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MARCH, 1891.

The Bee



World

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THE



Bee World

Vol. I.

WAYNESBURG PA., MARCH, 1891.

No. 2

Comb Foundation--When Use, Where Not Use.

G. M. DOOLITTLE.



WHEN and where comb foundation could be used at a profit, has been a subject on which I have spent much thought and conducted many experiments. At times bees

will apparently fill a hive with comb without using a pound of honey. At other times, it would almost seem that the old estimate of "twenty pounds of honey for one pound of comb" was none too much. To illustrate: One year when I was studying on this subject, swarms came out when there was to all appearance only honey enough being gathered for the colonies which did not swarm to live from day to day; yet these swarms, which were hived in empty hives, except a starter one-half inch deep in each frame, filled their hives with comb and brood in from fourteen to twenty days and were prepared for the honey harvest when it arrived, fully as well as were the colonies which did not cast swarms. The really wonderful part about it was, that colonies which did not swarm, and the colonies which cast swarms, did not have two pounds

of honey in their hives at time of swarming, and at the end of the twenty days there was no more honey in these old colonies than there was at time of swarming, while the new swarms had filled their hives with combs and brood, and had nearly if not quite as much honey at the end of the twenty days as did these old colonies. At this time pollen was very abundant, and was gathered apparently to the detriment of the colonies, for the brood was actually crowded out by it, while, although the new swarms seemed to gather as much as the old, yet it was all consumed from some cause, so that instead of combs of pollen, as in the one case, I had frames of new white comb filled with brood, with scarcely pollen enough in the combs to last the brood twenty-four hours, when a rainy day occurred.

At another time swarms thus hived did not build combs at all, comparatively speaking, as, after being hived a week, they did not have comb equal in size to a man's hand, and not a cell of honey in sight, while swarms given empty combs would fill them with brood, although little if any honey was stored. In this latter case pollen was not plentiful. From the above I conclude that there are times when pollen can be converted into wax, and used largely for comb building and brood

rearing, but it needs close observation on the part of the apiarist to know when this can be depended upon. When it can, such combs cost nothing and foundation is lost. As friend Hutchinson has said in his leader, I use small colonies largely for comb building, and hive many of my swarms on empty combs, which have been previously built by these colonies, for these small colonies or nuclei will build comb to the best advantage, while they can do nothing else as well.

While my combs are generally built by nuclei, yet I have had hundreds of combs built on the plan given in "The Production of Comb Honey," and where I use full sheets of foundation in the sections, or sections of empty comb left over from the season previous, I always believe it the most profitable to have the bees build their combs below; but where I use combs below, then I believe it the most profitable to use only starters in the sections. In cases like the experiments given in the first of this article, the sections were not put on the hives at all, for sections are of no use on a hive except at times when the bees are getting more honey than they consume while it is often a disadvantage to have them on in times of scarcity, for the bees will often gnaw the foundation starters down and cover the nice white sections with propolis. When honey is coming in plentifully the sections should always be on the hive, and the matter of whether they should be filled with foundation or not depends on whether we use foundation or empty combs below. If we use foundation in both the sections and the brood frames during a good flow of honey, we

may be assured that we are doing so at the entire loss of it in one or the other place, for the bees always secrete wax enough at such times to furnish combs for either the one or the other, and if not used must be surely wasted; the wasting of this wax meaning the same as the wasting of the same amount of foundation and the time and trouble of putting it in the frames or sections. Does any one doubt this? Let him look at the bees during such times of plenty, and he or she will doubt no longer. The wax pockets have each a wax scale in them which is plainly seen as the bees hang on the limb of a tree or on our swarming basket.

