

# The progressive bee-keeper. Vol. VIII, No. 10 Oct. 1, 1898

Higginsville, Mo.: Leahy Manufacturing Company, Oct. 1, 1898

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OCTOBER 1, 1898. DUBLISHED BY

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Being located in the great BASSWOOD timber belt of Wisconsin; admitted by all to be the best for making sections.

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Bee-Keepers will save money by using our Foot Power Circular Saw in making their Hives, Sections and Boxes. Machines sent on trial if desired. Catalogue free.

W. F & O O O

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Italian Queens at 50c each 6 for \$2.75, or \$5 per doz Warranted pure

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Having purchased the good will and business of H. L. Miller, of Supplies, I will be in a position to furnish all Bee-Keepers' Supplies at Higginsville prices.

You will save freight by ordering of me. Write for Catalogue.

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C. E. Walker, Kansas City, Mo. 

Smoke Engine | largest smok-4 inch stove \$13.00-Mail. 31/2 3 6.50-1.00 Conqueror ... 21/2 5.00-.90 Large.... Plain.... Little Wonder. 4.75 " wt 10 oz Honey Knife 6.00-

All Bingham Smokers are stamped on the metal, patented 1878—1892—Knives B. & H.
The four larger sizes have extra wide shields and double coiled steel wire handles. These SHIELDS and HANDLES ingers. The Plain and Little Wonder have narrow shields and wire handles. All Bingham Smokers have all the new improvements, viz: Direct Draft. Movable Bent Cap, Wire Handles, Inverted Bellows, and are ABSOLUTELY PERFECT.

Fifteen years for a dollar. One-half a cent a month.

Cuba, Kansas, Jan. 27th, 1897. rs. I was always well pleased Dear Sir.—I have used the Conquerer 15 years. I was always well pleased with its workings, but thinking I would need a new one this summer I write for circular. I do not think the four inch "Smoke Engine" too large. Yours.

W. H. EAGERTY.

Corning, Cal., July 14th, 1896.

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

Mt. Pleasant, Mich., Aug. 7th. 1896.
Dear Sir—Smokers came O. K. They are the best I have ever seen; sell like hot cakes

Respectfully, WM. BAMBU.

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.

Please mention the 'Progressive."

T. F. BINGHAM, Farwell, Mich.

## The Progressive Bee-Keeper.

A Journal Devoted to Bees, Honey, and Kindred Industries

50 Cents a Year.

Published Monthly by Leahy Manufacturing Company

Vol. VIII.

HIGGINSVILLE, MO., OCT. 1, 1898.

No. 10

#### FOUR OF A KIND.

Said Arthur Theophrastus Shore to Ebenezer Fitz:

"I'd join the church, if it were not so full of hypocrites."

Said Ebenezer Fitz, Esquire, to Theophrastus Shore:

"That shouldn't balk you; always there is room for just one more."

"Dear Mamma," Johnnie Jenkins asked, "my little brother came From heaven, did he not?" 'He did.' "Well, Ma, I do not blame

The angels (if he cried like that above the skies so blue,

Where babies never ought to cry,) for bouncing him. Do you?"

Two damsels on the cable talked, and this I chanced to hear:

"Did Freddie Alan say that I was really dovelike, dear?"

"Oh, something of the sort, I think.
I heard him telling Rhode,

That handsome clerk at Berryman's, that you were pigeon-toed."

Barefooted Bennie found a bee, and soon began to cry.

Said Granny: "What's the matter, dear?" "I kicked a little fly."

"O, that is nothing." "Yes, it is," said Bennie with a wail,

"You see the fly I bothered had a stinger in his tail."

-Will Ward Mitchell.



(Continued from Sep. PROGRESSIVE.)

CHAPTER XII.

THE HIVE.

ITS FORM, SIZE, APPLICATION.

THE hive question is an old one, and well worn. While very much has been written upon various phases of the question, I am not one who considers the subject exhausted.

I have publicly, by speech and in print, declared against the wholesale purchase of "patent hives" (so called), especially by the inexperienced and farmers. If you will go with me over this country, you would find not one hive out of 100 managed as intended by the inventor—I refer to improved or modern hives, whether patented or notbut used much as the old style box or "gum" was. The frames are put in without proper spacing, and often without starters. Combs are allowed to be built crooked and in such shape that they are practically in worse shape than if built in a plain box. Sections are bought and put on without starters. Some put in the starters, then after the honey is off the hives, cut it out and put it in crocks, etc.

Why will even men who take and read one or more of the journals, buy frame hives, and then put bees in, and neither see that the combs are built so as to be movable, or ever try to move them? I can understand why an intelligent and practical apiarist will use some hive or other appliance because he has come into possession of such, and is just doing the best he can till a proper time comes to make a change; but it seems almost past comprehension that intelligent people would buy hives and then simply disregard every feature of the hive that made it better than a box costing a few cents.

I sell a few bee supplies, yet I have in public speech and print here in my own locality told the people that they were throwing away money in buying improved hives and modern fixtures, and then allowing their bees to do as they pleased, just as was done 50 or 100 years ago. I have told the people that bees hived in barrels or boxes would thrive just as well as if in the best improved hive to be had. That the improved hives were to give the apiarist control of the bee and its product, and not that it made any difference to the bees the kind of hive they were kept in. do believe that bees will do better in a hive that conforms to certain laws, principally as regards size and form, but the prime object is the apiarist's convenience.

Every hive should be large enough to hold sufficient stores to sustain the colony without stint from the close of the honey season till honey comes again, and at the same time as much comb as the queen can use in brooding. Its height should fully equal its greatest horizontal measure, and its length and width should be very nearly equal.

Were I going to describe the hive that would best serve the bees simply as regards their comfort and general convenience, the hive that would probably give the best wintering and the greatest number of bees in the breeding season, I should say about 16 inches square and 20 to 24 inches deep. Such would certainly make an ideal hive for successful wintering and for breeding up in the spring where the colony remains the year in and year out on its stand in the yard.

