yard of my childhood home, of the section of the old tree, having bees in it taken from the forest, as a start, called a "log gum," of the change from "taking up" the lightest and heaviest hives in the fall to the putting on of the 15-pound boxes for surplus honey; then the change from these large boxes to the six-pound "caps," from these to the two pound sections, and from these to the one-pound and smaller sections of to-day. All of this has come to pass within the last half century, and all has been seen with my own eyes, and handled with my own hands.

I can also recall how the vast forests loomed up where now there is scarcely such a thing as a forest, simply small bits of woodland so sparsely occupied with timber that you can almost look through them; how the old mill used to run the year around with water from the brook, while now the old bed of what is a raging river almost, at some time of the year, and no brook at all the larger part of the summer season, is as noted for its absence of fish as it used to be with us boys for the many of the finny tribe we used to angle for with a twine string to which was attached a bent pin for a hook at one end, and a willow sprout at the other end for a pole. Yes, all of this has happened within fifty years, yea, within forty years, and as the editor says, all these changes brought about by the onward march of civilization have been against the surety of a crop of honey each year. The change in the mode of apiculture has been to the advantage of the world but of what consequence are improved methods of apiculture unless there are nectar producing flowers? I firmly believe that there are places in the United

States which have in the past produced flora of sufficient amount to make apiculture very profitable, which will soon have to be abandoned altogether for such use, on account of this change which has come over the country under our advanced civilization. In such places as these the only thing that can be done is for the bees to succumb to the inevitable. There are still other places, as alluded to by the editor, where beekeeping, as a specialty, can be carried on for all time.

But what about those places, which go to make the great average of the country, where bees can make more than a living for a short period during the year, so that in really good years they give a surplus to their keepers over and above what they consume? For such places I see nothing but non-specialty. Bro. Hutchinson says "he has always advocated specialty." In this he has differed from myself, for I do not believe that the greatest good can come to the greatest number, where specialty is applied along the line of agriculture. Not but what I believe that, financially speaking, a specialist may do better than one following mixed farming, unless we except bees and some few other things, but when we come to call the greatest good, dollars and cents, we are making one of the greatest mistakes possible. I would have every person become interested in bees for the grander, higher and more noble views which may come to them through bee-keeping, if for nothing more. I would also have them keep bees for the health and recreation there is in this part of agriculture, letting the looking after the bees be to them as a play spell, if I may be allowed such expression, for in this will come a rest of body and mind, and also a leading out of thought from nature to nature's God, thus in a certain sense bringing all face to face with Him with whom we all have to do, and before

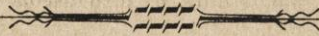
whom we must all appear at the close of life to give an account of our stewardship while here below. If beyond and above this there shall be something of a financial nature, or some of the precious sweets from the hive for our families, this will appear as profit; for the fun, etc., we may get out of keeping a few bees will as fully pay expenses as is ever done when having socials, parties, tramping off through field and wood with rod or gun.

One thing in the editorial I take exceptions to, and that is the sentence "Farmers dropped the business (bee-keeping) because they could buy their honey more cheaply than they could produce it." If there was ever a time in which this held true it certainly is not at the present time. I appeal to you, Mr. Editor, if this is not so? Only think of a farmer giving a bushel of wheat for four pounds of honey, or of his giving a pound of wool for one and one-half pounds of honey, and then say that he can raise the former more cheaply than he can produce the latter! No! No!! He left off bee-keeping because the hard winters killed off his bees after the forest had been cut off, so that he became discouraged, and not taking the bee literature of the day so as to overcome the wintering problem, he unwillingly left off that branch of agriculture, and as a rule his family as unwillingly went without the honey. Under the grinding heel of the money power, the prices of all products of the farm has so depreciated in value that the farmer of today has hard work to "make both ends meet," to say nothing about buying a luxury like honey, while the average bee-keeper finds himself in nearly the same position. In 1874, 12 pounds of honey would buy a ton of coal, while today it takes forty-two; in 1874 ten pounds of honey would buy a pair of boots, while today it takes twenty-five pounds to buy the same boots. So it will be seen that if we are