In the past it has been my practice often to hold swarms out on limbs of trees from one to four hours, according to different experiments I wished to make, they being thus held by placing the queen in a cage with them. They could not go off as long as the queen was caged, for should they try to do so they would return as soon as they found the queen was not with them. In all of these cases of holding swarms, when honey was coming in from the fields, there would be little lumps of wax all along on the under side of the limb or swarming basket, and where the swarm was held as long as four hours, these lumps of wax would begin to assume the form of comb. If I hived such swarms in a hive having both the hives and sections filled with comb, I would find the bottom board to the hive well covered with wax scales the next morning, while the combs which I had given would be all plastered over with wax scales, partly or wholly welded on here and there promiscuously on

the outer edges of the cells. On an old black comb this is very noticeable, but with new white combs it is not so plainly seen. Even bees in the field after honey, have wax scales on them in times of plenty, as Prof. Cook tells us about, and it seems folly to me to use foundation in all parts of the hive when the bees are all prepared to build comb in this way. It is even worse than folly, for the bees are not often content to allow this wax to be wasted by tumbling it to the bottom of the hive, and so they use it on the combs and foundation, making them twice as thick and heavy as they should be to be relished by the consumer of honey; hence the term "fish bone" was given to the foundation in honey in former years.

Understand me: I do not say that all foundation was formerly made as thin as it should be; but I do say, that the allowing of no space in which the bees could build comb had considerable to do with this state of affairs. Instead of the bees drawing out the foundation as it was expected they would, they simply added their wax to it by welding it to the side walls of the foundation, using their own wax for the cells from there out, entirely, so that after a section was completed this wax could be scraped off, when we had the foundation as perfect as it was when first placed in the sections. I became so disgusted with this matter when I first used foundation that I declared that I would never use any more; but after finding the way of using empty brood frames when the sections were filled with foundation, I have taken back what I said.

I once took a piece of foundation out of a filled section of honey,

scraped the honey off, washed and dried it, sent it to the maker, together with an unused piece and asked him which had been used and which had not. He sent them back saying, "I cannot tell." From the above I now hive colonies or swarms on frames having only starters in them, where I fill the sections with foundation, and use only starters in the sections where I use frames of comb or foundation in the brood chamber.—*Review.*

BORODINO, N. Y., Nov. 26, 1890,

Queen Excluders in the Production of Comb Honey.

BY DR. G. L. TINKER.

THE practical utility of queen excluders, both the wood-zinc and those made of whole sheets of perforated zinc, in the production of extracted honey, is now generally admitted among bee-keepers of experience. But as to their use in the production of comb honey there seems to be doubt as to their value, as well as to the proper conditions for their use. For the last two years the writer has taken every opportunity to advise against the use of queen excluders on brood chambers of large capacity as being an expedient of no utility or advantage of any kind, yet hundreds of such hives have been sent out the past season fully equipped with section supers and queen excluders in the latest fashion, on the supposition that the latter were just as useful on one kind of hive as another. Now that it is known that they are not, it is sought to dispense with queen excluders altogether, rather than to

modify the hive to the requirements of the queen excluder in the production of comb honey. The question is not raised as to the practicability of raising comb honey without the queen excluders, that is not disputed, but the question is: Can comb honey be raised in larger quantities and more profitably with than without excluders, where the hive is made to conform to their requirements? The writer takes strong ground in favor of the modified hive and the use of the excluders, and has the evidence to back up his position in the way of comparative results in the yield of comb honey by the old and the new systems of procedure, thus proving that a queen excluder, when rightly used, is one of the greatest inventions of modern times favoring profitable apiculture. Why it is so is not very difficult to get at.

The principle of contracting the brood nest at the right time in producing comb honey is a measure sanctioned by the majority of leading apiarists in this country, and it is universally conceded that if the brood nest is contracted to any considerable extent a queen excluder is a necessity. The reason why there is any difference of opinion in the matter is because in certain localities no contraction of the brood nest is ever advisable excepting under rare circumstances affecting nectar secretions. There are localities where there is an almost continuous flow throughout the season, and wherever we find such localities, whether in this or any other country, the most profitable bee-keeping is with large brood nest and large hives. In quite a number of districts in France, it is stated by Mr.

Cowan, in his recent interesting address before the British Bee-keeper's Association, (B. B. J., pp. 518,) that there is an almost continuous flow of nectar from Spring to Autumn, and he found the bee-keepers there nearly all using Dadant's and DeLayen's large hives, the latter containing from 16 to 24 brood frames, "about double the size of our standard frames." No one in their right senses would talk about contraction of the brood nests in such localities, but unfortunately they are few and far between in this country. Where we have one such locality there are a hundred where the season for surplus ends with the white clover or the basswood bloom. It is in these localities, which so largely predominate, that we must contract the brood nest, both during the honey flow and during the balance of the season, if one would make the most of bee keeping, and whoever admits the advantage of such contraction in his locality will be compelled to admit the value of the queen excluded in the production of comb honey.

