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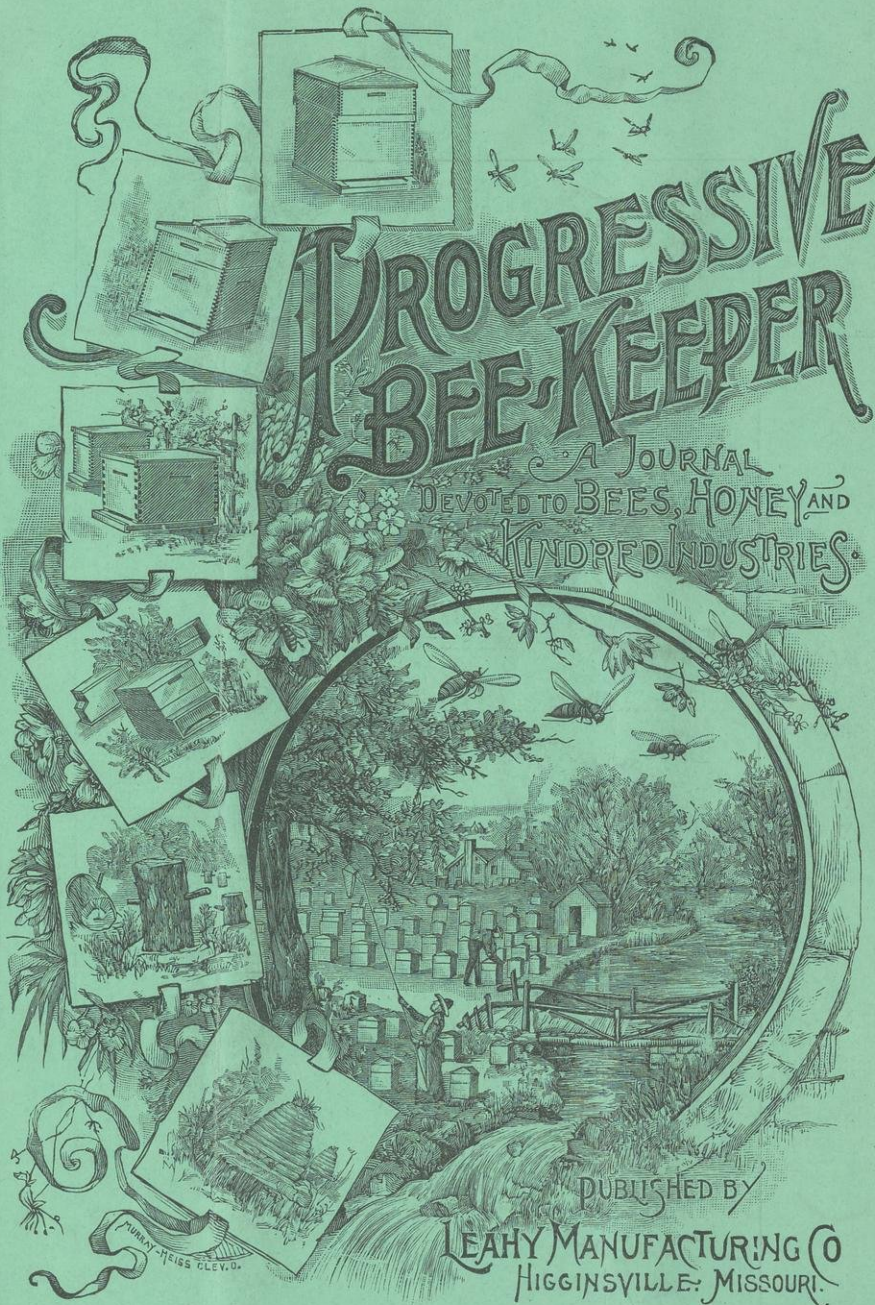
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PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER

A JOURNAL
DEVOTED TO BEES, HONEY AND
KINDRED INDUSTRIES.



PUBLISHED BY
LEAHY MANUFACTURING CO
HIGGINSVILLE, MISSOURI.

MURRAY HEISS CLEVELAND, O.



February 1905.





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The Progressive Bee-Keeper.

A Journal Devoted to Bees, Honey and Kindred Supplies.

VOL. XIII.

HIGGINSVILLE, MO., FEBRUARY 1905.

NO. 2.

Good Things In the Bee-Keeping Press.

SOMNAMBULIST.

An advertisement in and for the *Woman's Home Companion*, reads: "A story to make you laugh—the second in our series of prize funny stories, and one of the funniest of the whole lot. You see, a certain young couple prone to experiment and open to conviction had tried everything but bees. Well, they tried bees all right, but had tribulations galore, especially when the bees took a notion to swarm on Neighbor Treadwell's sleeping dog. The story is enough to make a dog laugh—though Treadwell's dog didn't." This, no doubt will be, as it is claimed, a laughable story. Wouldn't be the least surprised if it would prove to be laughable in more ways than one to practical bee-keepers. To say the least, those bees were anything but high minded when they chose a sleeping dog for an alighting place. This little advertisement started another train of thought (all trains of thought do not carry freight) which ran like this; Had not bee-keeping suffered much at the hands of people like those described—"prone to experiment," "open to conviction?" True, nothing ventured, nothing won; and to an amateur how easy it is to start in the business of bee-keeping. Seductive? Is that the word which might appropriately be used? Many appellations have been applied to bee-keeping, like "enchant-