to look for a bonanza in bee-keeping, only as it comes to us through the good health and recreation there is in it, we are to be disappointed. And while I say this, I wish also to say that financially, beekeeping ranks favorably with any other branch of agriculture, where there are any flowers to secrete honey, and the person having bees follows along the line of mixed farming. But the farmer is having a hard time of it, as is all of the wealth producers of the present time, and unless a change comes, the twentieth century will scarcely dawn upon us before we are a

nation of slaves. One-seventieth of the population of the United States holds three-fourths of the wealth we possess, while the other sixty-nine-seventieths are forced to annually contribute from 25 to 40 per cent of their earnings to help lift on high the multi-millionaires in the former. There are other evils in this land of ours besides the clearing away of that which gave to the bee-keepers of the past the sunshine they have had in our favored pursuit.—*Review.*

Borodino, N. Y.



IS BEE-KEEPING BECOMING A SIDE ISSUE?

A Word in Favor of the Specialist.

AN ABLE and interesting article will be found in the January *Review* for 1895, on the subject of "The Future of Bee-Keeping," and he takes the ground that beekeeping will become more and more a side issue—that there will be fewer specialists, and that mainly from the fact that localities that will support bees enough to make it remunerative to the specialists are becoming scarce, and their areas more limited from year to year, as the country is becoming more settled and a larger area devoted to agricultural purposes.

Now with all deference to Friend H.'s ability and superior facilities for extended observation, I must take issue with him. All of us are liable to judge of the whole from a limited knowledge of a part, and I fear this is so in this case. This is a large country of ours, and no one man is fully acquainted with its resources for producing honey. There are millions of acres yet of unreclaimed land, and abounding too, in honey producing plants. Most of these are in sections of the country

where beekeeping on an extended scale has not been attempted, owing mostly to their being remote from the rail roads or other means of easy access. These all will in due time be occupied by the specialist.

Again, even in the most thoroughly cultivated portions of the country, localities are found, and they are becoming more as the years go by, where small fruits and extensive orchards, covering even thousands of acres are to be found, and the wide awake specialist is taking advantage of these localities.

Dairying, the production of condensed milk, and other products that require extensive pasturage, either for grazing or the production of forage, are extending in many parts of the country, and where this is the case, honey producing plants abound.

In the east, crimson clover has proved itself a splendid plant for honey, and its extensive cultivation in the past few years is something remarkable. Sweet clover is being sown on a scale never known before, while in the far

west, alfalfa, that grand plant and sure reliance for a magnificent yield of honey, when grown for seed, is steadily on the increase. It is true that where the cereals are grown on an extensive scale, and potatoes, cabbage, and corn, are the main crops, the specialists cannot be expected to abound, but there are comparatively small areas devoted to these crops, with the exception of corn, and even where it is almost exclusively grown, in wet years when thorough cultivation has been prevented, the yields have been something marvelous, and fortunate indeed were those that had the bees, and were ready to improve their opportunity. I have said nothing of white clover and basswood, and while the former is somewhat unreliable and the latter growing more scarce the former is certainly extending its territory, and the latter is not yet by any means all destroyed, and will afford paying localities to many special-

ists for years to come.

One word more in favor of the specialists, and I am done. Where bee-keeping is a side issue, it is almost impossible to produce as much per colony and it is equally as certain that as fine an appearing article cannot be produced or handled in as attractive a manner by one making it a side issue as by the specialist—and, mark you, honey is a luxury and will never become a staple, and that attractive appearance has as much to do with its sale or even more than quality. The drouth that has prevailed so extensively over the country, and the short honey crops that have been so discouraging, are but temporary. It may be years before such conditions may obtain again. So let us all take heart of grace and look forward to better times that are near at hand for both producer and consumer.—Progressive Bee-Keeper. E. T. Flanagan.

Belleville, Ill.



ALFALFA AND SWEET CLOVER.

FIVE YEARS AGO last October, I sowed five acres in alfalfa. I broke the ground in September, with four mules hitched to a sulky plow; then I harrowed it till the ground was in as fine condition as I could make it. I sowed 30 lbs. of seed to the acre, then harrowed it over once, and got a good stand. I cut three crops of hay the first season, and four every season since, yielding from one to two tons per acre, each cutting, and this without irrigation. As a grazing plant it has no superior. I pasture it from September to March, and it is, without question, the finest hog pasture in existence.