Contraction of the brood nest, as heretofore practiced resulted in the deprivation of the natural stores, so that the bees had to be fed sugar syrup for Winter, but now we have a new system of management in this regard whereby there will be left abundant stores for Winter, so this principal objection to contracting the brood nest ceases to exist. By way of explanation it may be added, that the contracted brood nest approved of contains not less than 800 square inches of brood comb, that this brood nest is amply large for all colonies from about the first of June till Fall, and is especially adapt-

ed to swarms in securing the largest results in comb honey, and that a two-story hive is required for breeding up in Spring and for the best results in wintering.—A. B. K., *New Philadelphia, O.*

For the BEE WORLD.

the good ole way
VERSUS
the new fanGled ideeS

INTRODUCTION

Mister editur i ask a leetle room in your bee world to discuss some bee matters, i think we have to many new fixens in the bee bisness, to many new fangled ideeS, i have jist been over to a nabor bee-keeper and he is destroying all his log gums and box hives and says *we* ole bee-keepers no nothing about keeping bees, he has been readin a lot of papers and books on the bee bisnus and is awfully taken with the new fixens and is jist throwin away and wastin all his good log gums and box hives he intends he says to git all new hives this seeson and jist make kinlen wood and hins nests of these good ole hives. i tell you it is awful to see how extravagant he is gitin, and he says he is goin to take all the new bee jornals (he give me an armful to take home with me) and among them i see the bee world an seein it is calcerlated to circulate throughout the world i thought it would be a good medeum to address bee men with and with your permission i will try to warn the risin gin-

eration aginst dablin in these new fangled bee fixins and from goin in to sich extrivegence. i remonstrated with my naber fer his wild ideeS but he sed these ole log gum bee men were jist ole fogeS he sed we were all mistaken about there bein a *king* bee and tnat the drones do not lay eggs and the bees dont carry in wax on their legs and a hole lot of things that he sed i would find i xplained in the books and papers he gave me. i have not took time yit to read the papers over but will do so soon and give you more perticulars next month i will jist say that all should send in their subscription to the bee world at once so as to hear this subjict discussed fer i intend to give the subjict a good vintilation. (say would you send me the bee world for writing this)?

“OLE FOGY”.

lone hollow P. O

(*To be Continued.*)

Yes, friend “Fogy,” I will try to give you room. I would advise you to read the papers your neighbor gave you, and no doubt he will give you more when you want them. Yes, I will send you the BEE WORLD for your trouble, but you must send me the name of your State and county.

Depend upon it that yellow carniolans are going to lead in popularity another season. I have believed all along that the Carnies would lead sometime.—E. L. Pratt in *Am. Api.*

For the BEE WORLD.

An Argument for a Shorter Frame.

LOWRY JOHNSON.

One of the best bee-keepers in this vicinity is going to adopt my size frame, and there is also another who has been using the simplicity frame, who is going to try a shorter one than the simplicity. I cannot but think that eventually bee-keepers in general will adopt a shorter frame. It is pretty generally conceded that the smaller hives, when properly handled, produce the most saleable honey. But they are getting them too narrow for their length. Evidently the more a hive conforms to the shape of the cluster the warmer they will keep with the same exertions, and hence winter better; another thing, the queen will deposit eggs clear to the end of a shorter frame, thus leaving no room there for the bees to store honey, and hence it is placed in the surplus arrangement just where it is wanted, and then it will be a small matter to get it back into the brood chamber when necessary. Getting the honey into the surplus arrangement is where the "tug" comes in.

Masontown, Pa.

Yes, friend J., the tendencies of the bee-keepers to-day are drifting strongly and surely to a smaller hive. As to the size of frame it will no doubt remain as in the past; there

will be advocates for different sized ones. The main question will be as to the capacity of this smaller hive. I am satisfied it will be about 6 to 7 L. frame capacity, and then use two stories with strong colonies for spring breeding.

For the BEE WORLD.

Apicultural Problems Discussed.