But as intimated hereinbefore, the hive must be constructed also to be convenient to the apiarist. We find it very difficult to fully harmonize all points, being compelled to sacrifice some points more or less to attain others of equal or greater importance. It is according to nature that a colony should reach about certain proportions and then cast a swarm, and this being so, the 16x16x24 hive would well serve the colony and not cause the swarm to be too small. A very small hive would retard brood rearing, because of insufficent stores and brooding space. Would also cause the swarms to issue more irregularly and out of season, and small swarms, or possibly none at If a swarm be too small, it many times would not acquire sufficient stores for winter. The hive large enough to give large store and brooding capacity will swarm more regularly and at the season best suited, will give big swarms when they do swarm, and such swarms are more certain to get in proper shape for winter in the new home.

While a hive of 20 to 24 (and even more) inches in depth serves the bees very well, we can depart from these dimensions somewhat, and yet not detract materially from the best interests of a good wintering and breeding hive; but since

these two features are very important ones, and are the very foundation on which we must depend for success, we cannot ignore them.

Let me say right here that I want the reader to lay aside all prejudice in favor of any one or more frames or style of hive, and consider the matter on the basis of principles. It is not my purpose to boom any particular size, shape or style, as made by any party or firm, but to get at the true principles underlying successful management of bees. If you will in this way follow me through this discussion, I feel sure I can help you to understand the true principles of the business of honey production. More than this, by a study of your appliances which you now have in use, even though not what you could wish, may be so handled as to obtain in large measure what you would accomplish with the ideal hive.

Let us deal first with the brood chamber. My preference is for a shallow frame, closed end and close fitting. The length of the brood frame to be just that of four sections. If 4½x4½ section be used, the frame to be 17 inches. Let the hive width be a trifle less than its length, for when the width and length are slightly different, a glance shows which should be back or front in adjusting the parts, especially the covers.

And why a shallow frame? If the frame be 5 or 6 inches deep, one can then use 1, 2 or more sets, as the case requires, thus making the hive elastic or adjustable. When a colony is weak, one of these shallow chambers may be used, though I do not recommend so small a brood chamber any time in winter or spring. I know it is possible to winter a colony in a very small brood chamber, and I am not sure but that the colony will do just as

well up to the beginning of spring brooding, especially if the hive be WELL STOCKED with honey. I so wintered 2 or more colonies last winter, and at the begining of active brooding in early spring they showed signs of outstripping the others in larger hives. I kept watch to see that they not get out of honey, yet they behind in May and June, and proved to be poor colonies when they should have been strong, although I added more room before they began to be crowded. It seems to be an undisputed fact that bees will not brood freely unless there is plenty of stores to back them.

In view of these facts I consider it wisdom to let the colony have abundance of stores in sight, especially from the beginning of brooding in the spring. In this connection read again the latter part of my article in the August issue of the Progressive, in reference to wintering. Even if the bees would pass through the winter proper just as well in a small brood chamber—say 15x17 inches and 6 inches deep, yet another set of combs beneath would do no harm—then we know they have a plenty of comb.

Understand, locations differ, and as affecting this question in this way: I am in a location where the honey flow is usually all over by August 15th to very early in September. This year the flow entirely ceased, in so far that there has not been a particle of gain in weight since about August 20th. There will probably not be a bit of nectar before April 10th to 20th, nor even any pollen. More than this, there is no likelihood that the bees will get one-fourth their living, on the average, before the 10th to 15th of June. Seldom is there a time prior to June 10th that even for one week they get enough for daily needs.

Such a location requires provision. in the matter of stores, and also in the matter of manipulation not required in other locations.

Suppose instead of a dearth of nectar for so long a time, you have the bees making a living well into September, or even till October 1st, then in the spring gathering more or less by the last days of February or in March and April. Under the latter conditions, probably one-half the stores needed here would suffice in bringing the colony to June in good condition. Thus far locations and difference in seasons make a great difference. (Such differences are usually the real cause for apparent contradictions in the advice of different writers, and account for the very different results obtained. There are so many ways in which the bees may be affected, that if we knew ALL the conditions and understood their effects on the bees, we could harmonize the writings of almost all authorities. The disagreement of the "doctors" is more apparent than real.) The colony that is getting both pollen and nectar from the fields, and in quantity sufficient for daily needs or greater, will do its best with less hive room and stores than one depending on stores within the hive.

Viewed, then, in the light of these facts, I consider the best shape of hive to be almost a cube, but the greatest departure from the cube, to be in the perpendicular measure. However, in order to obtain results in labor saving and in adjusting the hive to best conserve the interests of both the bees and the apiarist, I want that hive in sections, thus making it thoroughly elastic in its perpendicular measure. In the next article will be brought out more clearly the necessity of these features.

Loveland, Colo.

(To be continued in our next.)

#### Recapitulation by G. M. Doolittle.

Hives .- So it is hives that you are after now, is it. Friend A.? Well, you are quite right that the subject is not yet exhausted, nor will it be as long as there is a single person left to keep bees in hives, for as long as there is one person who wishes a hive, that person will think his or her hive just a little better than any other in use. And, ten chances to one, that person will not accept any of the other good hives in use, but will go to work and invent (?) one which he will parade before the world as just a little better than any ever used before, and try to persuade someone to enter the ranks of beekeeping that they may use "that best of all hive" that has just been patented by him. Why, even Doolittle invented a hive, nearly thirty years ago, when he had only two colonies of bees, and, sure as you live, he thought his hive was par excellence, and only for his modest disposition, he would have 'tried Bro. Aikin on," to see if he did not wish to purchase the best hive in the world. But strange to say, Doolittle does not use the hive of his own invention now, neither does he know of anyone else who does. And the strange part of the matter is that nearly every hive which has been invented, has come from the bee-keeper of only two or three years' experience When they have from 10 to 25 years of practical work in the apiary, they are fully satisfied with any of the half-dozen really good hives now in use.

