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## **The White Mountain apiarist : the circle at home and the honey bee. March 1892**

Groveton, N.H.: Aked D. Ellingwood, March 1892

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MARCH,

1892.



PUBLISHED MONTHLY

AT

50 CENTS PER YEAR,

By A. D. Ellingwood,

Groveton, N. H.



## THE BEE-KEEPERS' REVIEW

IS { Progressive and Practical;  
 Fearless and Truthful;  
 Unbiased and Independent;  
 Enterprising and Illustrate;

And filled with IDEAS from cover to cover.  
 Send 10 cents for three back numbers and see if  
 this is not a truthful advertisement; or, better  
 still, send \$1.00 and receive the REVIEW one year.  
 W. Z. HUTCHINSON, Editor, Mich.

## GREAT CRASH IN PRICES.

### From 10 to 25 per cent discount

from former prices. My forty page catalogue for 1892 gives reasons.

I offer  
 a new style  
 chaff hive at one  
 half cost of other styles  
 and just as good. This hive  
 can be taken apart almost instantly  
 and packed up in small  
 space. It can be used  
 on any hive.  
 Don't fail to get my 32nd annual price  
 list. I mean  
 business and am bound to sell as  
 good as the  
 best and at equally low prices.

## Fifty Colonies

Italian bees, Nucleus colonies and  
 Queens for  
 sale in their season at very low prices.

Address,

WM. W. CARY,  
 Coleraine, Mass.

Please mention the *Apiarist*.

## THE PROGRESSIVE Bee-Keeper.

(Formerly the Missouri Bee-Keeper.)  
 A Monthly Journal for wide awake  
 Bee-Keepers.

16 pages and cover. 50¢ per year.  
 Sample copy free.

We breed

## Golden Honey Queens.

They are a fine strain of honey gatherers, warranted purely mated.

Price \$1.00 each. Six for \$5.00.

Address,

The Progressive Bee-Keeper,  
 Unionville, Mo.

The object of the manufacturers of Dobbins' Electric Soap has been, ever since 1869, to make it of such superior quality that it will give UNIVERSAL SATISFACTION. Have they succeeded? Millions of unsolicited letters from women all over the country, and foreign countries, giving it unqualified praise, as the "very best, very purest, and most economical soap ever used" by the writers, give an affirmative answer to the above question. If you cannot accept the experience of millions who use it, after the twenty-three years it has been on the market, one trial will convince you.

## IMPORT-ANT.

For washing flannels there is absolutely no other soap that compares at all with Dobbins' Electric. All other soaps shrink and turn yellow all woolen goods like flannels and blankets. If you use Dobbins' Electric Soap, and no other, and follow directions, your flannels will always remain as white and as soft as when new.

I. L. CRAGIN & CO.,  
 Philadelphia



## Exchanges

Wanted to exchange advertising space in the  
APIARIST for supplies or bees.

A. D. Ellingwood,  
Groveton, N. H.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE. 15 Chau-  
tauqua hives with thick top bars and tin roofs two  
story, painted white, and as good as new, made  
by W. T. Falconer, Jamestown, N. Y. Will  
take a few colonies of black bees in box hives as  
part pay, also want a copy of Mysteries of Bee-  
keeping Explained. Quimby's first edition pub-  
lished.

F. H. Towne, Montpelier, Vt.

## White Mountain Apiarist.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

ALFRED D. ELLINGWOOD,  
AT FIFTY CENTS A YEAR.  
GROVETON, N. H.

ADVERTISING RATES are 10 cents per line  
for one insertion; for two or more insertions  
the rates will be as follows: 1 inch, 75 cents;  
2 inches, \$1.25; one half column, \$2.00;  
one column, \$3.50; one page, \$6.00.

## Editorials.

Happy and content is a home with "The Ro-  
chester," a lamp with the light of the morning.  
*For catalogue, write Rochester Lamp Co. New York.*

WE SHALL GIVE the Blacks,  
Italians and Carniolans, a trial this  
season.

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE,  
should be the bee-keeper's motto.  
It's a pretty good idea to take things  
as they come, and make the most of  
everything.

PLUCK AND PATIENCE, are good  
material out of which to make bee-  
keepers.

## APIARIST ADVERTISERS.

We want the readers of the APIARIST  
to carefully read our advertising  
columns. We are going to make an  
effort to bring the advertisers of the  
APIARIST more prominently before  
the consumer. The supply dealer is  
our friend and he is your friend. We  
depend on him for our advertising  
patronage and you depend on him for  
your supplies, etc. We have been  
very careful to admit only responsible  
dealers to our advertising columns  
and feel sure that no one need fear to  
send their money to any one repre-  
sented in the APIARIST.