INTRODUCTION.

That there are many unsolved problems in apiculture, all readers of our journals will admit. I do not propose in these articles that I may write from time to time to solve all problems to the satisfaction of every one, yet I will try to arrive toward a solution by treating them in the light of modern science and facts as observed, proved and verified by our best apiarists. I cannot in this short article give more than an introduction to the subject. The problems are so many and varied that it will take much time, thought and labor, and as I treat of the different subjects in the future, I ask the co-operation of those who are giving special thought on the subjects, as I bring them up. I am not fully decided yet what I will discuss in the April number, possibly the hive question, as this has been much agitated of late. Now I know this will be a ticklish question to take hold of, as so many have their "pet" hives and are so wedded to them that they

cannot, it seems, write on the subject without plainly showing that they are just a "leetle" prejudiced. Now while I may show a preference it shall be my aim to treat it and all other questions which I may discuss in a fair and impartial manner. In the field of apiculture there is a wide range of subjects that may be discussed, and I shall aim to discuss them in a progressive spirit with improvement for my watchward.

"PROGRESS."

(To be Continued.)

Price Lists Received.

D. A. Pike's price list of Albino and Italian bees and queens is at hand. He is located at Smithsburg, Maryland.

The catalogue and price list of the D. A. Jones, Co. Ld., of Beeton, Ont., is received. It contains 20 pages and cover, with illustrations of almost everything used in an apiary.

Price list from Jas. Heddon, of Dowagiac, Michigan. Divisible brood chamber and other hives.

The Novelty Manufacturing Co., of Rock Falls, Ill., have sent their price list. It is a 16 page illustrated circular.

The price list of queens and bees is at hand, from J. P. Moore, of Morgan, Ky.

Catalogue from Jacob T. Timpe, of Grand Ledge, Mich., of bees, poul-

try, seeds and seed potatoes, is just received.

Price list from S. Valentine, of Hagerstown, Md., received. It contains 30 pages and cover, with prices of Albino and Italian queens and bees, hives, sections, comb foundation, etc.

"PROGRESS" and "Ole Fogy" are beginning a series of articles with this number of the BEE WORLD, which will no doubt prove interesting and valuable and will likely continue through the balance of 1891. "Ole Fogy's" articles, while they will be somewhat comical and amusing, will be instructive and useful to all interested in bee-keeping. "Progress" will deal directly on the most important and vital problems of the day, discussed in the light of the latest and most approved scientific methods of apicultural progress of modern times. You should subscribe at once so as not to miss a single number.

Complimentary.

I enclose 50 cts. in stamps for subscription and wish you the success that your talent so well deserves. Well I must compliment you on your first effort in this line. It is certainly creditable to you, and I do not see why you shall not succeed with it and make it a profitable venture.

DR. G. L. TINKER,
New Philadelphia, O.

THE * BEE * WORLD.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

W. S. VANDRUFF, Editor & Proprietor

TERMS:—50 cents a year in advance, two copies for 90 cents; three for \$1.20; five for \$2.00.

WAYNESBURG, PA., MARCH 1, 1891.

Editorial.

SPRING is coming.

SOON we'll hear the merry hum of the busy bee.

THE *American Bee-Keeper* comes to hand bright as a silver dollar, and full of good things.

WRITE for the BEE WORLD. If you have any items of interest or value send them along; they will be accepted.

THE *American Apiculturist* has put on a new dress, and also has a department edited by E. L. Pratt. This makes it better than ever.

THE Nebraska *Bee Keeper*, published by Stilson & Sons, at York, Neb., is just received. It is published monthly at 50 cts. a year. It is well printed on good paper.

THE first warm days of March should be taken advantage of to see that the bees are not getting short of stores. The neglect of this is the cause of many colonies starving.

E. L. PRATT seems to think that the yellow Carniolans will take the lead another season. I fear the breeders of those very yellow Carnies will go to the extreme as some have done with the Italian, and produce an inferior strain of bees. Whenever you beat the best strains of American Italians you will be getting there.

THE *Inter-Mountain Horticulturist*, a monthly journal devoted to fruit growing, gardening and bees, is at hand. It is a 12 page paper at 50 cts. per year. It is in its second volume. It is neatly printed on good paper and well edited. It is published by Jno. C. Swaner, of Salt Lake City, Utah.