Cows prefer sweet clover. I have two acres of this adjoining the alfalfa. The gate opens just on the line between

the two. I soon noticed the cows turning to the sweet clover. I then noticed very closely; and since that time, without a single exception, the cows would first turn to the sweet clover. This satisfies me that the cows prefer it; but, like alfalfa, it produces the very best of milk and butter. I have tried all the varieties of clover here. Alfalfa and sweet clover are the only two that will make a success in this part of the country. Alsike, white and red clover will do well here in a seasonable year; but these long, dry summers do them up, although I have a little of each left from sowing three years ago; but they will not grow here as well as alfalfa and sweet clover. In 1893, I think half of my honey was from sweet clover. It was of a fine flavor, light in color, and

of a very heavy body; this season it did not bloom.

J. D. Givens.

Lisbon, Texas.

It may surprise many to learn that the sweet clover plant is of immense value to tanners of leather. A practical tanner, an expert in his profession, assures me that the fraternity can richly afford to pay 10cts. per lb., or \$200 per ton, for the sweet clover plant when properly prepared for their use. A number of years ago, this tanner offered me about 5cts. per pound for the plant if I would supply him with it, and

prepare it as per his instructions; but at that time I did not care to bother with the matter. There may be some practical tanners or some who may know more or less about tanning the skins of animals, among your readers. If so, and if they should wish to how to use the sweet clover plant, as indicated, perhaps I can supply the information. The leather thus made is said to be of superior quality—in fact, when made with japonica and sweet clover, it is equal to that which is commonly produced from the best quality of oak-bark.—Gleanings. M. M. Baldrige. St. Charles, Ill.

INTENSE BEE-CULTURE of the FUTURE.

By S. S. BUTTS, Mehoopany, Pa.

* * * But to return to my subject. Nothing short of thoroughness pays in these times of low prices and sharp competition. Slipshod methods in any business are sure to end in loss and disappointment. I am a farmer, and I know that only intense farming pays. I am just as certain that anything short of thorough work and skillful management among the bees must result in failure and loss. To be sure, some unsuccessful beekeepers still remain in the business for the pleasure it affords. Much as I like to be among the willing workers and golden beauties, studying their habits by observation aided by bee literature, if this pursuit did not enable me to take in a few shekles, its pleasures and charms would vanish like the frost-work before the rising sun.

Earlier, when the field was but

partially occupied, before the day of sharp competition, with honey very high, even the careless beekeeper made some money. Now, from the ALPHA and OMEGA of the business, every detail must be attended to with the greatest precision and care, to secure the grade and amount of honey necessary to success. It can never pay to keep 500 colonies of bees in a certain field to secure 10,000 pounds of honey where 200 colonies would produce the same, with about half the work and expense.

No scrub bees need come into the race. Only those of a high type can ever be a source of much pleasure or profit to their owners. To keep up the standard, and as far as possible raise it, requires knowledge, vigilance and skill. If we could be rid of all the low-grade

Continued on page 52.

→ The Nebraska Bee-Keeper →

Published Monthly,

By

STILSON & SONS.

Subscription Price, 50 Cents per Year.

YORK, NEBRASKA.

Entered at the post-office at York as second class matter.

Official Organ of the Nebraska State
Bee-Keepers Association.

North American Bee Keepers' Association.

OFFICERS FOR 1895.

Pres. R. F. Holtermann Brantford, Ont.
Vice Pres. L. D. Stilson York Neb.
Sec. W. Z. Hutchinson Flint, Mich.
Treas. J. T. Calvert Medina, Ohio.
Next meeting at Toronto, Canada.

In the past seasons have you been studying your honey resources, and are you now prepared to sow or plant some crop for grain or forage, which will also increase your honey resources? If you have not, are you advancing in your work? Are you keeping step with the procession, or are you simply asleep?

Large vs. small hives have been getting a pretty thorough ventilation in the different bee journals this winter. Guess each one will keep right along in the old track. A few will experiment, raise the bees, have the honey for sale, while 90 per cent of the beekeepers will have spasms of bee fever which will run high for awhile, then some bad years, and the old cry "bee-keeping don't pay."