We feel rather proud of our list of  
advertisers. It's a pretty good array  
for a new journal, and we feel greatly  
encouraged as we glance at it. We  
have been thinking for some time of  
running the reading matter into the  
advertising columns; that is, scatter  
the advertising matter around through  
the journal more. It looks too stiff as  
it is now. Advertisements are good  
reading matter and we want the people  
to read them. One thing more, when-  
ever you write to one of our advertisers  
say that you saw the advertisement  
in the White Mountain Apiarist.

Gorham, N. H. April 18, '92.

A. D. Ellingwood,

Dear Sir:—will you kindly  
tell me through the "White Mountain  
Apiarist", the best mode for feeding  
bees in the spring, also the proper food  
and mixing same. Will bees with  
very little honey (April 15,) be able to  
get a good supply and be able to breed  
rapidly and swarm early?

I remain Yours truly,

Francis C. Wood.

We feed our bees as follows: Take  
about a cup of water to every pound  
of sugar, place it on the stove and let  
it remain until clear or free from all



foggy appearance; then add a little paregoric, and remove from the stove. Do not feed until cold. Feed just at night in simplicity feeders placed on top of the brood frames. Feeding at night will prevent robbing.

Bees with only a little honey April 15th, should be fed quite an amount of syrup. The feeding stimulates them and they will give much better results. It would pay to feed ten or fifteen pounds of sugar to each colony. Bees should be very strong by the middle of May, else they will give very little surplus honey.

[Ed.]

We want to call your attention again to the NEWS COLUMN in the Apiarist. Who does not like a little harmless newsy gossip of this kind? We like to know something about our bee-keeping brothers even though they may be hundreds of miles away from us. Now we want to make the news column of the Apiarist a medium through which the bee-keepers of the U. S. may be brought closer to each other; we want you to get a glimpse into each others homes, daily business and private lives, and for this reason we invite every reader of the Apiarist to contribute something to the news column. You will probably ask what shall I write? What do you want? Well, if you know any news about any of your bee-keeping neighbors, such as marriages, deaths, births, change of location, or anything else, take a postal card and write us the facts, this also applies to yourself. Don't be afraid to write anything that you think may be of interest. We are sometimes a little modest about it, but I think we really like to see our names in print, and especially do we like to read short spiey news items about our neighbors.

I want every reader of the Apiarist

to feel that the journal is your property, that you have an interest in it. I think in a short time you will have no cause to feel ashamed of it, and trust that in the years to come you will find it pretty well up on the ladder of success.

#### BEES WINTERED WELL.

Friend Ellingwood—

My bees have got through the winter in good shape with I should think about 20lbs or more honey still in each hive. Two colonies seem to be building up very fast (hybrids) but I was surprised at the scarcity of bees in the hive of blacks which I transferred yesterday to the simplicity hive getting 6 frames from the old one that I made fit with a little carpenter work. The thermometer was up in the sixties and bright sunshine, a splendid chance for such work. I found the black queen and picked her off the comb and placed her in the new hive without harm. I did not notice one bee try to sting and did not kill a dozen although had to cut some comb to loosen from old hive. As it was soon after dinner that I undertook the job I suppose a great many of the bees were out after pollen etc, but still taking that into account, also the two or three patches of sealed brood, I do not feel that they are quite forward enough judging from other hives. If they do not get strong soon I shall put in a couple of frames of brood from the other hives. That Hybrid queen I got of you a year ago last fall is a great worker and her bees act crazy as they rush headlong after water. Cherry and crab apple trees have burst buds, soft maple is in bloom and everything looks like a good season in this part of the country.

Respectfully, A. A. Briggs



**1.50 FOR ONLY 50c.**

"How to Manage Bees," by W. S. Vandruff, is a book of over 200 pages, and is an exhaustive treatise on the honey bee. The price is \$1.00, but we are going to give a copy free to any one sending us fifty cents to pay for a year's subscription to the *Apiarist*.

Take advantage of this offer now.

A. D. Ellingwood, Groveton, N. H.

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**News Column.**


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This column will in the future be devoted to news, gossip, etc. We especially invite all our friends to help make this one of the most interesting departments of the *Apiarist*.

WM. H. BRIGHT, of Mazeppa, Minn. has just filled his factory with the latest improved machinery for the manufacture of Apiarian supplies.

MR. T. J. OTTERSON, of Suncook, N. H. has just returned from a winters sojourn in Florida.

LEONEL BROKAW, Summer Hill, Ill; has sold his entire Apiary to MATTIE BROKAW.