Reading Bee Journals.—Now. Bro. A., I am skeptical regarding those whom you say read bee journals, and yet hive their bees without having an eye as to the proper spacing of the frames, or even putting starters in either the frames or sections; then cutting the honey combs out of the sections and putting it in crocks, etc. The part I am skeptical about lies in the as-

sertion you make that they take and read one or more bee journals. They may take one or more bee papers, and treat their bees as you say they do; but I have never yet seen the man, who is interested enough to read up on bees, who uses hives and sections as you say they do. Why bless your old heart, you can tell a man or woman who reads the bee paper from one who does not, before you have had conversation with them five minutes, for all of the old fogvism has all vanished, as soon as they read a little, and intelligent bee culture is stamped on them at once. And yet there are those who have kept bees for years, who are opposed to you and I trying to extend the circulation of our bee literature, for fear we may raise up a new crop of bee-keepers to increase the supply of honey on the market, thus ruining the prices through an over production. My word for it, no ruining of our markets by an over production of intelligent bee-keepers. Just what our bee-keeping industry is cursed with today, is an over production of would-be bee-keepers, who are as ignorant of the first principles of bee-keeping as a pig is of history. Educate this class, and then they will know what a frame hive is for, and that honey stored in nice sections is of more value in those sections than it can possibly be cut out and stored in crocks. Don't get discouraged, Bro. A., but keep right on agitating and educating, till all of the old fogyism has become a thing of the past.

Barrels and Boxes.—Now you are just "shouting," Bro A., when you say a barrel or box is just as good for those persons who treat their bees as you have described, as anything else, and in thus shouting, you are only emphasizing what Elisha Gallup told us 30 years ago when he said, "a swarm of bees would make as much honey in a nail keg of suitable size, as they would in the best patent hive in existence."

Some of the patent hive venders did not like it, but it was the truth just the same. All any hive can claim over a box of suitable size is, that it is adapted to the wants of the bee-keeper: not to the wants of the bee. But, mercy! Did you stop to figure on the size of hive which you said would best accommodate the nature and serve the colony best, when you gave those figures of 16x16x24 inches? Moses Quinby said that from 2,000 to 2,500 cubic inches gave the right amount of space for a colony of bees to be in a prosperous condition all the year around, and here you are telling us that 6,144 is the right size. Shades of Huber! whither are we drifting? Why. Quinby tells us that if such a box as you describe was once filled with empty comb, not a swarm would ever issue from it, except in case of supersedure of queen! And here you are telling us of, and going into ecstacies over, the nice proportioned swarms which would yearly issue from these unique (?) boxes. Well, all I have to say, in absence of any special proof on your part, is that Quinby has proved (as far as I have experimented along the line of his statements and suggestions) the most correct writer of any of the writers of the past, and I should want anything contradictory to him to be clearly proven, before I took it without some degree of allowance. Say, reader, just a word of advice: Don't you go to making any of those 16x16x24 hives till Bro. A. gives us some practical proof of their workings, even if you are one of those who hive your bees in a hive with the frames all shaken together, without any starters in them, and use sections for the sake of "crocking" the honey from them; for if you do. I prophesy that you will never have any section honey to crock.

A "Jack-Rabbit" Jump.—Whewew-ew! A hive 24 inches high just the thing to accommodate the nature and serve the colony best, is what Bro. A.

says in one paragraph, and then tells us in another that his preference is for a hive having a frame so shallow as five or six inches deep, and I suppose he thinks that we should all "fall in line" and "drop" to his preference. "Not much." I am just "fighting mad" at the hint of such a thing, and would. right here and now, roll up my sleeves and knock him down with great chunks of logic regarding how the bees will be brooding sticks and vacant space, during the time they should be brooding queen eggs and larval and pupa bees. etc.. [O, I've got lots of logic to hurl at such a departure from right principles as this!] only that we have all been requested to "lay aside all prejudice" and "follow me through this discussion." before any of us get in fighting trim. So I'm going to be a good [Doo]little boy, and follow after those "underlying principles" the best I can, as Bro. A. hands them out to us. But, remember, they must be underlying principles, for all overlying principles I shall fight to the "bitter end." And one of these overlying principles that is awful fallacious, is the one often put forth, that a brood chamber, capable of being split in two in the middle, is just as good as one composed of solid sheets of comb, for the bees and the apiarist. 'Tis no such thing; and if Bro. A. insists that it is, I certainly shall "go for him," and his request will not prove a barrier big enough to stop me, either.

Borodino, N. Y. G. M. DOOLITTLE.

## Honey.

tf

If you want Colorada alfalfa, sweet clover and cleome honey comb or extracted, correspond with the Secretary of the "Colorado State Bee-Keepers' Ass'n."

Our honey ranks high in quality. Car lots a specialty. Address,

F. RAUCHFUSS, Elyria, Colo.

#### Second-Hand Foundation Mills.

We have the following good second-hand Foundation Mill which we have taken in exchange for bee-keepers' supplies:

One ten-inch Root Mill, with dipping tank, all complete. This mill, for all practical purposes, is as good as new, and the price of it new, with tanks, would be \$27. To dispose of it quick, we will take \$13 for the outfit.

LEAHY MFG. CO., HIGGINSVILLE, MO.

#### WHITHER ARE WE DRIFTING?

H. H. HYDE.

HIS thought should pervade the minds of bee-keepers at present more than at any time since beekeeping was an organized industry. This is the time when inventions are being made, and new (so-called) improvements are being made and introduced. This is so to a great extent with bee-keeping. This is so in regard to surplus arrangements for comb honey. When sections were first introduced, they were constructed to hold two pounds of The public knew of and expected nothing else but comb honey in two-pound sections. Gradually bee-keepers began to change to and advocate one-pound sections. In my opinion, bee-keepers never did anything more detrimental to their interests than this change from two to one-pound séctions, because it is an accepted fact that bees will produce more honey in two-pound than in one-pound sections, because the bees were cut up in just half as many divisions, and their force not being so much divided, worked to better advantage.

Now why did bee-keepers do this? They were not forced to. Verily, whither are we drifting?

Again, an effort is being made to use sections that hold even less than one pound, cutting up things worse than ever. Brother bee-keepers, let us sit down on this move. We have educated the public to believe that a section holds one pound, and

why change to a less weight? If we do, it will be to our disadvantage, for, first of all, it would cost to change our present arrangements, then to re-educate the people. Then, too, we will get fewer pounds of honey, and, consequently, less money, at a greater expense. Verily, our enemies are in our own ranks.