On another page may be found an article "Are you interested". There never was such an unrest in business. Some, with once a good paying business are now without work. There is no

better time to change than now, if you do not wish to wait and rebuild anew the old business. If you think we can help you in getting a new location or disposing of property, write us what you want.

Mr. S. I. Freeborn, of Wisconsin, is dead. His was the first case defended by the Bee-Keepers' Union, and its first victory. The sheep breeders declared war on his bees, stating that they injured the clover and destroyed their sheep pastures. The case was conceived in ignorance, born in vindictiveness, and died in malignity.

Much of the beeswax on the market is now adulterated with paraffine. The complaint is general. The practice is ruinous, and should be frowned down by everyone. It is useless for comb foundation as well as for almost every other use for which it is needed. Adulterators are no better than highway robbers, and should be summarily dealt with.

In the last *American Bee Journal* of Mar. 14, we see that "C. D. Holt claims to have some of the 'giant bees' of India, for which he claims wonderful things. Very large, and strong enough to tear to pieces flowers where the honey is out of reach. Very gentle, almost non-swarmer, etc."

Better go slow on new fangled bees. Let us have the say so of more than one queen breeder as to what they are good for. The proof of their good qualities would soon manifest itself when put to the test when put alongside others.

Please send to Director, Experiment Station, Lincoln, Neb., the name and address of any person in your county or in the state, who has any land sown to alfalfa. The Experiment Station is to issue another bulletin on this sub-

ject and the Director wishes to get the actual experience of growers in the state, as well as the total acreage sown. The bulletin when issued will be sent to you.

QUESTION DEPARTMENT.

“Were honey bees native on this continent, or were they brought here?”

Bees were not found here when the Europeans first settled on the continent, and we think that from the name given them by the American Indians that they were unknown then before the advent of the white race. The Indians call them “the white man’s fly, with hot feet.”

We think the honey bee was introduced about the close of the sixteenth or early in the seventeenth century.

We are in receipt of the Annual Catalogue and Price List of Small Fruits of B. F. Smith, Lawrence, Kansas. It is devoted to the small fruit interests, and neatly gotten up.

From E. Moody & Sons, proprietors, we get the semi-annual wholesale Trade List of the Niagara Nurseries, Lockport, N. Y.

Lewis Roesch, Nurseryman, Fredonia, N. Y., sends us his Catalog for 1895, of fruit trees, small fruits, hardy shrubs and trees, evergreens, etc.

From Mr. Frank Benton, of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, we have received a little book entitled, “The Bees for the Harvest,” read before the Indiana Beekeepers’ Association Jan. 10, 1895.

Farmers’ Guide, is the name of the book of about 150 pages, sent out by The German Kali Works, 93 Nassau St. New York. It contains valuable information about all farm crops, giving habits of growth rotation, soil best adapted for each, and illustrations showing results of experiments in manuring and fertilizing. It will be sent free to any farmer who applies for it.

“A Year’s Work at Fordhook Farm.” This is the title of a new book published by W. Atlee Burpee & Co., the well-known seedsmen, of Philadelphia. It is superbly printed on coated paper, and illustrated with fifty beautiful half-tone engravings from photographs. It is intended to present in an attractive manner, by the united efforts of pen and camera, an exact, comprehensive, and impartial picture of “Fordhook” precisely as it appears to the average man or woman visiting the farm. Any one who plants seeds and wants this book before buying should send 4 cents stamps for it.

A beautiful Lithographed Hanger of Sweet Peas, painted in fourteen colors from nature, from the above named firm is indeed a valuable work of art, finished so as to bring out each flower in detail.

New York Experiment Station bulletins received are—No. 75. I. Some insects injurious to squash, melon and cucumber vines. II. The Asparagus Beetle.—Comparison of Different Breeds of Dairy Cattle. No. 78. Part. II. The cost of Butter and Cream Production.—No. 79. Part III. The Cost of Cheese Production.—No. 80. Alfalfa Forage for Milch Cows. The

results from rations containing alfalfa and those obtained from some other summer rations.—No. 81. Variety Tests with Blackberries, Dewberries and Raspberries. Raspberry Anthracnose.