How do you like the enlarged and improved appearance of the BEE WORLD, and yet the price not advanced? It will be much easier now to get subscribers. Try how many you can send in by the first of April.

NOTICE the variety of bee news from different parts of the world in this number. If you want all the news from the bee-keeping world you must take THE BEE WORLD, for it will keep you posted.

THE editor of the *Review* in speaking of the BEE WORLD, says: "This is a new journal that, judging from the contents and editorials, is to be made up largely of extracts and

comments upon the extracts, something after the style of the *Review*. It is edited and published by W. S. Vandruff at Waynesburg, Pa., and, considering that this number was gotten up hastily, I think he has done exceedingly well. It is well printed, has sixteen pages and its subscription price is fifty cents." Thanks friend H. for your kind notice. You will notice an enlargement with this number to 20 pages and a much greater variety of news.

THE enlargement made with this number of the BEE WORLD gives me more room for bee news from different parts of the world. I intend to further enlarge and improve it from time to time and make it a live progressive apiarian Journal. I send you this No. as a sample. If you want to keep posted on bee matters send in your subscription. Any one receiving a copy, who is not interested in such reading, will please hand it to some bee-keeping friend.

E. L. PRATT says, "That discussion of colors and markings is very interesting and instructive," etc., and finally says: "I shall have to accept the inevitable." "All that glitters is not gold." Yes, a great many more will find they will have to accept the "Inevitable." This subject of the proper combination of colors in bees for the best results, or in other words, what particular markings

and color should a strain of bees possess to have combined in them the most good qualities, is one that is not receiving the thought and attention it should. I was the first so far as I know to publish and make known what these particular markings were. See my article on page 662 of the *American Bee Journal*. These facts were found out by years of testing all the different strains of bees reared and offered for sale all over this continent. You may talk about the "coming bee," and all to no purpose, because the coming bee is here and to stay. It is the best strains of our American bred Italians.

THE *American Api*, in making mention of the BEE WORLD, says:— This is another new bee paper and one that come to hand very early in Jan. It is well printed. The editor is W. S. Vandruff, Waynesburg, Pa. In order to get his paper out promptly, Jan. 1, Bro. V. was obliged to make some selections from other papers. The selections and extracts are first class, as several articles were selected from the columns of the *Api*. Success to the BEE WORLD.

MANY have sent for sample copies of the BEE WORLD some time ago, but as this No. was to be enlarged and improved it was deemed best to wait for this issue before sending them. This will account for not

getting your sample sooner. Now you see what it is; will you not send in your subscription at once. Show this copy to your bee-keeping friends and send in a club. If you want a good paper you must help make it. A paper cannot live without a good subscription list. Now go to work and let me see who will send in the most subscribers. Special offer: The first person sending in their subscription with 50 cts., will receive a fine untested American Italian queen, in June, 1891, worth \$1.50, free; to the second, one copy of my book, "How to Manage Bees," over 200 pages, free by mail.

THIS number of the BEE WORLD should have been out for Feb., but on account of the Jan. number being put out late, in connection with the conclusion to enlarge the journal to 20 pages, and other causes combined, it seemed impossible to get it out sooner, and it was deemed best to make it the March number so as to get an even start. All subscriptions will start with this number heretofore received.

THE American Italians are wintering splendidly. I have one colony in particular that has come through the winter the strongest of any colony I ever saw, seeming to have as many bees now as they had last fall. These bees have proved themselves to possess more good qualities than

any I ever experimented with, being very prolific, great workers, fine comb builders, entering the sections readily, capping their combs very white, are quiet and not given to excessive swarming; also great winterers with no spring dwindling. I will begin rearing queens from this extra strain as early as the weather will permit. I have several orders booked already for queens from this fine strain of bees. They have a peculiar combination of color and markings possessed by but few if any other strain of bees.

THE lecturer who told his audience that some economical dollar-and-cent farmer bee-keeper had crossed his bees with lightning bugs, in order to get his bees to work after night, probably was not aware that bees as they *are* work as diligently and well after night as they do in day time. He could no doubt have enlightened and benefited his hearers on this subject, if he had taken the trouble and time to have informed himself by reading a good work on bee culture, and then the people would not have had the erroneous impression left on their minds, that bees *do not* work after night.