Again, manufacturers are pushing the cut-off top bar brood frame on the public. Why? To have something new; a change; something to sell; and, consequently, more money for them. The fact is, the cut-off top bar brood frame will never be a success, because the staples on the end bars will gradually by use get driven farther up, as a result the projections on the end bars will never be in contact with each other, and the beauty of the self-spacing frame is lost. sides, the bees will place a great ball of propolis on the staples, and this is always in the way of your fingers when you go to lift the frames.

Only one thing that has come out of late (and that was dropped) was promising good results. That was the eighteen-foot foundation. This was a step in the right direction, for thinner foundation would surely help produce a better article of comb honey. I hope to see this revived, and a general test made of it.

Now we have the plain section and fence separator before us. Shall we adopt this, or not? This is what is agitating the minds of bee-keepers. To be sure, this arrangement will give freer communication than the old style, yet I do not believe they will do away with pop-holes in sections of honey; yet more honey can be produced in them. But it costs to change.

This we must consider before mak-

ing the change.

I will now describe the super I expect to use the coming year: I will use sections open on all four sides, with holders to correspond, and slotted separators constructed as follows: An ordinary separator like those used in the dovetailed hive. Each separator will have sixteen slots in L division. Each slot will be 16 wide by 3 inches long, which will place the slots 3 inches apart in each division. Then between these divisions will be an upright slot, §x3, just opposite the edges of the open sides of sections. This arrangement will give free communication from the sections in one row to those in another, also from section to section in each row; also free communication diagonally opposite through the three upright slots. I claim this arrangement will give very much more communication than the plain section and fence separators, besides all the cost to change will be the cost of separators, for sections have to be bought anyway, and the old section holders are all right.

This arrangement can be adapted to the tall section as well. slotted separator is the joint invention of myself and Louis Scholl, of Hunter, Tex. I hope bee-keepers will consider this when they go to change arrangements, for I have no object other than the benefit of my fellow bee-keepers. If further information is desired, address me, and I will gladly give it. I failed to state above that the arrangement takes advantage of the Aspinwall super in the use of the oblong slots. Remember, I am not selling the above arrangement. If you use it, get it from some of the several factories.

Hutto, Tex.



. R. WOODWARD, of Quebec, and the editor of the American Bee Journal, (page 415,) are exploiting the plan of retailing extracted honey in paper bags. Bags can be had, it seems, that will hold liquid honey nicely in the store room of the apiary, and when the honey is candied solid, it can be sent to market thus. Quite likely there's something in it, (granting that the honey continues in it, that is), but the demand for candied honey will have to be improved some before much will go that way. The most advanced bag honey enthusiast will hardly claim that the ordinary customer can liquify honey in the bag."-July Bee-Keepers' Review, page 205.

It doesn't seem to me that paper bags are just the thing to retail honey in at the present time when there is so little demand for candied honey. Most of my customers prefer their extracted honey in the liquid state, and how could it be liquified in the paper bags? Some (not all) of them require it that way.

Some three or four winters ago, a grocery keeper ordered some extracted honey of me put up in quart pails holding three pounds when filled. (I can sell honey best in tin pails; have tried glass jars, etc.) The honey I put in the pails ordered was slightly granulated, but I thought it would do no harm, as on each pail is pasted an attractive label giving special directions to consumer to liquify the honey in pail, if candied too much. Some people either don't pay any attention to directions given, or don't wish to take the time required to liquify the honey—probably the latter. They seem to want it all ready to eat, and then have a good time eating it. Let the case be as it may, I filled the order as above stated, and in a few days the groceryman informed me that he guessed I would have to take the honey home and liquify it, as the customers objected to its being candied. I minded and done as bid. We must endeavor to please our customers if we wish to build up and maintain a honey market. To do so, some give away samples of their honey, following up later with honey to sell. Others employ other methods. But we must please our customers, no matter what Good honey and method is used. good treatment and fair prices must form the base of the whole matter. At least this is my experience.

Last winter I sold honey in pails, and it was pretty well candied, and there was no complaint. It would be much better for people to buy the candied honey, if they only thought so. Aye, there's the rub. There is another rub, and that is getting a good crop of honey and placing the same on the market in an attractive shape, be it extracted

or comb honey.

The pails I use hold, when filled, three pounds gross, and sold at wholesale lots of one dozen or more pails in a lot, and sold three or four years ago for 30 cents each, and retailed at 35 and 40 cents each. Last winter I sold the same sized pails for 27 cents each in wholesale lots. The label accompanying each pail bears my name and address. The pail has a bail, and can easily be carried.

There should be as much care used in disposing of a crop of honey as there is used in raising it, and we should not give it away after it is raised for the want of a little energy being used in its sale, on the part

of the bee-keeper.

The fall honey flow was ushered in with the bloom of white and red clover, smartweed, Spanish needle, golden-rod, etc. With it came the swarming fever. My first swarm of the season came off August 16, between 3 and 4 p. m.; a case of queen supersedure. My second swarm did better; was a prime swarm, and came off August 23, at 11 a. m.; gave each a full set of combs.

August 29.—Weather hot; hives very populous; swarming in order, and the nectar flows.

Chillicothe, Mo.

#### CONTRACTING THE BROOD NEST, ETC.

----

J. T. HAIRSTON.

THE September Progressive to hand, and read with interest. I wish to notice what Bro. Thorington had to say in regard to contraction on page 269, and offer some suggestions to help him and others out.

In contracting the brood nest, he should have replaced frames removed by dummies. Never leave the space open between the division board and side of hive, or the bees will occupy it. They generally do this before entering the sections. I made the mistake Bro. Thorington made, and condemned the whole business.

My plan is to hive the swarm on half-inch starter frames, wired, and when the bees begin work, I remove three frames, (I use the eight-frame hive), and fill the space with dummies, and put on the sections. Use all unfinished sections left over, if they are clean, and if there is any honey coming in, you will get it. A queen excluder should be placed on the hive until the queen begins to use the brood nest; otherwise, she will occupy the sections. The

advantages of this method are, all worker comb, more white honey in sections, and a great saving of foundation.

Another mistake of Bro. Thorington was in not looking after the colony. The bees did their best, filled all available space. more could he have expected under the circumstances? He should have given them another super when the one was two-thirds full. This super filled with sections filled with extra thin foundation, and repeated this as often as necessary, and when the flow from white clover was over, the dummies should be removed and combs alternated with frames filled with foundation, and the bees will generally fill these by the time the fall flow comes.