Minn. Ag. Experiment Station bulletins received are, No. 36, on Analyses of Feeding Stuffs, and No. 37, on the Chinch Bug.

“As well dead as out of the fashion.” If you have not obtained the new song “Queenie Jeanette” you are out of the fashion. Spring is coming, the birds are singing, why not get this new song, sing it and be happy?

“How to Cook Vegetables,” is the popular cook book for daily use, published by W. Atlee Burpee & Co., the popular Philadelphia Seedsmen.

A FLORIDA PEST.

“A pest, very destructive to apiculture is found along the coasts, in the shape of a big red ant, which, unless watched very carefully, will destroy whole colonies of bees and take off their stores. They operate by biting the wings of the bees, very often so annoying them that they will swarm out at any and all times, as well as carry away all the honey. They are nocturnal in their habits, and, if watched very carefully at night, they can be traced to their nests and destroyed. The apiarist, by going through the apiary at night and listening a few seconds at each hive, can detect their presence by a

peculiar noise and can trace them to their nests, which are generally under the dead wood. By going around every two weeks, except in mid-summer, in this way, they can be kept in check. The black ant is also of the same nature, but is not so prevalent on the coast as it is inland.”

Continued from page 49.

bees in the country, that are ever contaminating the best blood, and if their owners would give the business over entirely into better hands, then a brighter day would dawn on our pursuit. The standard of bees and bee-keepers advanced, the average grade of honey would be much finer, and then in this interesting pursuit pleasure and profit would go hand in hand.

One encouragement to the careful, thorough, painstaking apiarist is that the business has become a losing one to all who are doing their work in a careless way; and, then poor, neglected, deteriorated bees are passing away, and by the law of the survival of the fittest, are giving place to those carefully bred up to the standard required by the age. The tendency is to greater knowledge, better methods, better bees, and more intense work, all along the line.

—*American Bee Journal.*



**A LITTLE LIGHT FOR
THE MARKET GARDENER**

The Market Garden A monthly journal for the
MARKET GARDENER AND TRUCKER.

50c a year in advance. Send 2c for sample copy to
THE MARKET GARDEN CO., Minneapolis.



A Banker's Adventure.

A young man of fine talent, by name of W——, was some years ago chief clerk in a Virginia bank. He was a good scholar and a courageous young man, but was the leader of an infidel club, and had nearly succeeded in throwing from his mind the last shackles of what he used to call the "nursery superstition," which was the religion his pious mother taught him.

On one occasion, upwards of one hundred thousand dollars in bank bills had to be carried to Kentucky, and he was selected to carry them. He was obliged to pass through a part of the country where highway robberies, and even murders were said to be frequent, and he arranged to pass it in the daytime. But he took the wrong road, and having lost himself, was glad to find a shelter anywhere.

He rode about a long time in the forest, amid the darkness and chilliness of a starless October night. At length he saw a dim light, and pushed his horse forward until he came to a poor wretched looking cabin. It was now near ten o'clock. He knocked, and was admitted by a woman, who told him she and her children were all alone—her husband had gone out a-hunting; but she was certain he would return, as he always came home according to promise. The young man's feelings may well be imag-

ined. Here he was with a large sum of money, alone, and perhaps in a house of one of those robbers whose name was the terror of the country. He could go no further—what was to be done? The woman gave him supper, and proposed his retiring. But no, he could not think of permitting himself thus easily to fall into the hands of robbers. He took out his pistols, examined the priming, and determined to sell his life as dearly as he could.

In the meantime the man of the house returned; he was rather a fierce, uncouth looking hunter; he had on a deerskin hunting shirt, and bearskin cap, and seemed to be much fatigued, and in no talkative mood, all of which boded our young infidel no good. He asked the stranger if he did not wish to retire; he told him no; he would sit by the fire all night. The man of the house urged him. But no, he should not think of such a thing. He was terribly alarmed, and expected this would be his last night on earth. His infidel principles gave him little comfort. His fears grew into a perfect agony. What was to be done?

At length the backwoodsman rose up, and reaching over the head of the stranger to a little shelf, took down an old book, and said,

"Well, stranger, if you won't go to bed, I will, but it is my custom always to read a chapter of the Holy Scripture before I go to bed."