In a recent visit, Mr. Lowry Johnson, of Masontown, Pa., exhibited a tin and wood wide frame with tin separator, of his invention, for holding and reversing sections, which is

quite an ingenious arrangement. The sections are protected on all sides, and the separators being removable, admits of readily removing them. He has also invented a tin and wood reversible brood frame, the ends of them being made entirely of tin. They are a closed end frame, yet ready removable frame. One of the strong points claimed for the closed tin ends is the obliteration of the propolis trouble, so prominent in other styles of closed end frames. Mr. J. seems to be a regular wood and tin bee-man.

Gleanings, in making mention of two new bee journals starting with the new year, after noting one, says: The other journal is the BEE WORLD, edited and published by our old friend and correspondent, W. S. Vandruff, Waynesburg, Pa. The latter is a 16 page Monthly. Price 50cts. It starts out well. Success to the new publications, is the wish of Gleanings.

E. L. PRATT says: "High color, Bro. Vandruff sells entirely by its flash. We are all inclined to bow down to gold, no matter what form it assumes." Oh! yes, Bro. Pratt, if your bees were gold I would bow down to them too, but I have always understood that they were just merely golden, and so long as they are not gold, but rather goldentine, I would just as soon have them silverine.

THE BEE WORLD—No. 1 of this new monthly is on our desk. It contains 16 pages, and is published by W. S. Vandruff, Waynesburg, Pa. This should have been noticed before, but was mislaid. It is nicely printed, well edited and has our best wishes for success.—*American Bee Journal*.

THE White Mountain *Apiarist*, published by A.D. Ellingwood of Berlin Falls, N. H., is a 12 page journal, is devoted to bees, and promises to be interesting and instructive. His advertisement will appear in the next number of the BEE WORLD. Sample copies free; send for one.

THE *Buckeye Farmer*, published by J. Paul Stech, of New Carlisle, Ohio, is just received. It is a three column, 8 page paper, devoted to the farm, poultry and bees—well printed on good paper.

READ Mr. Osborn's report from Cuba, in the land of flowers, with his four months honey season, while we are in the midst of winter. Does it not make you feel like emigrating?

A. E. JONES' article from far off Australia, to be found elsewhere, will be read with interest. There the winters are so mild that the bees gather honey all through it.

LET'S see who'll get that Italian queen.



World Bee Notes.

Under this head will be included the latest Apicultural news, discoveries and happenings throughout the bee-keeping world.

STRAY STRAWS, a department in *Gleanings*, edited by Dr. C. C. Miller, is to lead, it is given a place in the opening pages of that Journal. It is proving quite interesting. Here is a few of the Stray Straws:

Closed-end frames, according to W. Camm, in the *Guide* do not have the combs fastened as well to the end bars as open-end frames.

Rev. W. F. Clarke and Bro. Newman are having quite a controversy as to whether Canadians are Americans. When they agree on it, we'll know for sure just how it is.

Hasty thinks 3 lbs. or less of honey will make a pound of wax; Simmons, less than 6½ lbs.; tradition, 20. Don't we stick to that 20 from mere habit? I do. Has there been a single experiment of late years to confirm it?

Foul Brood in Canada is not likely to be kept hidden. Any person, whether bee-keepers or not, who knows of a case and does not report it to the proper authority, "shall on summary conviction before a Justice of the Peace be liable to a fine of \$5 and costs. That's right. Its different here. At a bee convention a public official announced the existence of a large number of cases of foul brood; and when I pressed for the names, he said he would not tell because the parties did not want it known.

The *American Apiculturist* has a new department called "Chips and Shavings," conducted by E. L. Pratt, which makes quite an interesting corner in that Journal. The following selections will serve as samples:

How the bee-keepers are swinging into line on the winter cases and closed end frames!

The market calls for even a smaller box than the one pound. We shall produce honey in 1½ sections next year.

I have not the time or patience to look up queen cells in a colony that has swarmed. There is a neater and better way. Use a queen trap.