I clip my queens, and am not afraid of them absconding. I hive my swarms on the old stand, and depend on them for the honey.

Before closing this, I wish to warn anyone who may try this method not to give the bees a frame of brood, as that will cause the bees to get ahead of the queen and build drone comb; and the hive should be levelled from side to side. Don't depend on your eye, but use a level, as guess-work here won't do.

My bees have increased from 34 to 80 colonies this year, and have done fairly well gathering honey. I have not taken it all off yet. Will send in my report later.

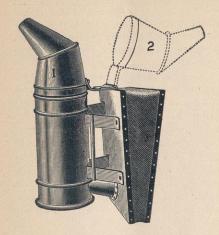
Salina, I. T.

[We shall look for your report, Friend Hairston, We are always glad to have items of interest from our friends.—Ed].

### Kor Kale.

Bee Apiary, 150 hives with modern appliances and good range, on easy terms. in good climate for weak lungs. Apply to

B. C. WANDELL, Las Cruces, N. M.



THE "HIGGINSVILLE SMOKER."

THE HIGGIN-SVILLE SMOKER A DANDY.

THE HIGGINSVILLE SMOKER A DANDY.

The "Higginsville" Smoker is a Dandy with a big D."

J. M. MOORE, Holden, Mo.

Price 75c; by mail, \$1.00. Address,

LEAHY MFG. CO., Higginsville, Mo.

#### ARRANGEMENT OF HIVES.

Objections to the Hexagonal Plan.—Advantages of Proper Grouping.

J. E. CRANE.

Where order in variety we see.

And where, though all things differ, all agree.

—Pope.

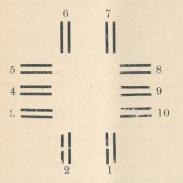
JUDGING from the many illustrations of apiaries in our bee journals, there seems to be about as many ways of arranging the hives as there are persons to do it. Some are arranged in two or three long rows, while others are very compact. Others are without order or system of any kind. Of course the location and surroundings make some difference; as a steep side-hill, or a cramped enclosure, or perhaps an immense boulder in the middle of the yard, are "circumstances that alter cases."

If possible, a yard should be out of the wind. One who has not had experience will find it hard to realize how much damage a strong draft of air through a yard of bees will do. I have, in one or two instances, had almost every colony die, during the winter and spring, on one side or end of the yard where there was a strong draft of air. In one such yard, where once I lost heavily, I last winter wintered nearly 100 colonies without the loss of a single colony; and, with the exception of two or three, every colony was in good condition in the spring; and these exceptions came on and made good stocks a little later; but the wind is now hedged off by an arbor vitæ hedge across an end and part of one side; while the other side is enclosed by a high picket fence.

I know of no way to arrange an apiary that looks better on paper, than the hexagonal plan recommended by A. I. Root; especially when each hive is shaded by a neatlytrimmed grape vine; but, unfortunately, grape vines will not grow in every place as they do in Medina; and, even if they did, we have little time to care for them in out-apiaries. Some twenty years ago I started a yard on the hexagonal plan, without the vines, only to find the next spring the central part of the yard greatly weakened from bees missing their own hives, or mistaking another for their own. There was also a large loss of queens. My hives were all one color, which, doubtless, made the matter worse.

After various trials, I have found nothing so satisfactory as placing hives in groups of ten. If you can have a tree planted in the center of each group, and each group painted a different color, so much the better. A basswood tree grows qiuckly and looks well, and I have one

planted in most of the groups of one yard. This is the way I would make a group:



Two hives facing the north, three facing the east, two the south, and three the west. Now, if we have three groups in a row, and three rows, we shall have ninety hives in a very compact body, and yet so arranged that we can have ample passage ways between the groups, and the bees can with little difficulty recognize their own group, and then their own hive.

Reference has been made in some of our bee journals within the last vear or two to the numbering of hives. While a few hives may be run successfully without numbers, I scarcely see how several large apiaries can be run without serious loss, unless one person is constantly on hand at each yard to watch them, or else they are so located that each number or hive can be quickly located and remembered. This system of grouping, if we let each group be numbered the same, greatly simplifies the matter; for, if we let the two hives facing the north represent 1 and 2, and those facing the east 3, 4, and 5, those south 6 and 7, while those facing the west 8, 9, and 10, we shall know just where to find these hives. Now if the first group in the first row take the first ten, the second group the second ten, or up to 20, the third group will take the twenties, and the first of the second row the thirties, and so on to the end, you will see we can go to any particular hive or number in the darkest night without the slightest difficulty. While I can readily remember the condition of many hives from their location, I like to go by numbers; for there are many things I want to note down; especially is this true when I have several hundred hives, and take care of all of them myself, with perhaps one man to assist me.

What I use for a record book, and how I keep my records, will be told in another paper.—Bee-Keep-

ers' Review.

Middlebury, Vermont.

# WAYSIDE FRAGMENTS. Somnambulist.

IT will not require the aid of the oldest inhabitant to recall certain predictions of W. Z. Hutchinson, in the Review, to the amount that no great improvements in beekeeping in the near future need be expected. Yet the undaunted swerve neither to the right or to the left, nor take cognizance of gloomy forecasts, or if, perchance, a furtive glance is cast in their direction, the knowledge of their mere existence seems to lend nerve and to urge on to yet greater achievements, even unto outdoing Dame Nature herself.

The Americans on one side the great salt pond, and the French on the other, are seeking to bridge over that which has been hitherto considered an impassable gulf. American bee-keepers have for some time been trying to improve on the present make-up of the bee by special breeding having for its object

elongation of the tongue, in order that red clover, as well as many other blossoms, may be utilized in

the production of honey.

The French, on the other hand, hope to produce a variety of clover having shorter flower tubes. is there to say they each may meet the other half way? Where is the bee-keeper who has failed to notice that in drouthy seasons the red clover heads are correspondingly short, and the bees, never letting an opportunity pass by without grasping it by the hand, pay untiring attention to the same, and the surplus honey at once takes on a higher color, and the odor of the extracting room quite forcibly proclaims, "red clover, red clover." Oh, that the hopes of the most sanguine may be speedily realized and the necessary conditions be brought about, (in which way we shall not be overparticular), that red clover may the more frequently greet us at the honey house doors.