ing, entrancing and so forth but too often the subject is disenchanted, or comes out of the trance, quite too abruptly and is disillusioned so suddenly, and to such a degree as to be actually painful. In fact the suddenness and completeness of the affair breaks down, which you will, their ambition, and "no thank you no further degree of promotion for them, they are not seeking greater notoriety along the line of bee-keeping. Their few colonies and accompanying fixtures, which serve the purpose of marking the spot "consecrated to the memory" of a would be bee-keeper, are for sale cheap, which is no hurt to the neighboring specialist provided intelligence has been used in their purchase either as to their price, or the restraining influence the object lesson may prove, but still in a way does it not give to the business a black eye. What do I mean by restraining influence? Simply restraining others who may be nobetter equipped from attempting a similar project. On meeting failure how many of us stop to "inquire within" for the cause? Do we not go many miles out of the way to invent or discover excuses? Does it not seem that many forget that it is a disgrace to do poor, slipshod, botched work, to half do things, or to be lazy, indolent, or indifferent as to the development of surrounding possibilities? The "inquire within" method would enable many to conquer failure and create success with one stroke, for as failure vanishes, success advances. Failure

is unrecognized by the specialist, he refuses to entertain even the thought of it, but these people of many minds are ready for a change on the slightest acquaintance thereof and their little failures, to them unaccountable, heralded aboard, leave an unsavory impression on a 1 unthinking public

"The man who seeks one thing in life, and but one.

May hope to achieve it before life be done:
But he who seeks all things, wherever he goes
Only reaps from the hopes which around him
he sows.

A harvest of barren regrets."

S. E. Miller's thoughts on "New Year Resolutions (Jan. Progressive) are all right, but after reaching the point where "we are forced to the conclusion that we had just as well swear off swearing off" are we not forcibly reminded that we have been paying a pretty high rate of interest because of such weakness? In negotiating an ordinary loan how few are they who pay particular attention to this matter of interest, and how many plunge into life in a sort of "borrow from Peter to pay Paul" manner, heedless of all cost. I am glad to think and honestly feel that men and women who properly compose the bee-keeping classes are people of more stability.

Mr. Getaz gleans from some of the foreign journals and presents to American readers, through the medium of the American Bee-Keeper, the following points ascertained by the French:

RELATING TO SWARMS.

Among the subjects of study of one of the French societies was the question of swarming. A series of questions was sent in 1902 to the members with request to observe and report. Here are some of the points ascertained:

1.—The swarming season in so far as primary swarms are concerned, begins (average dates) May 28th and ends June 30th. The extreme dates

for the beginning have been so far May 17th and June 13th; for the ending June 6th and July 4th.

2.—The relative number of swarms during the swarming season is about one-fifth in May, one-half between the 1st and 10th of June, one-fourth between June 11 and June 20, one-tenth after June 20th.

3.—The earliest coming out of a swarm was 8:05 a. m., and the latest 4 p. m. These are extreme limits. The average number were as follows: Five per cent before 10 a. m., twenty-two per cent between 10 and 12, fifty-six per cent between 12 and 2 p. m., fifteen per cent between 2 and 3 p. m., 2 per cent after 3 p. m.

4.—Among the points to be observed was the atmospheric pressure, that is whether the barometer is high or low. The result was that 85 per cent of the swarms came out on days when the barometer was at 76 degrees mm. and above, and only 15 per cent when below, none at all when below 75 degrees mm. It must be noted here that these observations were made in the north-east part of France where a fall of the barometer is always accompanied by damp and rainy weather. I think the state of the atmosphere ought to have been observed in connection that is, whether the weather was clear or cloudy.

5. Eighty-two per cent of the swarms came out during light winds or calm weather, and eighteen per cent during medium winds.

6. Eighty-nine per cent of the swarms came out when the temperature (in the shade) was above 68 F., and eleven per cent when below. The lowest temperature observed was 61 degrees, and the highest 77 degrees, that the summer temperature of northern France is much below that of nearly the whole United States, and if no swarm issued at a higher temperature

it is because such temperature did not occur.

7. Eighty-six per cent of the swarms come out when the sun was shining on the hive entrances. That is nearly nine out of ten. This goes to show the importance of shading in hot weather, and of sufficient ventilation—in a word, to avoid having the colonies suffering from over-heating.

On page 231 American Bee-Keeper our attention is directed to:

POSITION OF ENTRANCES.

Mention was made in a previous number of the experiments of Mr. Richards, who obtained about five times more surplus when the entrance of the hive was between the brood-nest and the supers than when it is below the brood-nest. Mr. A. G. of N. (Isere) went this summer "one better." On some of his colonies he put the entrance as Mr. Richards, and on some, above the supers under the cover, or, rather under the roof, for all European hives out in open have a regular additional roof-like cover. The results were, that while the colonies with the entrance below filled one super, or thereabout, those with the entrance between the brood-nest filled about five and those with the entrance above the supers six. As Mr. A. G. is one of the leading writers of the Apicultuer, his statement can be accepted. What I would like to know is how much brood and honey were in the brood-nest, especially at the end of the season.

This is a kink worth remembering and experimenting on. On page 232 it is stated a certain English lord paid three hundred pounds sterling for a recipe of medicine that had cured him of rheumatism, here it is: 1 oz. of sulphur, 1 oz. tartaric acid, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. rhubarb, 1 dram Gugaca gum; sixteen ounces of honey. There has been much published here of late in regard