W. M. BARNUM, of Belmont, N. Y. publisher of the Belmont Weekly Dispatch, keeps quite a number of colonies of Bees, and is an interesting writer on bee topics.

EDITOR NEWMAN of the American Bee Journal, is having a much needed vacation. He is in rather poor health.

DR. J. W. VANCE of Madison, Wis., apiarian editor of the Wisconsin Farmer, has recently been on a tour through Indiana, Ohio and Washington, D. C., he was accompanied by Mrs. Vance.

THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL seems to be flourishing under its new management.

LEALY M'F'G CO., Higginsville, Mo., has 500 colonies of bees devoted to rearing.

E. B. WHIPPLE, a bee-keeper at Hillsboro, N. H., has spent the past winter in Florida.

S. F. FISH & Co., Chicago, send us the following honey quotations:

Fancy comb honey selling at 16¢, choice, 14 to 15¢, other grades 10 to 13¢. Extracted scarce, good demand at 7 and 7½¢. Beeswax active at 28¢.

HENRY ALLEY, of Wenham, Mass., will rear the Italian, Golden Carniolan and Punic Queens this season.

W. H. HODGSON, of Hudson, Que., has been on the sick list for some time.

BRO. W. J. HUTCHINSON's new type-writer makes his communications just a wee bit easier to read. Hope it will live to a good old age. We were never bothered very much in reading the Review, who could be? so clean and well arranged.

W. W. CARY, Colerain, Mass., sends us his 32nd annual price list. It has about 50 pages and is a tasty affair.

THERE ARE NOT so many new supply dealers in the field this season yet business seems to be very good and the outlook for a good year is favorable.

LEVERING BROS. Wiota, Iowa, in a recent letter say, "The Feb. number of the *Apiarist* at hand and is a very neat and tidy little journal."

JULIUS HOFFMAN, Canajoharie, N. Y., keeps over 650 colonies of bees.

A LARGE NUMBER are taking advantage of our offer to give one of Vandruff's books, "How to Manage Bees" for every yearly subscription to the *APIARIST*. This offer is well worth your attention, the *APIARIST* is alone worth the 50 cents but a book free is quite an attraction.



WE HAVE JUST FINISHED the report of the proceedings of the Seventeenth Annual Convention, of the Vermont Bee-keepers' Association.

It is sixteen pages, and is an attractive report. Much credit is due Mr. H. W. Scott, for his efforts in getting up so nice a report. For copies address H. W. Scott, Barre, Vermont.

F. H. DUNN, Yorkville, Ill., send us their 1892 catalogue. It has twenty pages, is nicely printed, and the contents show Mr. Dunn to be a business man.

FOR PUSH and persistency in advertising, the Editor of the Review, stands at the head. Who has not seen the short, pointed advertisements of the Review?

A. E. MANUM, Bristol, Vt., breeds leather colored Queens, that is right, get them as near black as possible. If Mr. Manum would spend as much time with the Black Bees as with his leather colored Italians the bee-keeping world would receive a surprise.

J. A. GREEN says the Porter Bee Escape does not tear the queens wings.

H. B. GEER, of Nashville, Tenn. has published a new Poultry Book entitled The Chicken Business, and How to Make it Pay.

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### Hints for April.

BY ASSISTANT.

Time passes swiftly along. Another spring is here. The bees again need our attention. April, the most trying month of the year for the bees, and the apiarist, is here. If your bees are not already out, select with care the day to put them out. Be careful that it is not windy. Examine each stock, clean out all dead bees and filth, contract if necessary, work quick but do not kill

any bees. Be sure you know the nest of each and every swarm, as you will not need to open them again until settled weather. If you cannot remember, make a record. Be sure and provide plenty of honey or feed. Honey is very much the best for spring feed. If you have to feed, feed thin syrup. The object is to promote brood-rearing, and if the feed is thick, the bees will have to get water to reduce it with. Pack them well, and let them alone inside, but keep a close watch outside.

This is the month to be sure your hives and sections are all ready for the foundation. The foundation will work better and less danger of destruction, if put in next month. It is brittle and needs a warm temperature to work well. I don't believe in the best hive, and best this and that appliance. Your success or failure depends on *you* and your *location*. If you wish to succeed, *study* and *work*.

Barre, Vt.

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### German or Black Bees.

BY H. C. FARNUM.