A great deal is now being said in regard to cultivating the home market. Don't get too enthusiastic along this line, or you may fall into the Slough of Despond, as I have done. I have enjoyed myself very highly the last two years riding this hobby, but all things have an end, and (would you believe it?) there's danger of over-cultivation. quite another thing when there's no honey produced. Things seem slightly reversed; and just now the home market is cultivating Sommy. Calls for honey, by day and night, from here, there and everywhere, and the home market cannot get its eyes open to the fact that the home honey crop is a dead failure. Mankind, it is claimed, is naturally perverse, and I am beginning to believe it; for, formerly, did not all the discomforts and discouragements attendant upon the business of "cultivating the home market" loom up like distant continuous chains of mountains, forming almost impassable barriers to success? And how many times I grew faint by the way-side, and fell to considering how hard the lines into which I had fallen. Ah, that condition was Paradise compared to the present. Alas! oftentimes we learn, too late, when we are really well off.

Among the correspondents of the bee journals one finds a good deal of tit for tat on facing honey. While we cannot be too scrupulous about having the different sections which constitute a case of honey, of equal merit, there are but few of us can refrain from putting the most beautiful to the front. 'Tis simply human nature that, in displaying any of our belongings, either to a prospective buyer or the every-day family visitor, to bring out in bold relief the best we have. The people are few and far between who are anxious to bring defects into the glare of the searchlight, unless, indeed, it be those of an enemy.

Each few years there arises a fad in favor of the antique. If antiquity can add to the value of anything, then facing can claim value, for has it not been practiced since the memory of man? Where is the business house or family residence whose front and rear are of equal elegance? Like most things, facing has its use and abuse. While it is an art to face without humbugging or cheating, it is not an unattainable art. If we only will, we may almost daily see this fact. On two different occasions, which I will cite, the practical workings of facing were most forcibly demonstrated.

One year we had several thousand pounds of firstclass white clover honey all ready for casing. A man and woman did the casing. Practically there was but little difference

in the sections, as it had been carefully culled in the cleaning process, and an ordinary observer would have discovered no defects. the work of crating progressed, the conscientious man that he was would repeatedly caution the woman to make no selections for the facing, as he was so desirous that the honey should be exactly the same all through. There were some sections slightly bulged, and of course they demanded more care in crating. The little woman was to accompany the shipment to the city, and as we had already gone through the ordeal of having the sections drawn out separately and defaced and damaged as much as careless, unskilled handling could, she naturally felt a little nervous, as well as anxious, that should it meet with such treatment, her crating should not be held in the least responsible. Without, the knowledge of any but herself, she put her private mark on all that she herself crated. Imagine the surprise on all sides, as well as the elation and chagrin in certain respective quarters, when that commission man divided the ONE consignment into two lots, one of which sold for sixteen cents per pound, and the other for but four-There, you've guessed it, havn't you? and 'tis quite useless to add that the sixteen cents per pound lot wore a private mark, and also that the poor mistreated fourteen cents per pound had our most sincere sympathy on account of its misfortune, but that sympathy was hardly equivalent to 121 per cent.

Again, in marketing peaches, for some time I noticed a certain producer could always get 15 to 20 cents more on the basket than we could command, when, of a truth, the difference in the fruit, if any, was the other way. After close watching, I made the discovery

that 'twas alone in the packing. After learning my little lesson, for which I paid well, the difference in price, if any, most frequently went in my favor. On the other hand, I had a personal friend who had for years been building up a stable reputation, as regards the boxes of berries which bore his name and stamp, who met with ignoble defeat at the hands of one picker who persisted in doing things her way.

I repeat, honest facing is not an impossibility.

Naptown, Dreamland.



I am now ready to receive orders for May delivery, 1898. Full colonies of three-banded Italian bees in 8-frame dovetailed hives, \$5. Strong three-frame nucleus, with tested queen, \$2.75. Untested Italian queens, each, 75c; per doz., \$7.00. Tested Italian queens, each, \$1.00; per doz., \$10,00. Best breeding queens, each, \$2.00, \$2.50.

I know what good queens mean to the producer, as well as how to rear them. Safe delivery and satisfaction guaranteed. No dis-

Box 103.

GRAYVILLE, ILLS.

#### HONEY JARS.

A good small package for retailing honey in is the square honey jar shown in the cuts. They are the cheapest and most popular small package we know of. We handle the Pouder Jar, which is made in three sizes, and packed 100 in a package. The prices are as follows:

5 oz jar. 25c for 10; \$2.00 per 100; weight 30 lbs 8-oz '' 30c for 10; 2.60 per 100; '' 45 lbs 1-lb '' 40c for 10; 3.40 per 100; '' 75 lbs

Corks always included. Neck labels for these jars 25c per hundred; 500 75c.

LEAHY MFG Co., Higginsville, Mo

## **SOUR LETTER BOX.**

#### Bee Culture in Tennessee.

Have you any room in the October "Progressive" for me to say a few words concerning bee culture in this locality? From 13 hives I got 696 pounds, spring count. Our bees get all their honey from wild flowers, as there is no pasturage here. It is a mountain-ous country. Some of the readers perhaps would like to know the names of our honeyproducing flowers and their seasons. When spring opens, the first thing that affords necspring opens, the first thing that affords nectar is fruit trees, commencing about the 25th of March and lasting until April 20th. April 25th, poplar. black gum and persimmon commence, which are very rich and lasty. Then about the 5th of June, sourwood, chestnut and basswood, lasting till about August 5th. Today (Sept. 19th) the fall bloom sets in. Our best fall bloom is stickweed, It lasts till Mr. Frost comes. I have 29 colonies, all in 8-frame hives, and in good condition. For fear of the waste basket I will close, with love to the "Progressive" and its many readers.

H. M. Silver, Mug. Tenn.

[Come again, Friend Silver. We are always glad to hear from our friends. -Ed].