Alarm was at once removed from him. Though avowing himself an

infidel, he had now full confidence in the Bible; he was at once safe; he felt that the man who kept an old Bible in the house, and read it, and bent his knees before his Maker, would do him no harm. He listened to the prayers of the good man, at once dismissed his fears, and lay down in that rude cabin and slept as calmly as he did under his father's roof.

From that day he ceased to revile the Bible. He became a Christian, and often related these facts to show that no man can be an infidel from principle.—*Christian Herald*.

A Haystack Sunday School.

The *Chicago Advance* some time ago, told the following incident regarding the establishment of the first Sunday School in one of the counties of South Dakota:

"The haystack seemed to be the best, in fact the only available place to hold the first session, and it answered admirably. The second session was held in a tent, then in a house, then a store, afterwards in a school-house, and at last in a building of its own. Within a year a church grew out of this beginning, which has since sent out four of its members to preach the gospel. Two of its young men are preparing themselves for the ministry, and four more are in college. In the accomplishment of this work, the Sunday School Society, with others, has been an important factor."

IGNORANCE.

The Scriptural statement that "where there is no vision the people perish" has a double significance among the tribes of Equatorial Africa. The people suffer in body and soul. Especially do the sick suffer by the prevalent ignorance and superstition. "A serious illness," says a lady who is helping her husband in his missionary work among them, "nearly always ends in death. How can it be otherwise? A man falls sick; he is either shut up in a stuffy little hut, with a wood fire burning day and night, or, if poor, left out in the brush. They have no nourishing food, no warm drink, and often sink for the lack of this. In some cases the ukanga is called in, and gives the patient a dose which probably hastens the end. After he is dead a witch-doctor palaver is held; the ukanga kills a fowl, and pretends to discover from an examination of the creature's inside, who has caused the death. The person charged with the deed is then tied up until he pays a large fine to the relatives of the deceased. We were visiting a town where a death had just taken place. The ukanga was there, and had given his verdict as to the cause of death. All listened with great attention, and we asked to have it repeated. In this case the reason assigned for the man's death was that he had not fed the crocodile in the river for many days; consequently the animal had killed him

in revenge! The poor, misguided people fully believed this, and the discussion which followed was a very serious one. As a matter of fact no one feeds the crocodiles and why should they? But if the crocodiles could cause the death of a man for not feeding them who would be safe? My husband stayed and reasoned with them and in the end disabused their minds as to the power of the crocodile but they will believe the next story that the witch doctor tells them."

—*Christian Herald.*

The Old Meeting-House.

Mayme Isham in the Orange Judd Farmer.

We don't get to meetin' much, we'er
gettin' old an' lame,
But when we hear the old church bell
a-soundin' just the same
As in the days when we were young,
myself an' Sary Ann,
We set out on the doorstep an' we lis-
ten all we can.

An' when it stops a-ringin' out, an' all
is soft and still,
We look up to the old white church a-
standin' on the hill,
An' pretty soon, like heav'nly strains
above the holy calm,
We faintly hear the organ an' the sing-
in' of the psalm.

The church has seen its better days,
like Sary Ann an' me;
Like us it's lost its vigor, an' ain't what
it used to be.
The winds that sweep across the hill
have swept its strength away;
An' now it's old an' rickety an' fallin'
to decay.

The last time we were in it, it's quite a
spell ago,

Whene'er the sexton pulled the bell the
house rocked to an' fro,
An' creaked in all its j'int's, the seat it
jolted 'g'in my back,
An' once I dropped my hymn book an'
it landed with a whack

Right on to Sary's corn. "My now,"
thought I, "I'm booked;"

But Sary Ann she never lisped, she on-
ly sat an' looked.

The parson then came up the aisle, the
organ 'gun to play.

An' soon we had a sermon on the ever-
lastin' day.

When the sun sets behind the hill an'
makes the sky all gold,

An' right thar stands the meetin'-house
a-loomin' up so bold

An' lookin' like a portal to a land be-
yond the skies.

I sometimes feel almost's if heaven lay
right before our eyes.

Sary an' I have most got through, an'
soon will come the day

When out beside the meetin' house
we'll both be laid away.

But oft I think when Sary an' I hev
climbed the heav'nly stairs,

We'll want to look down on the church
where once we j'ined in prayers.