to bee stings as a remedy for the aforesaid disease. An article is here given as it appeared in the American Bee-Keeper under the caption of "Bee Stings For Rheumatism:"—"In a previous issue, mention was made of Dr. Langer's study of the bee venom. Since that time, he has received a number of inquiries upon the effect of the bee stings in case of rheumatism. In a recent communication he states that he has no experience in that line himself, but quotes Dr. Terc of Marburg. Dr. Terc has used bee stings for the cure of rheumatism for quite a number of years. In 1888 he reported having applied already some 39,000 stings to 173 patients. In 1903 he presented an extensive report on the subject to the Imperial Society of Medicine of Vienna. More than five hundred persons have been treated. The remedy is sure against the rheumatism of articulations, whether chronic or temporary. The sooner the treatment is begun, the better. None of the persons treated showed any affection of the heart. The remedy is also effective in cases of muscular or neuralgic rheumatism or pains. It is slower, but much surer than the salicylic acid or other remedies usually employed. It is not to be applied to very young children, very old people or those affected by anemia, tuberculosis, inflammation of kidneys or fever. In case of heart disease, it must be avoided, as it might cause death, and if after beginning the treatment any symptom of heart trouble appears, it should be stopped. Dr. Terc thinks the cases reported of people dying of a few bee stings were persons already having some far advanced heart trouble. The method is very simple. The operator takes the bee between the thumb and index finger and applies the "business end" to the patient. The sting is left for some minutes before taken out. The treatment is be-

gun by one to three stings a day, and then increased gradually to one hundred or even more. The treatment lasts one or two years in serious cases. If the tissues or articulations are already altered or degenerated, nothing can restore them. Not everybody will consent to adopt such a course, yet Dr. Terc, during the last 23 years, has treated over five hundred persons. The problem is now, to obtain a serum or some other way to apply the remedy in a more convenient way." From this it would seem that even so simple a remedy as a bee sting must be used in an intelligent and systematic manner. Quite a few I have known, to assume sufficient courage to try the remedy, have at the first round, given in, the swelling and consequent pain being more than they had contracted for, with them the cure was worse than the disease, and they were eager to apply a bee sting remedy. Dr. Miller's comment on this matter reads: "Testimony on the efficacy of bee-stings in rheumatism is conflicting. Possibly it would be less so if the treatment were always as thorough as that practiced by the German physician Dr. Terc, whose experience includes a series of years." And the editor of Gleanings as follows: "While the testimony in our American journals may be somewhat conflicting, yet it shows such a strong leaning toward the value of the remedy that I think we may safely conclude, in many cases at least, that bee-poison, when properly administered, does bring about certain and positive relief." As this is the season of aches and pains should not the above be considered seasonable matter?

Here's encouragement for you, from Hasty in American Bee Journal:

"ENGLISH AS SHE IS WRIT"—"PAWS"
HERE.

Here's advice that that editorial

scrimmage about good and bad English, and the paws, be allowed to pause before it extends to very many counters. Has been claimed that there exists a being, reputed to have claws—and he bewilders and often captures him who pauses among his clauses with a well-worn but always serviceable proverb: "The man who isn't a fool part of the time is a fool all the time." Well I don't claim to be ministering in his name exactly, (critic may say so perhaps) but I incline to parallel his favorite saw. The man who doesn't write bad English part of the time writes bad English all the time—makes it so stupid and insane in its faultlessness that nobody would read it if he could get rid of it. Or, if you prefer to get the thing clear down to hard pan, most of that which is assailed as bad English is not bad—only different from the usage of the linguistic Pharisees. The object of language is to make people understand. Do that one thing and pretty much all conducing thereto is English, neither more nor less. English is that whereby live people convey live ideas to other live people. Concentrated tincture of grammar book and dictionary passed frhm mummy to mummy through a dry weed stalk—that's not English." Now let the more timid ones give in their "sperience" and ask all the questions they wrnt and have wanted to this long time, and let's see if we can not get up a thorough revival of interest in our pursuit, the business of honey producing and bee-keeping in general.



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Incidence Of a Queen's Life.

BY GUMPUS.

Chapter V.

The trip was passed uneventfully, and when we come to call the roll after our little friends have been placed on their stands in their new home, we find their number has greatly diminished. The old maids' familiar voice is no longer heard in their hive, for she has served her time, and together with One-eye, Frisky and scores of others have passed away, but while their number has lessened, their stores are ample for those that remain, and while some of the remaining ones show by their well worn wings, that they have seen their best days, there are still some younger ones ready to begin a life of usefulness. So the old queen as she steps out on the porch and views her surroundings for the first time, thinks that she has yet much to be thankful for. "Is it possible," she remarks on returning to her family "that the sun is shining in all its splendor and the flowers blooming? or am I just dreaming? it surely cannot be spring, when only a few days ago the snow was a foot deep. Oh! yes, we have moved, that accounts for it, and we have come south- Yes we have come back to the home of my childhood, for I recognize the sweet wild flowers, the bankless streams and the broad plains, but altogether it seems to good to be true; for I had given up all hopes of ever seeing the real old home and really had about come to the conclusion that my days of usefulness were about over, but who could give up life's struggle in such a garden as this? Not I, for each flower answers and says, it will add one more day to my life, and I feel already the vigor of youth returning, as if by magic and as all nature seems to be doing its part, why

should we be idle? Come let us be up and doing, and for the third time in my life I will make a new start. But this time, thanks to Farmer John, with a better beginning than before, for with plenty of stores left over, and countless flowers blooming, who could wish for more?" So saying she resumed her duties with renewed energy.

"O! mamma," said Downy, as she came in full to overflowing, "I met the nicest little girl way over yonder on the prairie, she was as pretty as she could be, and she said she lived, oh! ever so far over there on the river, she wanted to know if I wasn't a new comer, and she said I looked like a yankee is it a thief or something?" "Oh, no my dear it is just one who has had the misfortune to be born in the north." "Is that all," she said in surprise, "I did not know what to say. for I hadn't the least idea what she meant, and mamma, she talks oh so funny, she said when she started home, "You all come over, we'uns would be glad to see you." "Did she really mean for us all to go at once?"

"No, you stupid little thing," said Sleepyhead, as he brushed his shoes, "she just meant for you to tell your good looking brother to come, but she had better sense than to say it in just that many words, and I am off."