#### Love and Good Will.

Allow me to express my appreciation of the "Progressive," and your untiring efforts in making it the clean, bright, and ever welcome visitor that it is. I am a natural lover of bees, birds, fruits and flowers, and all that pertains to nature and her Creator, and to say that I appreciate the style and sentiment of the "Progressive," does not express enough. Aside from the natural tendency to associate with those of like tastes, and engaged in or in with those of like tastes, and engaged in or in sympathy with the same pursuits in life, I sympathy with the same pursuits in life. I feel that there is a stronger tie than mere appreciation, that links Christian hearts together—love and good will. I am about ready to spend a few weeks in search of a better location than my present one. I shall attempt to convert my brother, who accompanies me on the trip, into a bee-keeper. This may not be very easily done, but I will turn the battery loose on him by degrees until he can stand the full charge. By the way, Bro. Leahy, I met a man the other day who told me lots of good things, and none of the other kind, about you. If I find anything of interest, may write.

MARK E. DARBY, Urbana, Mo.

[By all means, Friend D., let us hear from you after you take that trip. I know from the way you write that you will see many things of interest. This world has many beautiful things before the eyes of those who can see.-Ed].

#### A Fine Queen.

Please find enclosed draft for \$3.75, for one-Please and enclosed draft for \$5.75, for one-half dozen Italian, 5-banded queens. If you can send me one extra fine queen, please do so, if this order will justify you, and mark it extra. I got one of the best queens from you last May, 1897, and put her with a young swarm without any foundation, and they filed the company of the state of the ed 8 Hoffman frames and 24-section box. It was no honey year. I had 2 hives of black bees that just made enough to keep them Last night my Italians had the lower part of

the hive and the 24-section box full, while my black bees havn't filled a section box yet Yours truly, C. S. RING, Lockwood, Mo.

#### First-Class Goods.

The goods came to hand all O. K., and in ood condition. They are first-class in every good condition. They are first-class in every respect, and are giving entire satisfaction. have a Cowan honey extractor, of your make, purchased from one of your branch houses. It is a daisy, and a rapid worker, but I would suggest that the honey gate be put on in a more rigid manner Yours respectfully.

F. X. Arnold, Plainfield, Ills.

#### 400 404 Not Skim Milk.

Your favor of the 9th I have received, also the queens. Thanks for your prompt attention. I am much pleased with the "Progressive." It is like the "Farm Journal"—cream, not skim milk, like some of the others.

NIELS CHRISTIAN, Castle Dale, Utah.

#### "A Dandy."

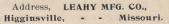
I have received your No. 1 dovetailed hive some time ago it is a dandy, and the best hive made for such a little money. Please send the accompanying order at once.

Respectfully.

Pete Wehmeyer, Herman, Mo.

#### The Amateur Bee-& Keeper.

SEND 25 cents, and get a copy of the Amateur Bee-Keeper, a book especially for beginners, by Prof. J. W. Rouse. By mail, 28c.



#### DAY-DREAMS OF YOUTH.

What would be cheerful just to ponder over? A gliding day, when the small spider draws his
Untwisted strands in careless, perfect gauzes,
And asks not yet the breeze to be his drover,
Among the bees, to fill out well the pauses

That one would make in humming for slight causes, And for a couch, a field of luscious clover;

And for a couch, a head of ruscious clover,

(And youth, youth, forever, ever, ever!)

And thro the sprouting spray the sunlight sifted.

And to the breezy blue the sight uplifted

Where merry clouds in sport do meet and sever;

And in the mind far flights without endeavor,

To those fair shores where all alike are gifted

With all the freights on all the seas that drifted,

And forther age comes never, never, never).

(And frosty age comes never, never, never).

What would be glorious, just to flout annoyance?
A pleasant task, which every thought sincerely
Attends to make it grow and prosper yearly,
For recreation, too, by its own bouyance;
And for an impulse, that far sweet clairvoyance,
That comes by use, to see it widening clearly
With such pure gain that all must love it dearly,
And for delight, of busy life the jovarce; And for delight, of busy life the joyance;

(And eyes like eager stars, in deeps that twinkle!)
And perfume from the days as flowers exhaling,
And on the summer seas an endless sailing [k] Among bright isles which their blue calms o'ersprin-And in the soul those elfin tunes that tinkle

When peace and joy high wisdom are regaling, Against the worldly crowd's harsh cries prevailing. (And fair the cheeks, and brows without a wrinkle).

-F. L. THOMPSON. Montrose, Colo.

# EDITORIAL.

#### THE - PROGRESSIVE - BEE-KEEPER.

A journal devoted to Bees, Honey and Kindred Industries.

TERMS: Fifty cents per year, in advance.

R. B. LEAHY, G. M. DOOLITTLE, - - - Editors

OWING to the prevalence of fall rains and continuous warm weather, vegetation has a strong growth and the fall bloom is immense. Bees will go into winter quarters with plenty of stores, and of a good quality. All this bespeaks for successful wintering of the hees in this locality, and points to a good crop for 1899.

WE have just received the following letter from our old friend, J. W. Rouse:

"Please say to the readers of the PROGRESS-IVE that I have quite a lot of the "Farmers' Bulletin." No 59, pertaining to bee-keeping, that are quite instructive and will give considerable information to beginners in bee-keeping. I will be pleased to mail a copy to all who will send me their address.

J. W. ROUSE, Mexico, Mo."

These bee bulletins are prepared by Mr. Frank Benton, assistant entomologist, Washington, D. C.

+0+ +0+

THE following officers were elected at the United States Bee-Keepers' Union convention at Omaha, Neb.: President, Hon. E. Whitcomb, Friend, Neb.; Vice-President, C. A. Hatch, Ithaca, Wis.; Secretary, Dr. A. B. Mason, Toledo, O. Bros. Rouse and Miller attended the meeting, and report a pleasant time. Bro. York, of the American Bee Journal, says in the last issue:

"The Omaha meeting was one of the very best and most harmonious ever held by the national organization of bee-keepers. We expect to begin the publication of the full report of the proceedings in the first number of the American Bee Journal for October. In the meantime, prepare for a rich treat."

It is quite probable that the next

meeting of this organization will be held in Philadelphia, Pa.

ON account of the almost continuous rainy weather we have been having, we have been delayed considerably with our new building. We are glad to announce now, however, that we are putting on the roof. On the first of October we shut down our factory for repairs, having run continuously for 11 months, having lost but one day since the 1st of last November. In that 11 months we have made over 14 months, counting 10 hours a day, having run 22 hours a day for nearly 6 months: yet when we shut down, we were one week behind on orders.