Friends, after some years of experience with bees, and consulting many prominent and well-to-do bee-keepers of New York and Pennsylvania, I am obliged to come out and help Bro. Ellingwood in his defence of the German or Black bees. Why? Because they certainly are more profitable to the inexperienced bee-keeper than the Italians, for the simple reason, they will store more honey (especially in this locality), and are less liable to the swarming fever; as a proof of what I say, I will relate a little experience of last season. Two colonies equal in strength, were placed side by side, and Italians possessing all the



marks of superiority, and the other Blacks, the Italians did nothing but store honey in their broad chamber, while the blacks gave about forty pounds surplus honey, and had plenty to winter on. Being a very poor season we did not have any young swarms in the whole apiary, and in fact very little honey; including Italians and all, the general average was about ten pounds per colony. I don't wish the reader to think I have given ample reason that the Italians are worthless or any thing of the kind, but simply give just one years experience with Blacks and Italians. The reason is very simple, why I never tried the Italians more extensively, because my Blacks did well enough to suit me; they pay well for the amount invested, and time required to care for them, and when they get so "cross" I can't handle them I let them alone. However, I am aware that some of the writers are a little wild, and go to an extreme in defending their side of the story. They appear to be well posted in regard to one side but know nothing of the other, thus they mix things badly. Now friends, let us not get in any quarrel over our bees, if we have a good race of bees tell of it, but don't say our neighbors bees are good for nothing because they have more stripes, or less than ours. Write what you know, and what you can back up by practical experience, and don't attempt to run down your neighbors bees unless you have had experience with them, and know. Before I close I would say to the young and inexperienced bee-keepers if they have either kind, stick to them, until you are convinced some other kind is superior. Try them all, hold fast to what is good, don't dabble with anything you know nothing about, above all don't give up your Blacks

until you know the Italians are superior.

Transit Bridge, N. Y.

### Getting Rich

BY MRS. F. A. DAYTON.

Mr. Ellingwood: I must congratulate you for your success, in getting such a large number of subscribers, also your paper improving every way. I like to see the young and those that started with little means prospering; but don't strive to get rich, so that if you should fail it would be a great disappointment. But whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might, ever thanking God for every blessing.

I have great interest that the young should start right, so while they are making a living in this world they may also be laying up a treasure in heaven. I considered that my son failed because he did not have Christian patience and faith in God, so that outward circumstances could not have effected him. Not even my lack of faith helped to discourage him; he had great faith that he was going to make his fortune, but when certain things that he needed failed, had not patience to wait, so now he has got to make a second effort. I put forty-five colonies in the cellar last fall, but some of them had no ventilation, after the dead bees filled up the small entrance.

And as I went to try to get my son to come home, and start here again, and I waited so long for him to decide so neglected my bees. I am not able to take care of bees longer. I don't feel like taking any more stings, shall either sell or give them away, if he don't return to care for them. Printing so steady is not good for his health, he don't think he could make a success at bees. The pioneer bee man is here



with over two hundred colonies only one-fourth mile away, and my son had to carry his bees off in the country away from the deep warm cellar, that he dug for them, he could not easily bring them back and forth so much. But I wish him to have a small apiary and print a paper for me, concerning the destiny of these millionaires, and the hope of the industrious poor, showing how the world is turned up side down as darkness is put for light and light for darkness. Let us seek an inheritance in the world to come, then be satisfied with a plain comfortable living here, rather than have our minds taken up with gaining an inheritance, which will fail when the earth is melted over.

Bradford, Iowa.

### Success in Wintering Bees.

BY GEO. A. LATIMER.

TO EDITOR WHITE MT. APIARIST. Vandruff's, "How to Manage Bees" came duly to hand, and I shall expect to receive the next issue of your journal soon. I have thought for some time that I would write you something about success in wintering bees, in this country. There isn't a doubt in my mind, but that in a mild Southern climate, bees will winter just as well or better out of doors as anywhere, but, in this climate, cellar wintering seems to have the preference. While confining bees for a period of five or six months is a little hard on the bee, yet a cellar of an even temperature properly ventilated, will bring out more strong bees in the spring than the out door plan. I have frequently during the past winter broken the icicles nearly filling the entrances of my hives that have been out of doors. Our winter has been a mild one, yet the sudden changes from ten degrees

below, to sixty degrees above, has tendency to chill the bees, causing their death. It does not seem very necessary that the winter should be so severe, to work such havoc among the bees, but rather bees will do better during a very cold spell, than when the weather is only now and then below zero. If very cold, the moisture in the hive will freeze almost instantly, or as soon as it reaches the top of the hive; but when this begins to thaw and drip on the cluster of bees, then should the weather suddenly change to cold, the cluster will be frozen or chilled to death. While the winter absorbant plan has not been successfully demonstrated, yet, I believe that when it is, we can safely winter bees in the open air in a Northern climate. When bees kept in a cellar or cave can be given a days flight in mid-winter, when the weather is good, it seems a much better plan than not, as it will give them strength and an opportunity to clean the hives of dead bees, which have partially filled up the entrance. While I am talking of dead bees, I desire to make what seems an improvement in the construction of brood frames. The average distance from the bottom of the brood frame to the bottom of the hive is less than one-half inch. If this distance could be increased to one inch or one and one-half inches, that is shorten up the ends of the brood frames, there would not be so much difficulty experienced in keeping entrances clear of dead bees. Would be glad to hear from some one else on this subject. My cellar wintered bees came out all right, but 50 per cent of these stands wintered out of doors packed in twelve inches of chaff, top, bottom and sides, have died, leaving in every instance fifty or sixty pounds of honey in the brood chamber.