"Well, boys will be boys," said the queen, "and I am glad that we have struck a place at last, where there is society for you to go in, for if my boys just will marry, and my past experience proves that they will, nothing would please me better, than to see them happily united with southern wives."

As time goes on the queen sees that she has, by far the largest family on her hands, than ever before, but she says, "I shall not bother with them this time, I am getting too old to be worried with children. They can each "paddle their own canoe" this time,

and if they get into trouble, they can get out of it the best they can, for they generally do the way they please anyway, and after all, experience is the best teacher, and I'll just let them work out their own salvation with their own little heads."

"This is delicious," said Tony, first looking back over his shoulder to see if any one was looking, then dipping his head into the cell of honey again. "What are you doing there, Toney?" said his sister Dixie, as she spied him helping himself, "you'd better be feeding these youngsters, instead of stuffing yourself." "Why I was born with a silver spoon in my mouth," he said proudly, "it was women that were made to work, not men."

"Yes," readily assented the Colonel, as he leaned back and elevated his feet, "it is the rule where people live in tribes for the women to perform all the labor, in fact ever since woman was made from a rib taken from the side of Adam, she has been looked upon as a sort of side issue."

"Oh I ain't so sure about that now," said Toney, in a descending tone, sometimes when I feast my eyes on that pretty little queen, over on the the Dover Ranch, I think she is the main issue. But there can be no doubt that we were not made to work, for the kids would starve if they had to depend on us to bring them something to eat, for we have no basket to carry pollen in, and it is not possible for us to gather nectar, for our bills are not long enough to get it out of anything but a cell."

Farmer John concludes to work his bees this year for honey only, and see how much they will make, so instead of seperating them when they started queen cells, he watched them closely and as soon as the cells are started he cuts them out, making sure, before doing so, however that they already have a queen, this he can easily de-

termine by noticing whether there is brood in all stages of development in the hive, if there is, he is sure that the queen is alive and well, but we will not offer him any further advice, for he understands his business pretty well now, but we will return to the parent hive, and see what they are doing.

"I wish," the old queen is saying, "that I could discard this mortal body and replace it with a new one, as easily as Farmer John can give us a new house, but alas; it cannot be, no; when I break a mandible I cannot send to the factory for a new one, and when my eyes grow dim with age, they cannot be plated over and as bright as ever; neither can the tailor take my measure and make me a new pair of wings, but despite all this it would be indeed ungrateful for one to be downcast amid all this sunshine, knowing that its every ray brings prosperity for beedom, and besides that, it would be very foolish also, for if one's life is short, is not that all the better reason for making the best of it while it lasts? And after all my life has not been a total failure by any means, for I have laid on an average 2000 eggs a day, for weeks at a stretch and that without consuming any patent egg food, and have reared from them not less than 100,000 bees, and of that number those living now comprise three colonies and they have stored a surplus during my short life of 200 pounds of honey, and that too, without either being carried every day or standing with their heads in a stack of timothy hay all winter, not that honey is worth \$20 true, on account of my good blood I was sold for \$1 to stark on, and have been fed in the two years three pounds of sugar, but it was a very poor grade, and was not worth more than 10 cents and I have occupied a house worth \$1 but I am not through yet, by next fall I will

have as full a house as ever, and a lot more surplus honey.

"Here is a letter from Reddy," said Flawey, "he said that they have been having a hard time of it, that robbers broke into his wife's store and stole everything they had last spring, but it so happened that Phil found it out and fed them through, and he says they are getting along fine now, that Phil has raised the house another story and they have it all full. And who is your letter from Dixie? Oh its from that Missouri fellow ain't it? Don't you know my dear, that you are just fooling away your time writing to him. He won't near have you when he finds out that you are not a queen, that's all those old matrimonial papers are good for anyway, half the time it's a boy pretending to be a girl, and a girl pretending to be a boy and each thinking they are fooling the other, and both making fools of themselves, and the other half of the time it's two ill matched people, like you and him, writing to each other, both wanting to get married awful bad, and when you see each other nothing could induce either of you to have the other, why: just as like as not he's got a bald head or a wooden leg or he's cross-eyed or something. No my sister you had as well reconcile yourself to your fate, as I have done." But Dixie having finished her letter stuck it under her belt and turning up her nose at her sister went on about her work, humming as she went, "It is not well to be alone."

"Colonal," says Flawey, "what tore that big piece out of your wing?"

"Well," answered the Colonel, "as I have been asked that question on an average of about once every five minutes to-day, I guess I had as well tell you. I was down on the river last night to see that little blonde queen, and as we were sitting there talking quietly so as not to disturb the folks

who had all retired, and all at once the old lady yelled out from up stairs, "Blondie, do you know it's 10 o'clock!" And as the echo "o'clock" came back from the neighboring hills, I took my flight from the front porch, leaving a piece of wing on one of the entrance blocks, that will just fit in that hole."

Now at last the task of filling the commodious hive, for Farmer John has given them plenty of room to keep them from swarming, is done, and although the old queen cannot tell when the summer and autumn begun, nor yet when autumn ended and winter began, so slight was the change, but instinct tells her that it is winter, the same as the calendar tells Farmer John, but he does not need to take so much pains to prepare for it in this climate, needing neither chaff cushions or hood for it is warm and dry throughout the year. So the cool frosty nights of midwinter find our friends in the same quarters they occupied during the summer, and they doze away very comfortably, only waking long enough to eat, and then they are very stupid and the short winter days go by in rapid succession and the first of March finds many blossoms and the same nature that brings them to life, wakes the little workers also, for the flowers are scarcely open before they are hovering over them, as wide awake as anyone, and ready to gather the nectar.

"Where is that smoke coming from?" said Toney as the wind brought a big puff into the hive.

"It's Farmer John I guess," answered the queen, "it's about time for him to come around to see how we have gone through the winter."