"Mr. F. C. Selous, the African
traveler and hunter, during his 20
years wandering in Africa, has never
taken with him even a medicine
bottle of brandy or spirits. From
his youth up he never tasted beer
or wine or any other intoxicant.
The anti-tobacconists will also be
delighted to hear that he is proof
against the insidious weed. The
natives with whom he spent most
of his life in Africa never smoke
tobacco.

"More flesh can be whipped off of a
horse in one day than can be fed on in
a week."

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

We are in receipt of numerous letters from two distinct classes of persons. One class of writers are asking us what we know about localities suitable for stock raising and farming in the south, while the other class are writing us something about their localities and the inducements they offer to the prospective settler. These all come from parties who from former correspondence or advertising have known that we have been engaged in selling southern lands in the past. To all we wish to say that we are not at present engaged in real estate or emigration work southward, but will cheerfully reply to any questions concerning localities in the southern states which we may have visited in the past few years in our work, and as we have no particular section to help "boom", we shall give our version of things without fear or favor.

Since Jan. 1st., we have received more than a dozen letters from people we never saw, asking in regard to colonization in the south. To such, and others wishing to know, we will say that the best scheme we know of for a colony, is that of the American Tribune, of Indianapolis, Ind. It costs but ten dollars per share for membership fees, which are non-assessable, and mutual as to benefits.

The general opinion now seems in favor of their locating in Georgia. This colony offers the inducements of cheap lands and all the advantages of an old community, within a very few months. If you are interested, send to the American Tribune, Indianapolis, Ind. for prospectus of colony, and sample of their paper.

From Louisiana, Texas and other states we are constantly receiving circulars, setting forth the advantages of certain localities, while ex-Governor Northen, of Atlanta, Ga. is sending out printed matter with prices of property


in that state.

If we can aid the buyer, or seller, the emigrant or immigrant, we will answer your questions, and will insert your wants in this department.

With the depression of prices and stagnation of business, there are many of the manufacturing plants in the west and north, which are now idle. Some of these are looking for localities nearer fuel and timbers, so as to save the large expenses on the transportation of crude material. We know of one establishment which is now looking for a good location where they can move an iron foundry, machine shops, and wood working machinery worth \$8,000 to \$10,000, and fitted for manufacturing farm and heavy machinery, engines, boilers, electric dynamos, etc. Some town which is a good shipping point can secure this shop very easily if they wish. We also know of two wood working plants, wishing to move to a timbered country.

If any of our friends want our help in this line write us what you want; but we say to you all that if you wish to go with the crowd, without abundant capital to do as you please, join the Tribune Colony and stick by it, first, last and all the time, and make it a grand success.

Drop a Postal
in
the
slot



And Get a Catalogue

A list of the best seeds sold anywhere, at right prices, containing over 400 illustrations, 2 colored plates and a beautiful cover. Send for it at once.

Mailed Free if you name this paper.

IOWA SEED CO., Des Moines, Ia.

RUBBER PRINTING STAMPS.

Solid Rubber Type, Self-Inking Pads
Dating Stamp Supplies, etc, for
Bee Keepers.

G. W. BERCAW, Fostoria, Ohio.

BEGINNERS.

Beginners should have a copy of the Amateur Bee-Keeper, a 70 page book by Prof. J. W. Rouse. Price, 25c, by mail 28c. The little book and the Progressive Bee-Keeper (a live progressive 28 page monthly journal) one year 65c. Address, any first class dealer, or

LEAHY M'FG. CO., Higginsville. Mo.

NORTH
WEST  EAST
SOUTH

Purchase Tickets and Consign your Freight
via the
F., E. & M. V. AND S. C. & P.
RAILROAD.

H. G. BURT, General Manager,
K. C. MOREHOUSE, gen'l Freight Agt., J. R. BUCHANAN, Gen'l Pass. Agt.

Omaha, Nebraska.

For Rates, Information, etc. call on
or address R. W. McGINNIS Agt.,
York, Neb.

Subsoil.

ARE you interested in growing fruit or field crops? If so, send us your name and address on a postal card, and we will mail you a pamphlet giving the results of our experiments in subsoiling for the past four years; also, our wholesale price list of choice NURSERY STOCK, and our 72-page descriptive catalogue free. Address

Youngers & Co., Geneva, Neb.