Norfolk, Neb.



## Feeding Bees.

WILL IT PAY TO FEED BEES SO AS TO  
HAVE THE HIVE FULL OF BEES  
AND BROOD WHEN THE  
HONEY HARVEST  
OPENS?

From the Report of the Vermont  
Bee-Keepers' Association.

The subject was led by Mr. Crane, had no experience but did not think it would pay. He thought the trouble came about by extracting too much the fall before. He spoke of making a primitive extractor, probably the first in Vermont if not in New England, which was only a pail hung by a cord, and was operated by twisting the cord and letting it run down. Anything that will furnish a frame of brood the first of June is worth more than a frame of honey. The general opinion was that during a dearth of honey the first of the season, it would pay to feed enough to stimulate brood rearing. Mr. Leonard spoke of the relative value of sugar syrup and honey as feed. From actual experience, two colonies of about the same strength, one fed on sugar syrup the other on honey; the one fed the honey built up much the fastest and was ready to swarm at least two weeks before the other. If one feeds he should be very careful and not feed so as to have it stored in the brood nest as it would here crowd the queen and thus be a detriment.

DOES THE FEEDING OF SYRUP TEND  
TO KILL QUEENS?

Mr. Blackmer had lost several queens when they had nothing but the sugar syrup that he fed the colony. Mr. Leonard had noticed the same thing, a few years ago when his hives were close together. His theory was; the workers mistaking their hive

in early spring got in the wrong hive, and soon coming upon a strange queen killed her.

Mr. Blackmer next told how he managed his bees during last swarming season, as follows: "Bee-keeping is a progressive science and all true bee-keepers have a strong desire to improve so as to get the best results possible. I once read what Doolittle wrote about the best way to get the most honey. The thought came to me why not move the frames from the old stand to a new hive instead of moving the hives, thus getting the workers all into the old hive? The first swarm that came out, I took all the frames out but one and put them with adhering bees in a new hive and let the swarm return to the old stand. This worked so well that I managed all my swarms in the same way, and was much pleased with the results all through the season. The first swarm that came out filled nine clamps—144 sections. The swarm taken from the old stand filled four clamps, making a total of 208 pounds from one hive spring count. They were hived on combs. They all did equally well considering the time they came out. I had one swarm that came out the seventh of July, that was hived on full sheets of foundation, they filled six clamps and the brood chamber full in less than two weeks and had it all capped. This plan may not always work and it may not be new to many bee-keepers but it is a new departure with me and I like it very much."

Several had practiced the same or nearly the same, and some for a number of years. Mr. Percival practiced hiving where a swarm had issued a short time previous and had in this way kept the number of his colonies as he desired. Some had tried caging queens in perforated metal and with wire cloth, with varying success.



## Changing Location.

BY M. H. DEWITT.

Dear bee keeping friends; It is desirable not to change the location of hives, unless it becomes absolutely necessary to do so. After the bees have become familiar with their location, should the hive be moved a few feet, they will not notice it when departing on their daily rounds, and if there are other hives near, they may perish in attempting to enter other hives or in wandering about, seeking their own home.

When it becomes necessary to move the hives, it should be done gradually not exceeding the breadth of the hive each day. Or if they are to be moved several rods, alarm them by smoke blown into the entrance, then close it, and remove it, placing some obstacle before the hive previous to opening the entrance again. In moving half a mile or more, the result is different; they note the new locality and return to it again.

### BEES MARKING THEIR LOCATION.

This is done through the sense of sight. A large percentage of the bees that fly out in the early spring are those that have come into the locality during the winter and early spring; being brought from abroad, and as the new home is entirely different from that of the old home from whence they came, consequently they do not leave the hive in a straight line, but only go a few inches, then turn their heads towards the hive and oscillate back and forth in front of it; then moving further back, still hovering in front of the hive, with their heads towards the entrance, occasionally advancing towards it, as if to note more particularly the place of entrance and its immediate surroundings, they then increase the distance,

taking a survey of buildings, trees, fences, or other noticeable objects near by, after which they return to the hive, and start in a direct line from it. On returning, they come directly to the hive and enter; the surrounding objects and the color of the hive are all noted by the bees in marking their location.