"No it ain't," said Flawey, who had just come in, "it's a big prairie fire, it caught me a way out there and it was all I could do to get in, but as it happened I did not have to fly against the wind."

By this time they were about all in, and being very stupid from the effects of the smoke, they clustered on the combs, as close as they could get together, seemingly looking to each other for protection. Meanwhile Farmer John and his wife are exerting every possible effort to save their home, for they see at once that it is in great danger. John with his team and plow is throwing furrow after furrow around his house and lots in rapid succession; while his wife is preparing water and cloths, with which to fight the raging flames, whose mighty roar sounding nearer and nearer, tells them it is almost at hand. And now almost blinded by the smoke, they work away with that almost super-human strength, which only those can command who see their home, their only compensation for years of toil in immediate danger, but it had come and gone, and as they sit on the well curbed panting and bathing their faces, they feel that they have gained the victory, for their house is safe and the roaring of the flames is dying away in the distance as it goes on in its mad mission of destruction.

"Oh John! the bees!" exclaimed his wife.

"Yes, I know, dear," he replied, "I could have saved them by bringing them inside of the guard but I did not think I had time, and thought I had better lose them than the house, and I am thankful for my part, that we did not lose anything else, for I thought everything was gone. Yes the bees were down on the branch about 200 yards from the house, I thought they would do better where they had water and shade, and then they would be out of the way, more than anything else."

Contentedly clustered as we left them, they were devoured by the hungry flames, and the queen's life is ended and her wish ungratified, for being cremated, the flowers cannot bloom over her grave.

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SELF-DEFENSE.

It is a matter of importance that one know how far he may go in using force against force in the defence of himself, his family and his property. The right of self-defence will occur to us as being a natural right. One could scarcely be expected when attacked, either in person or in property, to say "I will wait for the Law to punish the aggressor," for the one attacked has no means of knowing how far the attacking party may go in the use of violence, as he even may go to the extent of taking life.

Then, too, the law recognizes a weakness in human nature—or shall we call it strength rather that impels one when attacked to defend himself by the use of force. Self-preservation is truly the first law of nature.

The law of self-defence is an old one, recognized from the beginning. It extends not only one's own persons but to one's own family and possessions. The old law speaks of a man's home as his "castle" and gave him the right to defend it, even to the extent of taking life; with certain limitation, which we will learn, that right still exists.

Of course there must be a limitation put upon the right of self-defence or it will be abused, and men, under cover of the excuses that they were put to an act of violence by necessity, will cover up acts which are unjustifiable and hence punishable. The law broadly speaking, limits the right to cases where necessity exists, and it will only excuse a man when he uses that violence which under the circumstances would appeal to a reasonable man as necessary for his self-protection. Nor

will a court compel him to exercise the best of judgment at the time, for it recognizes that when the occasion for self-defence presents itself, the mind of the one attacked is more or less disturbed and the even balance of his of his judgement shaken; but where the means taken to defend one's self are manifestly more than necessary, as where one slapped in the face draws a revolver and kills, the act will be considered unjustifiable and the perpetrator of it held to account; but if the person attacked has reasonable grounds for fearing that killing or felony is being attempted by the attacking party, the defence may go to the extent of taking life. It is well decided that where one is merely struck with the fist and has no reasonable grounds for believing that he is in danger or being killed or of felony being committed, his use of a gun, or a knife or a deadly weapon is unjustifiable.

The fact that the person defending himself was mistaken as to the intentions of his assailant does not effect his right to take life if there appeared to him at the time reasonable grounds to believe that unless he did so he would be killed or felony would be perpetrated against him. It has been held that the mere fact that the assail-

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ant put his hand in his pocket was not sufficient to justify the taking of the assailant's life on the ground that the assailant was believed to be reaching for a weapon.

Suppose that the person called upon to defend himself, had been himself the provoker of the quarrel or the immediate cause of the attack, would his subsequent use of violent means in self-defense be justified under the rules laid down? The question has arisen in many cases and has usually been decided in the negative. The person himself must be free from fault in order to justify himself for killing another.

The cases go to the extent of saying that anyone who brings on or provokes a personal encounter cannot rely upon the plea of self-defense. We can quickly see that if the law were permitted to be otherwise one desiring to kill another would only have to provoke that other sufficiently to cause him to use violence in order to take his life and escape the consequences. The main question as to whether or not the force used could have reasonably been deemed necessary is a question to be left to the determination of the jury in all cases.

It is also of interest to ask whether a man attacked is bound to retreat. It is quite well decided that when a man is attacked with a dangerous weapon he must retreat as far as he can safely do so before using like means in defending himself; but where the one attacked has reasonable grounds for believing that he can not safely retreat he is justified in using violence in self-defence. The right of self-defence goes to the extent of excusing a man for resisting arrest by violence where the attempted arrest is unlawful.

How far one may go in the defence of his property, or possessions, is reserved for treatment in a subsequent article.

(To be Continued.)

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F. B. Mills, the Seedman, of Rose Hill, New York, is now distributing more than half a million copies of his greatest Seed Book, and with each one he sends free of charge a sample packet of his New Earley Sweet Corn, a wonderful novelty he sent out this year to test in all parts of the country.

The book itself is a beauty, giving many fine views of his immense establishment which has been enlarged year by year to fit the requirement of a rapid increasing business until it now comprises in addition to the Fairview Seed Farms and Greenhouses, three departments each of unusual interest to the public.

Mills' Thoroughbred Poultry Farm is up-to-date in every respect; the main house is 550 feet long, fully equipped with electric heaters which give complete protection from frost in winter. A special Poultry and Incubator Catalogue explains about this poultry farm and illustrates of many breeds of popular fowls that are raised there.