The prospects for 1891 are very encouraging, to say the least, since we have been receiving orders for queens about all winter.

Is it not strange that *Gleanings* never heard of Alley's methods of raising queens until this late date? Why does not Earnest come east and give us all a call. Perhaps New England bee-keepers can give a point or two of value.

That discussion of colors and markings is very interesting and instructive to all bee-keepers who are in for bottom facts. The subject will stand considerable airing. With the facts we already have, quite a lively debate can be carried on. I shall have to accept the inevitable, "All that glitters is not gold."

REMEMBER the first one sending in a subscription with 50cts gets a fine untested Am. Italian queen.

Cuba as a Honey Country.

Cuba is certainly a wonderful honey country. A. W. Osborn, in a letter to the *American Bee-Keeper*, gives a very interesting account of the past honey season there. The lack of rain there as well as other parts operated against the honey crop. He has 500 colonies and the resources are so good he wishes he had 1000, and thinks he would not be overstocked as during the bell-flower season, he says, "It is practically impossible to overstock." In regard to the yield of his 500 colonies he says, * * * * "In Nov we took 10,500 pounds of honey, a thing that has never been done before in Cuba, and the first three days of Dec. 6,000 pounds, making 16,500 pounds to this date, and it is only the beginning, for December is very much better than November, January is best of all. February is about like November, making four months pretty good harvest." Just think of it, over 16,000 pounds during November and the three first days of December, and this only the beginning, with three months ahead of the best part of the season. At this rate Mr. Osborn will have at the close of his honey season from 50,000 to 75,000 pounds of honey. Friend Osborn by the time this No. of the BEE WORLD reaches you your honey season will be over. Will you not favor us with an article giving the exact amount of your season's crop? It will make interesting reading.

Different Races of Bees.

Dalmation bees are easy to manage; and excell in making comb

honey. The Hymettus bees of Attica are much like Carniolans, except in disposition. Palestines comes from the Holyland, and are often confused with Syrians, to which they are inferior. They use more propolis than any other variety and are troubled with more laying workers, but are said to be even more beautiful than Cyprians. Egyptian bees, found in Egypt, Arabia and Asia Minor, have yellow bands, and are smaller than Italians. Although they have long been domesticated in Egypt, where floating apiaries were common, they have been found vicious by European bee-keepers who introduced them. Their cells are smaller than those of other species. Some naturalists believe yellow bees originated from them instead of from Syrians.—*Farm Life in A. B. J.*

Two Boys and a Large Fire.

We have succeeded in arresting boys who set fire to our shops last spring. There were two of them. One is now at the State Industrial School at Waukesha. He made a full confession; and as soon as the other boy was arrested he also confessed, telling the same story as the boy at Waukesha. They say they simply wanted to see a great fire. One is 11 years of age and the other is 13. I am very glad to know how the fire started, and to know it was not done through any enmity.—*G. B. Lewis & Co., in Gleanings.*

This factory, as mentioned in Jan. No. has been rebuilt. It was burned last spring, and besides being a heavy loss to the Co. it caused supply dealers a great deal of trouble and vexatious delays in supplying their customers with sections.

The Funny Side of Bee-Keeping.

In our rambles among bee-keepers, we find them a great deal like other mortals; made up of various emotions, and whenever we meet a number of them they are an agreeable and jolly crowd. Shall we so conduct our Journals as to touch the various emotions, or touch only one, and that the bee-keeping taste? In other words, shall we make our bee paper especially for the bee-keeper of the family, or shall we make it distinctively a bee paper, but edit it in such away as to interest the whole family? When a bee-keeper loses all his bees and takes up some other occupation, but still subscribes for the bee paper you may be sure that it interests the whole family. In the apiary are many humorous happenings. Shall we say any thing about them in the bee paper, or shall we tell them to an unappreciative audience in *Puck* or *Judge*?—*Rambler in the Review.*

My bees have done very well considering the care they have had. I never have had anything pay better. I had last spring 31 colonies. I divided 2 and got 9. My bees did not swarm much and I waited until they were all full of honey before I commenced to extract it. I got 3,500 pounds of honey, which finds a ready market in Colorado. I leave my bees on summer stands, partially closing the entrance, is all I do with them. E. W. WARNER, in *A. B. J.*

Moab, Utah, Dec. 29, 1890.