Friend Ellingwood, you have greatly improved the "Apiarist"; please allow me to congratulate you on the make up and improved condition of your most valuable publication. Supply dealers send me your price lists.

Sunny Side, Md.

## Talk About Bees.

WILL BEE KEEPING PAY?

The man who will procure a Bee-keepers Text book and inform himself, in all the details pertaining to the business, who can spend the time and do the necessary "fussing" at the opportune moment, (for be it understood, that all other business must be dropped, the bees attended to at the moment, or the profits of the season, and perhaps the bees, will be lost); who can keep calm and self possessed under difficulties, which are liable to beset him when handling irritable bees; such a man would be likely to make bee-keeping, for the production of honey, pay, even here where our pasturage is so limited. And would he cultivate some honey producing plants, like Alsike clover Buckwheat or Mignonnette, he would make assurance doubly sure. He would want a movable comb hive, bee smoker, bee veil, gloves, and a colony of bees, (and a honey extractor I find quite necessary sometimes.) Now with his text book he is prepared for work.

I find that the agitation of



keeping, by the meetings, and discussions, of the many Bee-keepers' Associations in our State; also the many articles published in our papers in relation to bee-keeping, will induce many persons to try bee-keeping the coming season, and in all probability the demand for bees, queens and fixtures will be great. That those persons who keep bees, queens and apiarian supplies for sale, will make bee-keeping profitable, I do not doubt. We can't all get rich selling bees, queens etc. Bees were made for the gathering of honey, and it is the keeping of bees for honey that the most of us will have to depend on for profit.

I am not talking about bees because I have bees to sell, for I have not; but because of late, several persons who have got the bee-fever coming on have asked me if keeping bees wasn't a paying business, and I wish to caution such persons so that they may save disappointment and money.

Bee-keeping is not all pleasure and profit. There is much hard work and some perplexity. To a person of study and observation, there is pleasure and instruction, such as learning the history, nature and habits of bees, the study of honey producing plants of the country, and their season of secreting honey, etc.

I don't think every person is qualified for bee-keeping. We don't find all adapted to dairying, stock raising, sheep husbandry and the various mechanical trades, the professions, etc.

*W. Clark in Canton Telephone.*

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### The Color of Hives.

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BY JULIA ALLYN.

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There is beauty and economy in paint. It pays to paint whether the object be a bee hive or a barn. In the

apiary paint serves several purposes. Certainly it improves the appearance of the apiary; it preserves the hives and it helps the bees to identify their own hives.

Bees are supposed to find their hives of any color in any place whatsoever, but in the operations in a modern apiary, not always in accordance with the natural plan of the bees, confusion may result and the color of the hive may help to extricate. There can be no doubt about this for actual experience proves it, as this incident shows.

It was necessary in the middle of the day, when a large number of bees were in the fields, to transfer a colony to another hive. The colony was in a bright red hive and were transferred to a white hive, and the red hive carried away to the side of the apiary about fifty feet distant. It was noticed soon after that bees were hovering around the entrance of the red hive, many going just inside the hive, and then, coming out, returned to the place where the hive stood and where was now the white hive.

The red hive was the only red hive in the apiary, and the incoming bees, arriving at the white hive, and surprised at the change that had taken place in their absence, began to look for the red hive or for the hive that had the appearance of the one to which they were accustomed and they found it, but they were soon reconciled to the new hive when they found their own family occupying it and met the odor with which they were familiar.

What led the bees to the red hive if not the sense of sight? Probably if the colony had been moved with the hive, every returning bee would have found it although fifty feet away. Therefore, it is evident that if hives be painted different colors or shades,



it would be an advantage. It might be necessary sometime to change a hive and colony from one part of the apiary to another. If the hives be all of the same color, there is nothing to distinguish one hive from another, except the odor which is peculiar to each hive. In that case a bee that found his house gone when he returned, would go from entrance to entrance till he found the odor peculiar to his hive which might be discovered by flying down to the entrance like a robber bee for which he might be taken, and if caught, put to death.

In some apiaries, the upper story of the hive, the two story hive, and it is supposed that every progressive beekeeper uses the two story hive, is painted one color and the lower story another, but while this gives the apiary a variegated and bright appearance, yet it is better to have each hive all one color. The upper story may be changed and a confusion of color may confuse the bees. But whatever the color, give every hive two good coats of good paint. All colors should be light.