The Ginseng Farm is another very interesting feature of the business. Mr. Mills has had years of experience in ginseng culture and is always willing to furnish free information about this growing industry.

A Supply Department was added recently with the object of furnishing his customers farm and garden implements household goods, etc., at factory prices.

Mr. Mills has through years of persistency in strictly honest business methods, gained a reputation from thousands for reliability as well as for zeal and enterprise.

The Vegetable Contest described in

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Gentlemen:—

We have seen your advertisement in the American Bee-Keeper on the subject of the Amateur Bee-Keeper. As we have an interest in this matter, we would ask you to send us a copy along with your bill and a Higginville Smoker, and a sample copy of the Progressive Bee-Keeper. We are extra busy now preparing our bees for the Logwood flow which is in February, March and April. We have three yards, each having 150 colonies. We would like to hear when your flow commences and how long it lasts, and what do you think honey will go at in America this year. Trusting to hear from you soon and wishing you success, we are,

Yours Faithfully,

A. WILLIAM BARKER & GHOSSN,
Per. H C. L., Mgr. Providence.
St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica,
January XVI, 1905.

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When the Well Runs Dry. What Then?

S. E. MILLER.

W. Z. Hutchinson in January Review, in speaking of writing Editorials says: "In one sense his mind might be compared to a well. If it is continually pumped out, and no more runs into it, it will "soon run dry." It occurs to me that this is a very apt comparison and sometimes when I sit down to attempt to write the Editorials for THE PROGRESSIVE I feel as if the water in my intellectual well was becoming somewhat shallow and murky. Of course I try to keep continually pumping something into the well but then not all that is pumped in is fit to be pumped out and offered to the public, so the well must have a filter in it so as to strain out all such matter as is not suitable to offer to the readers and the filter is the most important part about the well.

TAKING MY OWN MEDICINE.

Did you see how the printer came back at me on Page 15, January Progressive. I guess I better let that printer alone especially as the printer intimates that the printer is she. But say Miss Printer why did you call that pure honey law, page 328 December issue a pine honey law?

J. A. Green in Feb. 1st. Gleanings, page 117 suggests that two cleats about one eighth of an inch thick be nailed on the inside of the hive near each end in such position as to allow the shoulders of the end bars on the Hoffman frame to come in contact with them, when the frame is crowded to the side of the hive, thus preventing the comb from being placed too near the side of the hive. I have often thought of this but have never put it into practice. It would not require much time or labor to make these cleats and put them in place; and it would certainly be a great improvement. As Mr. Green says, the comb that is crowded too close to the side of the hive is either pasted fast or is imperfect. I have often noticed that a comb that is so crowded is practically useless on one side, I think as a rule the bees cut down the cells sufficiently to leave a bee space behind the comb, thus leaving the cells too shallow to be of much use. Anyone who has a buzz saw can cut out a hundred or more of such cleats in a short time, but not every bee-keeper owns a buzz saw and therefore I think the manufacturer should furnish them with the hives and instruct the purchaser where to place them. Who will be the first manufacturer to make the innovation.

Mr. S. E. Miller,

Dear Sir:—

I write to you to know when is the best time to take out of my house a swarm of bees, that was

hived or swarmed between the studding under the lapsiding of my house, in last June. I do not care to get the honey but would like to save the bees. I was thinking of taking them out in May next. Would you wait that long? And Oblige. Yours respectfully,

W. S. IRWIN.

Yes! I would wait until fruit bloom which is the rule generally laid down in the text books as the best time for transferring. And there are very good reasons for choosing this time, for the bees at this time are not likely to have very much honey or brood; therefore the combs are light and easier to handle than when full of brood and honey. Then when the combs are transferred to a frame hive the light flow of nectar will materially aid the bees in fastening the combs securely in the frames. Should the bees from any cause; such as stormy weather or otherwise, be unable to gather nectar they should be fed so as to enable them to fasten the combs, and also to keep up brood-rearing which is very important at that particular time.

CARRYING COALS TO NEW CASTLE.

About two weeks ago while in——City selling honey I stepped into a small grocery store with the intention of making a sale, but was informed by the proprietor that he had plenty on hand at present. Of course I was not long in placing my eyes on his stock of honey, which consisted of some two or three dozen small bottles of nice looking amber colored honey. I picked up one of the bottles and here is what I read on the label, Pure White Clover extracted honey. The Fred W. Muth Co., 51 Walnut St. Cincinnati, Ohio. It was a square clear glass bottle, and bottle and contents weighs just about an even ten ounces. The merchant retailed it at 10 cents per bottle and said he made a fair profit and had a good sale on it. I bought

one of the bottles and brought it home with me. Now there is nothing extraordinary about all of this, but it seems to me that some of us Missouri bee-keepers are not looking after our interests properly; when honey sold in almost the central part of our state has to be put up in Cincinnati. Of course there is a possibility that someone is counterfeiting Mr. Muth's label and package and that it does not come from Cincinnati at all, but is put up, probably in St. Louis. This part I mean to investigate by submitting the label and a description of package and contents to Mr. Muth. Assuming however that the honey is put up by the Fred W. Muth Co., let us see how many hands it has to pass through before reaching the consumer, or to use a strong phrase, how many rake-off's there is on this small bottle of honey. The Fred W. Muth Co., purchases the honey from the bee-keeper and puts it up in bottles. They must make a profit or they would soon have to go out of business. Probably they sell to a jobber who sells it to a wholesale house in St. Louis (The merchant said he bought it from a St. Louis house but did not remember what particular house.) However we will cut this fellow out and assume that The Muth Co. sell direct to a St. Louis wholesale house. The wholesale house through their traveling salesman sells to the merchant in——City. To sum it all up we arrive at the following. The Muth Co's profit, rake off number one; transportation from Cincinnati to St. Louis, rake off number two; profit to St. Louis wholesale house, rake off number three; transportation St. Louis to——City, rake off number four; retail merchants profit which is likely not less than twenty-five per cent, rake off number five. I have not yet emptied the bottle so as to weigh it and ascertain the net contents but I presume that the consumer gets about six

