

The Australian bee bulletin. Vol. I, no. VI September 17, 1892

West Maitland, N.S.W.: E. Tipper, September 17, 1892

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THE AUSTRALIAN

BEE BULLETIN.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL, DEVOTED TO BEE-KEEPING.

Vol. I. No. VI.

SEPTEMBER 17, 1892.

PER COPY, 6d.

Per Annum 5s, booked 6s 6d; in Australasia, outside N.S.W., add 6d. postage.

THE AUSTRALIAN

BEE BULLETIN.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

E. TIPPER,

High St., West Maitland.

Price, Five Shillings Per Annum in Advance; Booked, 6s 6d.

HOPKINS TAKES THE LEAD.

Leather-Colored Queens,

FROM IMPORTED MOTHERS.

PRICES :-

1 specially choice tested queen, £1.

In 2 frame neucleus, £1 5s.

In 1-storey 10-frame Langstroth hive, £2.

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HAVE some odd-sized hives, containing colonies with good queens, which I will sell at £1 each.

J. W. HOPKINS,

Sunny Hill Apiary, Tickhole, Wallsend.

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To Correspondents.

A Sample Copy of the BEE BULLETIN will be sent FREE upon application.

BEEKEEPERS who are in search of Bees that work well, look well, and behave themselves well. Here are just such, which I have produced by combining the best strains obtainable by direct importations. As a guarantee of quality, I will forward bees and payment may be made after safe arrival.

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HAVE just got a Queen from Doolittle. See what he says about her: "Just as soon as the Queen marked xxx reaches you go to breeding from her, for she is all right, being about the best breeding queen I ever owned and worth \$50 or £10 for that purpose.

G. M. DOOLITTLE.

I will sell Untested Queens from this queen 7/6 each or 4 for £1. They will be sent along as early as I can breed them. Now, if you want any, order early.

BLUE MOUNTAIN HONEY DEPOT,

(Established 1887.)

I have decided to run a Commission Business in connection with my regular honey trade, and as I do the largest business in Sydney in Pure Honey, I feel confident of being able to satisfy all who may favour me with a trial.

I am Re-queening

all my hives this coming Spring, as I have decided to follow Manum's plan of not keeping queens over one year old. I shall have some hundreds of choice pure bred queens to dispose of at 15/- each or two for 25/- Here is a chance for you to get stock bred from the best imported strains at half cost. I have built up the largest bee concern in Australia, and I did not do it by keeping poor stock.

poor stock.

Daisy Wheelbarrows, 25/-; Wax Scrapers, 1/6; Wire Embedders, 1/4; 5 'Billy' cans (nested) 1 pt.

to 4 gallons, 2/6 per nest. Full line of other supplies equally cheap.

MAJOR SHALLARD, BLUE MOUNTAIN BEE FARMS, GLENBROOK.



A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO BEE-KEEPING.

EDITED BY G. R. HARRISON.

WEST MAITLAND.-SEPTEMBER 17.

Union is Strength.

We have received many encouraging letters from the bee-keeping fraternity in regard to the proposed Bee-keepers' Union, and some very valuable criticisms, thus, one queries the practicability of making it Australian national, as Australia is cut up into many self-governing provinces, and those of each province will require to work as a separate body, and that those in the one cannot be expected to have any influence on the affairs of another.

This is partly true, and a few years ago would have been almost wholly so, but of late the provincial bounds have been losing, to a great extent, their restricting influence.

But we think that one large national association would have far greater influence in any one province than would a merely provincial body.

Another objection raised is that there would be a never-ending disagreement as to where the head centre should be situated. This can be met by pointing out that each province in which any action may be required would be at once the centre.

For a long time such a union has been working, not only all over the United States of America, but over Canada also.

We would invite a good discussion upon this, and suggestions of points for its constitution.

"The Australian Farm and Home."

The above monthly journal of the Dairymen and Beekeepers' Associations of Victoria, is to hand, and is overflowing with milk and honey. Its apiarian department always contains something good and new, and dairymen all through Australia would be benefited by subscribing.

The items in the present issue are: Facts and Fancies re Foul Brood, by L. T. Chambers; Feeding Bees, by R. Bravington, Buln-Buln; Prevention Better than Cure, by T. Boltan, Dunkeld; and a valuable article on Napthol-beta, one on Italian Bees, showing their points of excellence; Bee Notes, and Work for the Month, with many paragraphs of great interest.

We are sorry to say that in their notice of the Australian Bee Bulletin they do not do it full justice—they mention it as the 'Bee Bulletin' of West Maitland, N.S.W. We are the "Australian Bee Bulletin"; and don't you forget it.

Ourselves.

With this issue the A.B.B. attains its sixth Lunaversary, and carries with it the promise of quite a sturdy youth, while its future steps from a monthly to a semi-monthly, and from that to a strong weekly, is only a matter of time and — money.

But now is the critical period, and we require all your assistance. The circulation of a paper is vital. Kindly do your best to extend ours. Send in the names of any one you know to be interested in beekeeping, that we may send sample copies, even at the risk of their names having been received before, and do your best to induce your neighbour to subscribe.