IN a recent letter from Mr. E. T. Flanagan, of Belleville, Ills., he has this to say of the "fence" separator:

"I do not like the "fence" separator, but you supply dealers have to get up something to fool the dear public with every year, and it might as well be that as anything else."

The above coming from a bee-keeper who operates more than a thousand colonies of bees should have some weight. I have never advocated changing from our present system to "fence" separators and plain sections. Plain sections were used and discarded by many more than 18 years ago, and some of the first separators I remember having used in the 80's had bee passages through them. I do not think separators were made solid because there was a demand for them that way, but because they could be furnished cheaper without perforations than with: hence closed or solid separators became standard. It is more than likely that perforated separators will give better filled sections than would solid separators. If this should prove to be a fact, then why not go back to the good old perforated separator we used to use. which can be sold from 30 to 50 cents a hundred, instead of catering to certain supply dealers' pocket-books by buying their glued-up clap-traps?



## Ho, for Omaha!

As we have many customers in the northwest, and believing they will appreciate the low freight rates obtained by purchasing goods from a railroad center nearer to them than we are, getting a direct through freight rate, thus cutting the freight in half, we have established a branch house at 1730 South 13th St., Omahra, Neb., where we will keep a complete line of all Aplarian Supplies, the same as we do at Higghnsville, Mo. With the quality of our goods, we believe most beereters in the west are already acquired but to those who

ville, Mo. With the quality of our goods, we believe most beekeepers in the west are already acquainted, but to those who are not, we will say that our goods are par excellent. Polished, "snowy-white sections beautiful, straw-colored, transparent foundation, improved smokers and hone extractors, and all other first-class goods, are what we sell. Kind and courteous treatment and honorable dealing, our motto. On these bases, we solicit an order, feeling sure that if we sell you one bill of goods you will be our customer in the future.

\*\*Progressive Bee Keeper, 50c per year. "Amateur Bee-Keeper," 25c. Both for 65c, postpaid. Sample copy of the Progressive free, and a beautiful catalogue for the asking.

\*Address, Leahy Manufacturing Company, Higginsville, Mo., or 1730 South 13th St. Omaha, Neb.

I have used Ripans Tabules with so much satisfaction that I can cheerfully recommend them. Have been troubled for about three years with what I called bilious attacks coming on regularly once a week. Was told by different physicians that it was caused by bad teeth, of which I had several. I had the teem extracted, but the attacks continued. I had seen advertisements of Ripans Tabules in all the papers but had no faith in them, but about six weeks since a friend in-duced me to try them. Have taken but two of the small 5-cent boxes of the Tabules and have had no recurrence of the attacks. Have never given a testimonial for anything before, but the great amount of good which I believe has been done me by Ripans Tabules induces me to add mine to the many testimoniais you doubtless have in your A. T. DEWITT. possession now.

I have oeen a great sufferer from constipation for over five years. Nothing gave me any relief. My feet and legs and abdomen were bloated so I could not wear shoes on my feet and only a loose dress. I saw Ripans Tabules advertised in our daily paper, bought some and took them as directed. Have taken them about three weeks and there is such a change! I am not constipated any more and I owe it all to Ripans Tabules. I am thirtyseven years old, have no occupation, only my household duties and nursing my sick husband. He has had the dropsy and I am trying Ripans Tabules for him. He feels some better but it will take some time, he has been sick so long. You may use my letter and name as you like.

Mrs. MARY GORMAN CLARKE.

I have been suffering from headaches ever since I was a little girl. I could never ride in a

car or go into a crowded headache and sick at my

place without getting a stomach. I heard about Ripans Tabules from an aunt of mine who was taking them for catarrh of the stomach. She had found such relief from their use sheadvised me to take them too, and I have been doing so since last October, and will say they have completely cured my headaches. I am twenty-nine years old. You are welcome to use this testimonial.

Mrs. J. BROOKMYRE.

I want to inform you, in words of highest praise, of the benefit I have derived from Ripans Tabules, I am a professional nurse and in this profession a clear head is always needed. Ripans Tabules does it. After one of my cases I found myself completely run down. Acting on the advice of Mr. Geo. Bower, Ph. G., 588 Newark Ave., Jersey City, I took Ripans Tabules with grand results.

Miss Bessie Wiedman.

Mother was troubled with heartburn and sleeplessness, caused by indigestion, for a good many years. One day many years. One day in the paper indorsing Ripans Tabules. She determined to give them a trial, was greatly relieved by their use and now takes the

Tabules regularly. She keeps a few cartons Ripans Tabules in the house and says she will not be without them. The heartburn and sleeplessness have disappeared with the indigestion which was formerly so great a burden for her. Our whole family take the Tabules regularly, especially after a hearty meal. My mother is fifty years of age and is enjoying the best of health and spirits; also eats hearty meals, an impossibility before she took Ripans Tabules.

Anton H. Blauken.

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My seven-year-old boy suffered with pains in his head, constipation and complained of his stomach. He could not eat like children of his age do and what he with him. He was thin and of a saffron color.

Reading some of the testimonials in favor of Ripans Tabules, I tried them. Ripans Tabules not only relieved but actually cured my youngster, the headaches have disappeared, bowels are in good condition and he never complains of his stomach. He is now a red, chubby-faced boy. This wonderful change I attribute to Ripans Tabules. I am satisfied that they will benefit any one (from the cradic to old age) if taken according to directions.

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A new style packet containing TEN RIPANS TABULES packed in a paper carton (without glass) is now for sale at some drug stores-For five cents. This low-priced sort is intended for the poor and the economical. One dozen of the five-cent cartons (120 tabules) can be had by mail by sending forty-eight cents to the RIPANS CHEMICAL COMPANY, No. 10 Spruce Street, New York-or a single carton (TEN TABULES) will be sent for five centa-RIPANS TABULES may also be had of some grocers, general storekeepers, news agents and at some liquor stores and barber shops. They banish pain, induce sleep and prolong life. One gives relief.

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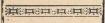
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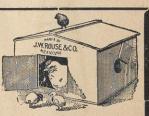
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