to seven ounces of honey for ten cents. Oh! yes I forgot to mention the first rake off, the one the R. R. Co. gets for carrying it from the producer to Cincinnati. Brother bee-keepers: does it not look as if there was room for us to butt-in and sell a few pounds of honey occasionally instead of having it shipped out here from Cincinnati, O? A bee-keeper friend of mine who lives in ——— City told me that there are about five-hundred colonies of bees kept in and around the town, but most of them are kept by the know it all myself won't read a bee-paper type of bee-keepers. I might mention that I sold all of my salable comb honey, and some extracted and would have sold much more extracted had the weather not been so miserably cold, that taking orders from house to house and standing at the door waiting for some one to answer my call was almost out of the question.

WHAT SHALL WE FEED THE BEES?

In recent issues of the various bee journals the subject of feeding sugar syrup for winter stores and for stimulative purposes is being pretty generally discussed. I do not know that my opinion is worth much on this subject; but I have always felt that bee-keepers should not resort to feeding sugar syrup as long as it can be avoided, even if it does cost more to feed honey. I will admit that sugar is cheaper and safer, for if one buys honey on the open market he can not be certain that it does not contain the germs of foul brood. But taking all things into consideration I think we should avoid feeding sugar as far as possible. I will try to show you about how this sugar feeding effects the bee-keeper as I see it. Mr. Jones is a practical bee-keeper, He feeds his bees sugar syrup for winter stores or for stimulating in the spring. His neighbor Brown who is not a bee-keep-

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er knows this, and Jones explains to Brown that he feeds it only for winter stores and stimulating. Brown understands why and when Jones feeds his bees sugar and believes it as he knows Jones to be an honest man. Brown tells Smith that Jones feeds his bees sugar, but forgets to or is probably unable to explain just under what conditions the sugar is fed. By the time Smith tells his neighbor it has gotten down to the simple fact that Jones feeds his bees sugar; and so the story goes from mouth to mouth, Jones feeds his bees sugar, Jones feeds his bees sugar. Why or under what conditions Jones feeds sugar no one stops or cares to inquire. They simply know that Jones feeds his bees sugar because Johnson said that Smith told him that Brown told him that Jones feeds his bees sugar; and Brown knows because he lives "jinen" farms with Jones. Now friends is it anything more than human nature for those who are unacquainted with our pursuit to believe that the sugar is fed simply to increase the bulk of our crop and that the sugar is sold as so much honey? Is it any wonder that the average consumer who is not familiar with the peculiar qualities of honey; is ready to believe just as soon as the honey he has purchased starts to granulate is partly sugar? I think if we will take a fair minded view of the matter we will have to admit that, when these two facts: feeding bees sugar, and honey turning to sugar (as they suppose) enter the cranium of the average man, who is entirely unfamiliar with our pursuit he is not much to blame if he

arrives at the conclusion that candied honey is partly granulated sugar. It is all easy enough to talk about educating the people but it is not so easily done. Something like twenty years ago one man educated the people to believe that comb honey was manufactured by machinery, and ever since then hundreds and I may safely say thousands of us have been trying to educate the people that comb honey is not manufactured by machinery, but the first educator still has the biggest swing with the people. Jones may feed his bees sugar and still have a ready sale for his honey. He may be able to deal face to face with his customers and being an honest man his word bears weight, but nevertheless the fact that Jones feeds his bees sugar is hurting bee-keepers as a whole. I believe we should avoid feeding sugar as far as possible. I believe that Editors of Bee Journals should not advocate it and I think the less said and written about it the better it will be for the fraternity.

WHAT WILL THE HARVEST BE?

Some stored in the cellar, some left out of doors, some with sealed covers, some short of stores, some with chaff cushions that make nests for the mice, some with the entrance froze tight shut with ice. Oh what shall the harvest be?

IN A BAD FIX.

A man in this neighborhood is in a bad predicament. The weather is cold and there is a deep snow on. He is nearly entirely out of corn, wood and tobacco. He thinks he might get along without the corn and wood but if the tobacco plays out he will be left in a bad box. Get ready now to do the spring work.

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Cedar City.....	12:30 p m
Jefferson City.....	12:30 p m
Centralia.....	12:55 a m
Clark.....	11:40 a m
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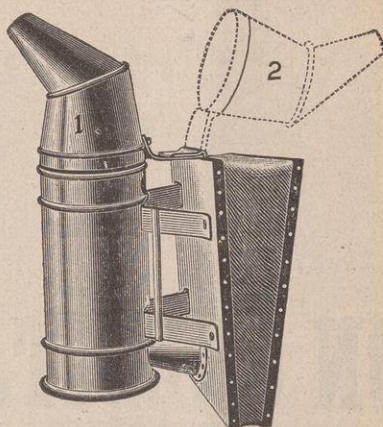
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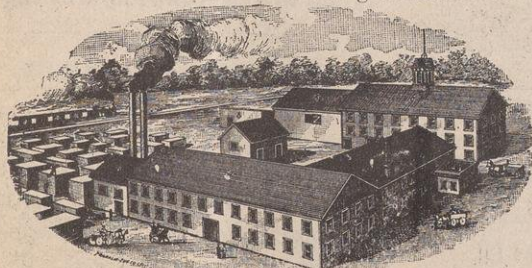
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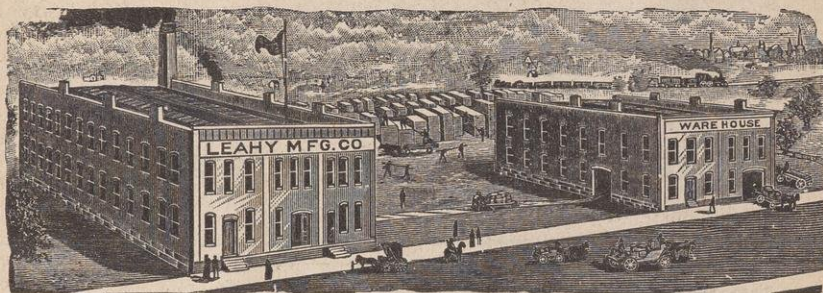
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BINGHAM BRASS SMOKERS.