The following poem written for the Vt. B. K. A. by Mrs. Lois Cornell of Morgan Park, Chicago, Ill. was read by Miss Douglas.

### Bee Line.

There's a bee in the head, a great author has said,  
And that is a doubtful condition  
Of the mind if choosing—an opinion losing  
Or a buzzing sort of volition.

Now that author should know, before he dares to  
go

Near enough a bee to find out,  
Of the wisdom there is even in a bee's phiz,  
And what all the bees are about.

He should make up his mind that there is much  
to find  
Of profit and pleasure in bees.  
Though there may be some cranks often found in  
the ranks  
Drones, workers or queens if you please  
That are coming here from the Eastern Hemisphere,  
"Carniolan," "Danic" or "Brown",  
Traveling over the seas, what a party of bees  
From many a European town.

"Italians" journey through and "Syrians" too  
In state, in their own private room  
To try the white clover the old Vermont State  
over  
And the beautiful linden bloom.

And among our choice "Blacks" they are making  
their tracks  
Dividing the honors, you see,  
That Americans give, and very glad to live  
Like a real United States bee.

For questions there's Manum or in Brookfield  
Cram 'em,  
And Middlebury Crane J. E.  
Green, Fasset and Walker besides Mrs. Barker  
And Secretary Miss M. A. D.

Mrs. Bascom we note, Mrs. Wolcott, too, quote  
Also Mrs. Brainard S. E.  
We never Dodge Stelburn or Warner or Panton  
Or J. W. Smith or Stowe  
Or any others here who lend a willing ear,  
With our thanks to the R. R. Co.

V. Blackmer President, and entertainer Ryder,  
H. L. Leonard our friend with song,  
Holmes and Goodrich and Scott swell the list,  
tell you what  
Our bee-line is bound to grow strong.

The best way to make up the best line to take up  
Can't be told in prose or ditty,  
Better have a good talk while you figure on chalk  
In Larrabee's bee hive city.

So the amount of money that can be found in  
honey  
The finest way of handling hives  
And the swarms therein when they business  
begin  
Can prove how the busy bee thrives.

Whether New England breeze or Floridian trees  
Or balmy California air  
Can contribute the most to the honey bee host  
While dealing with them on the square.

Apiarists, you know, in the sunshine or snow  
Stock can take while they buy and sell.  
The Vt. B. K. A. so all the people say  
Are versed in the matter full well.

After the reading a vote of thanks  
was given Mrs. Cornell.



## Agricultural Letter.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE IN CONGRESS  
AND AT THE NATIONAL CAPITOL  
DURING THE MONTH FOR THE  
FARMER, STOCK-RAISER,  
ETC.

(REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE.)

March is full on us here, as attested by the late blizzard which touched this city a little, though it did no more harm than to blow off her feet the wife of one Senator. We have every indication of an early spring, and the farmers in this latitude are jubilant.

During the month the pure-food and the meat-inspection bills have passed Congress, and now only await the President's signature to become laws. Bills have been introduced to lend Government capital to the States, and to protect agricultural interests by low rates of interest; to print 300,000 copies of that able article issued by the Agricultural Dept., "Diseases of the Horse"; to put fish of American waters on the free list; and to repeal the duties on cotton manufactured goods.

Petitions for the encouragements of silk-culture and of the beet-sugar enterprise are coming in; and Port Townsend, Wash., protests against the present strained condition of affairs in Behring's Sea. Chile has declined to exhibit at our Fair, and will remove Minister Mont from Washington. Hardly is the unpleasantness with this little country over and gone, before England through her Premier refuses to renew the *modus vivendi* of last season, though she is willing to agree that her vessels shall not kill seals within 30 miles of our shores in Alaska. This refusal is of course, the

ident has written a firm letter to Lord Salisbury demanding the renewal of last year's agreement, but no reply is forthcoming at this writing. Secretary Blaine is too ill to be even told the critical condition of diplomatic affairs. The Senate is about to consider the treaty which is proposed, but meanwhile—naturally enough—President Harrison wants some arrangement that will prevent the utter annihilation of the seals and hence the removal of the need for any treaty. These facts are mentioned because they will be of interest to every true American citizen. If we are to have war with the largest Nation on the globe, we should all know what it is over, but I regret that the cause of dispute is nothing more than a few seals swimming in doubtful waters. It seems too small a matter to even think of risking lives and money for.

We will all be glad when the coming elections are over. Until then you may expect to hear the free-trade, protection, silver, and other campaign topics discussed in Congress to the almost utter exclusion of everything else, and farmers and stock-raisers can but petition in vain for legislation which will serve their interests and relieve their sufferings. The pure-lard and the anti-option, as well as the free-wool bills are liable to be set aside for these great National issues; though the bill reducing the duty on barley from 30 to 10 cents a bushel has passed the House.