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Yellow Carniolans.

From Gleanings:

A good deal is said in the *Apiculturist* about yellow Carniolans. If they resemble the Italians at all, how are we to distinguish them from the bees of sunny Italy? The typical Carniolans we have tested seem different from Italians only in color. Make the color the same and we could not tell which from t'other. Who will be the lucky man to introduce yellow *black* bees?

THE STANDING FRAME.—Captain Hetherington has from 3,000 to 4,000 colonies of bees, while P. H. Elwood, also of Otsego, N. Y., and formerly his partner, has 1,300. They use the quinby hive with the closed end standing frame. Many others in New York state, having from 400 to 500 colonies, use either this frame or the Hoffman partly closed end hanging frame.—*Farm and Home in A. B. J.*

MR. J. M. CLARK, the honey merchant of Denver, Colorado, gave us a call last Saturday. He reports the production of Colorado as increasing very rapidly. In 1888 it amounted to 200,000 pounds, in 1889 it increased to 300,000 pounds and this year it approaches very nearly to 600,000 pounds. It is mostly gathered from Alfalfa, the next best honey producer being Cleome.—*A. B. J.*

A BEE tree cut near Mt. Morris, Pa., revealed the fact that the bees had chosen a tree with a cavity so small that their brood nest was only about 3 L. frame capacity—A good argument for small hives.

QUEEN REARING.

Dr. Miller Fails With the Doolittle Method.

In *Gleanings* he says: I tried Doolittles artificial cups for queen cells last summer. I made perhaps 200 of them. I tried to follow his instructions to the very letter; but after leaving them in the care of the bees for 24 hours, my spirits were saddened to find the bees had emptied every cup and cleaned it out bone dry. There were a few exceptions in which the grubs were kept a day or two, but only two that continued to maturity. These two were, I thought, the nicest I ever saw—the cells perfect, so easily detached, no daubing in cutting them out, no extra comb about the base, I'd like to know what the trouble was. Possibly the very poor season had something to do with my failures. With the Alley plan I had less trouble; but even with that there were more failures than in former years. * * *

DR. SEARLES, Warcester, Mass., is the possessor of five hundred colonies of bees. At the convention in Plougham Hall, Boston, Dec. 13, he said that he used a modification of Dr. Tinker's hive, and that four tons of honey were produced last season. At one hotel he sold half a ton. Most of the honey was sold in New York at twenty cents. The Doctor agreed with my remarks with the exception of one point, and that was feeding to stimulate brood rearing in spring. Should judge by his remarks that he fed a little too much.—*E. L. Pratt in Ameriran Api.*

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Bees as Protectors.

In a fight they come out best every time. Whole armies and flotillas have been vanquished by these little foes. Peddlers, tramps and book agents leave on the double quick when they treat bees uncivilly.

Our peach trees bore sparingly this season as the frost on the fifth of May thinned them; what fruit there was being very large and fine. Thievish boys looked at them longingly, but there were those terrible bees underneath, and the peaches were left undisturbed.

Lucious Catawba grapes hung tempting before the eye, but there was no one brave enough to face the music of humming bees.

Our Southern friends who raise water melons, which are such a temptation to plantation negroes, should take the hint and place hives of bees among their melon vines. None of the wooly heads would venture there, no matter how thirsty they might be.—*Mrs. L. Harrison, in the Prairie Farmer.—From A. B. J.*

Honey Crop in Australia.

I began last season with 110 colonies, which increased to 200, and I obtained 16,000 pounds of extracted honey. This yield would have been much larger, and the increase greater, had I not sold a large number of queens and colonies during the season. My best colony produced 480 pounds of honey. Some winters here are so mild that the bees gather honey all through it. It is very rarely the queens cease to lay.—*H. L. Jones, Goodna Queensland, Australia, in A. B. J.*

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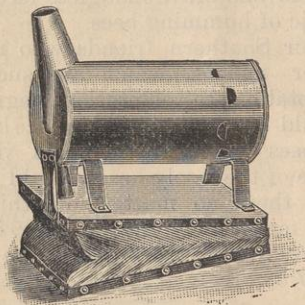
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