MADE TO ORDER



Made of sheet-brass which does not rust or burn out, should last a lifetime. You need one, but they cost 25c more than tin of the same size. The little pen cut shows our brass hinge put on the three larger sizes. No wonder Bingham's 4-inch Smoke Engine goes without puffing and

Does Not Drop Inky Spots.

The perforated steel fire grate has 381 holes to air the fuel and support the fire. PRICES: Heavy Tin Smoke Engine, four inch stove, by mail \$1.50; 3½ inch, \$1.10; 3 inch, \$1.00; 2½ inch, 90c; 2 inch, 65c. Bingham Smokers are the original and have all the improvements, and have been the STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE for 22 years. With a Bingham

Smoker that will hold a quart of sound maple wood, the bee-keepers trials are all over for a long time. Who ever heard of a Bingham Smoker that was too large or did not give perfect satisfaction. The world's most scientific and largest comb honey producers use Bingham Smokers and Knives. The same is true of the world's largest producers of extracted honey. Before buying a smoker or knife hunt up its record and pedigree.

"I have used Bingham Smokers ever since they first came out. Working from 300 to 700 colonies twelve months in the year I ought to know what is required of a smoker. The Doctor, 3½ inch, just received, fills the bill.

Resp., O. W. OSBORN."

Mt. Pleasant, Mich., July 7, 1896.

Dear Sir:

Smokers came O. K. They are the best I have ever seen. Sell like hot cakes.

Respectfully,

WM. BAMBU.

T. F. BINGHAM, Farwell, Mich.

THE BEST PAINT FOR BEE HIVES

is one that will not disintegrate quickly, but form a hard, durable coating as impervious to atmospheric influence as it is possible to make a covering of this character. THE BEST BEE HIVE PAINT MADE.

New Era High Grade Prepared Paint



meets all these requirements perfectly, as it is made from the best carefully selected materials only. It may cost a few cents more per gallon, but considered from the standpoint of DURABILITY and SATISFACTORY RESULTS, it is by far the most economical article that can be used, and its intrinsic worth is bound to be appreciated by careful and painstaking bee-keepers.

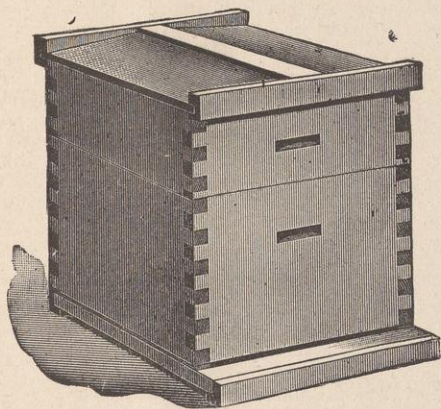
Prices.

One Quart.....	\$.55
One-half Gallon.....	1.00
One Gallon.....	1.60
Five Gallon Can, per gallon.....	1.50

Leahy Mfg. Co.

Higginsville, Mo.

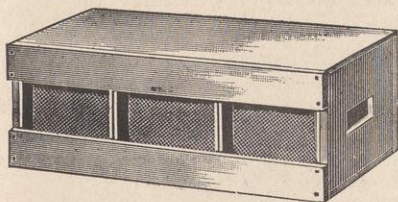
Nothing So Profitable on a Farm



as a
few stands
of bees.

They work for nothing and board themselves, and require but little time to handle. We have just received a carload of the famous "Higginsville" Supplies, consisting of

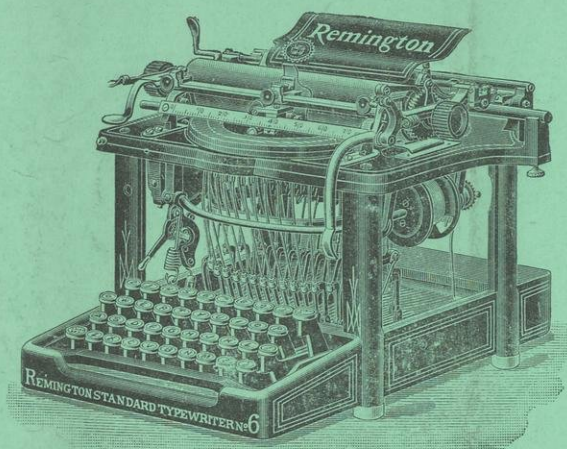
Dovetailed Hives, (like cut) Sections, Foundation, Extractors, Shipping Cases, Smokers, Bee Veils, Swarm Catchers, etc. Write for new 1904 catalog, just out.



TOPEKA BEE SUPPLY HOUSE.

TOPEKA,

KANSAS.



The Leading Business Men Buy

The Remington Typewriter

BECAUSE it is the BEST investment, being the strongest and most durable of all writing machines, and has all the improvements known to the Typewriter world. The Experienced Operator says: "Give me the Remington. It can do better work, and more of it, with less effort on the part of the operator, than any other machine." Send for catalogue.

REMINGTON TYPEWRITER COMPANY,

105 West Ninth Street.

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