CHAS. WHITE & SON,
AURORA, NEBRASKA.

Manufacturers of and Dealers in

Apiarian

Supplies of all kinds.

Italian Queens and Bees a Specialty.
Catalogue and Price List free.



\$12.00 FOR A MACHINE
to weave your fence at
25 Cts. per Rod.
10 No. 10 Gal. wires, Cross
wires No. 12. We will
sell wire for a **100 rod**
fence for **\$20.** Agents
Wanted, Catalogue Free.
CARTER
Wire Fence Mach. Co.
Box 80 Derby, O.

PATENTS
CAVEATS, TRADE MARKS
COPYRIGHTS.

CAN I OBTAIN A PATENT? For a prompt answer and an honest opinion, write to **MUNN & CO.**, who have had nearly fifty years' experience in the patent business. Communications strictly confidential. A **Handbook of Information** concerning Patents and how to obtain them sent free. Also a catalogue of mechanical and scientific books sent free.

Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice in the **Scientific American**, and thus are brought widely before the public without cost to the inventor. This splendid paper, issued weekly, elegantly illustrated, has by far the largest circulation of any scientific work in the world. \$3 a year. Sample copies sent free.

Building Edition, monthly, \$2.50 a year. Single copies, 25 cents. Every number contains beautiful plates, in colors, and photographs of new houses, with plans, enabling builders to show the latest designs and secure contracts. Address **MUNN & CO., NEW YORK, 361 BROADWAY.**

Let us mail you
A Bright Book
About Seeds

The outside is red and the inside should be read by all interested in live seeds. Send your address to

W. ATLEE BURPEE & CO.
PHILADELPHIA

BEE SUPPLIES RETAIL and WHOLESALE ..
Everything used in the Apiary.
Greatest variety and largest stock in the west.
New Catalogue. 70 Illustrated pages free to
Bee Keepers.

Tanks! Water Tanks for
Stock, Reservoir tanks, thresh-
er tanks. Either round, half round or square, of any
size, at lowest prices. Price list free. Discount to
Dealers.

E. KRETCHMER, RED OAK, IOWA.

Patent Wired Comb Foundation. Has no sag in brood frames
Thin Flat Bottom Foundation. Being the cleanest is usually worked the quickest of
No fish bone in Honey.
any Foundation made. The talk about wiring frames seems absurd. We fur-
nish a Wired Foundation that is better, just as cheap and not half the trouble
to use. Circulars and samples free. **J. VANDEUSEN & SON,**
Sole Manufacturers. Montgomery Co., SPROUT BROOK, N. Y.



Barnes

Foot and Hand Power Machinery.
Machines Sent on Trial.

This cut represents our Combined Circular and Scroll Saw, which is the best machine made for Bee Keepers' use in the construction of their hives, sections, boxes, etc.

For Catalogue, Prices, Etc. Address
W. F. & JNO. BARNES CO., 101 Ruby St. Rockford, Ills

More than ever. **Dadant's Comb Foundation** Better than ever

Wholesale and Retail. 500,000 lbs sold in 13 yrs. Over \$200,000 in value.

It is the best and guaranteed every inch equal to sample. All dealers who have tried it have increased their trade every year. Samples and catalogue sent free to all. Send your address. We make a specialty of cotton and silk tulle of the very best grade for bee veils. We supply A I Root and others. Prices low. Samples free. Smokers, Honey Sections, Extractors, Tin Pails for Honey, Etc. Instructions to beginners with circulars free. Mention this Journal.

Chas. Dadant & Son, Hamilton, Illinois.

We will pay **\$300** for a name.

SWEET PEAS, 25 varieties and colors mixed, Only 40c. A POUND!

For full particulars of \$300 offer and the handsomest and most complete catalogue of Flowers, Vegetables and Fruits, containing all old favorites and cream of new Novelties, printed in 17 different colors, elegant colored plates. Send 10 cts. (which may be deducted from first order) for

VICK'S FLORAL GUIDE.
SEEDS contain the germ of life.

JAMES VICK'S SONS, Rochester, N. Y.