I saw Judge Fuller of N. C. the other day, and he told me they were seeing hard times in his state owing to the depressed condition of cotton. I also met Mr. Oxnard of Neb. and he thinks that within ten years the beet-sugar factories of this country will be producing sufficient sugar to supply all domestic demands.



## Correspondence.

Plainfield, N.J. April 12, 1892.

MR. A.D. ELLINGWOOD;

Dear Sir:—Enclosed find fifty cents in full for the *Apiarist* one year and "How to Manage Bees."

I am well pleased with the *Apiarist*, and must say that it is indeed a Model Bee Journal. I am a beginner in bee culture and intend to study the subject as a practical science. I have eight colonies at present, and am using a sort of chaff hive with Quinby frames, but think I will supercede them with the Dovetailed Hive. The majority of bee-keepers in this section still adhere to the old box-hive, but as an advancement in our pursuit, I shall consider it my duty to induce all using them to change to the movable frame hive. My bees are "Black," and I consider that they equal in many respects the "Golden Italians," especially in honey gathering qualities. Wish you success in continuing the publication of *The White Mountain Apiarist*.

Very truly yours,

ALFRED E. COLE.

Suncook, N. H. April 9, 1892.

Well Friend ELLINGWOOD, I see you have not forgotten me, by my receiving the *Apiarist*, this week; I could not sleep until I had read every word in regard to the bees. I put up eight colonies last fall, and lost one. I think I did not give them air enough, I have had mine set out some two weeks. I thought my late colonies that came the last of July, and first of August, were short of honey, so I fed them some honey I kept for that use up on the top of my hives, with the feeders you sent me; I think them just the things to feed bees with. I am giving them some sugar syrup now; how do

you think it will do? If I can get them through with twenty pounds of sugar, I think it a good investment don't you? better than western mortgages where you put in \$1000, and get \$250, back. I feel proud of my bees if I don't get as much profit. I am going to see what I can do this summer, and then I can tell somewhat better what I think of my experience in bee-keeping. I like it so far, although I sometimes get bit. I found a beeman at Manchester, that twenty colonies of bees, and he thinks what he does not know about bees is not worth knowing; his name is J. A. Coverly. 381 Merrimack St., Manchester. I ride down there occasionally to see him and get what little information I can from him. I like to get all I can in that way. What do you think in regard to shifting out of old box hives into some of your new hives, and introducing Italian Queens this spring.

This man says he can do it, and will if I say so. Give me your opinion, and at what time is best to have it done? you see I want to get what information I can. Have the bees wintered well up with you the past winter? I don't hear any complaint about here. I think I shall give mine a little syrup occasionally, and keep the entrances closed pretty well up so they won't get to fighting. I here send stamps for the *Apiarist* six months. If you should come down this way this summer, I should be pleased to have you call on

T. J. OTTERSON.

*The American Bee-Keeper* has recently sent out inquiries to 5,000 beekeepers asking the number and style of hives they use. The result is surprising. They learn that a large majority of the hives used are of the old box style.



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Whenever you write to one of our advertisers please say that you saw the advertisement in the Apiarist.

### BEE SUPPLIES.

Before you order get my 30-page catalogue of standard goods, free. "The Busy Bees," a booklet telling how to manage them, 10 cents in stamps.

**WALTER S. POWDER,**  
175 East Walnut St., Indianapolis, Ind.



### My Catalogue of APIARIAN SUPPLIES

for 1892 is free. My Pamphlet, "HOW I PRODUCE COMB HONEY," by mail 5 cts.

Goe. E. Hilton,  
Fremont, Mich.

Mention the Apiarist.



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Foundation and price-list of Bee supplies.  
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## 1892

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In answering this Ad. mention the Apiarist.

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A. K. Cooper, Editor.

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This Ad. will be taken in part payment for supplies. 50¢ on a \$5.00 order, and \$1.00 on a \$10.00 order.

No. 1 Sections, \$3.00. No. 2, \$2.00 per 1000. Dovetailed Hives, Foundation, Smokers, etc., cheap. Car load just received. No freight prepaid on this offer. Send for list free.

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Jackson, Mich.

Box 1473,



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SPURGER THE POST OFFICE,  
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<b>B</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>S</b>
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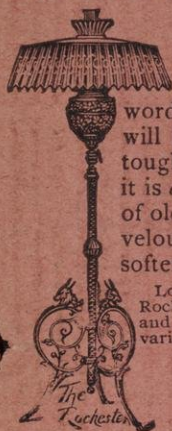
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