Queens Through the Mails.

Mr Pender has just received (Sept. 14) 3 large queen cages from Mr Doolittle, containing bees and queens, all dead.

Major Shallard, by the mail before, received a shipment of 4, out of which one queen was, through the envelope having been accidentally torn, still alive. This great loss is through such not being allowed through the mails in packet form. Mr Pender is about to try again.

Our American Cousins.

By the Mariposa's mail we have the four latest files of the old reliable American Bee Journal, full as usual of good matter. It is ever welcomed by Australian bee men.

Also the American Bee-keeper, published by the W. T. Falconer Company—a good monthly.

Melbourne News.

BY L. T. CHAMBERS.

Dear Sir,—I notice that some of our N.S.W. friends are already speaking of Spring, honey flow, storage of surplus. Well, I wish I knew where wind does really come from, for here in Victoria we have been suffering for weeks and weeks from the most nipping cold wind from the North, and not by any means a gentle blow either, but a rough, rude bluster of a wind that would keep a cow at home, much less a bee. Isn't N.S.W. North of Victoria? If so, where does the North wind come from—cold in Spring, hot in Summer?

Perhaps it is that Queensland man (Wragge). We always had good enough weather until he took to foretelling it and making things uncomfortable. Wish he would mind his Queensland weather

and let Victoria alone.

Why we don't get an opportunity to

look into a hive.

I post you a copy of a circular which is going forward to all the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies of Victoria—voicing the claims of beekeepers to better recognition at Shows and supplying a few points towards a basis in judging

exhibits. If we emphasise the point of flavour as being the chief requisite in honey, we shall, I think, meet the adulteration problem. The public have been so long taught to discriminate honey by appearance (Garden Honey and Bush Honey) that we need to give them another and a better basis, now that the honey extractors are at work all over the colonies, Without detraction, I might say that we have a good many 4-comb Stanley Extractors at work in Victoria, and some of our friends are thinking of 6-comb as requisite.

"Look out for the locomotive when the bell rings." Mr. James Bennett, of Tallarook, is on the war path on the foul brood question. His statement that F. B. was only equal to weeds in a garden and as readily kept in check, made just a few beekeepers open their eyes. He now proceeds to a demonstration. Will post you the Farm and Home for review with his articles published therein.

Franklin-st., Melbourne.

Have We a Remedy?

BY MAJOR SHALLARD.

I think not, if you mean through parliament, as we are as likely to get the moon as get a bill through the House to

prevent adulteration.

But I think we have a remedy in another direction, viz., by agitating the question until we so thoroughly warn the public against the adulterators that they will only buy honey which has a bona-fide bee-keepers' label on. To do this we want a good strong union. I think there are obstacles in the way of an Australian Union, but if the colonies acted together the result would be the same. We would, of course need to get the meetings fully noticed by the daily papers, but I think that could be arranged. I trust that something practical will be the outcome of the present movement. Glenbrook, N.S.W.

The H. R. B. K. A. Annual Meeting,

The annual meeting of the above body took place on the evening of Tuesday, the 13th inst.

In the absence of the President and Vice-president, Mr John Tucker was voted to the chair.

Minutes, apologies and correspondence

read and approved.

The following new members were admitted:—Mr Armstrong and Mr J. G. Eldridge, of Maitland, and Mr F. G. Daley, of Richmond.

The secretary then read the fifth

annual report as below.

Fifth Annual Report of the Hunter River Bee-Keeper's Association.

At the conclusion of another year of the existence of our bee-keepers' association the pleasing duty of giving a report of its continued progress and usefulness again falls to the

lot of the retiring committee.

Even greater interest has been taken in the meetings of the association during the past than in any former year, and the roll of members is steadily growing, and judging by the number of persons who are now embarking in the beekeeping business, and the more general interest that is being evinced in regard to both bees and honey, the roll will be largely added to during the coming year. The meetings still continue to be distinguished by the same kindly fraternal spirit, and when members have held different opinions on a subject, and beekeeping presents many subjects upon which conflicting opinions are held—they have always agreed to differ without any ill feeling.

A very good honey yield was experienced in this district last season, and very generally all over the colony. In many places however the yield would have been far better had it not been for the inclement weather prevailing during a large part of the time when honey would otherwise have been coming in.

The following gentlemen have become members of the association during the past year;—Messrs. Badcock, Blair, Butterworth, Buttsworth Clift, Cooper, Eckford, Dockrill, Gibbs, Graham, Hardy, Harris, Humble, Lawrie, Marsh, Meek, Morris, Moy, Naveau, Nevin, Newman, Osborne, Patten, Perry, Robinson, Sinclair, Squire, Taylor, Thompson, Tipper, Walker, Wheeler, Wright and Young.

At the invitation of the association a very successful convention of bee-keepers was held at West Maitland on Wednesday 27 and Thursday

28 of April last, being the first gathering of the kind held under the Southern Cross. Many subjects of great interest to bee-keepers were brought forward for discussion and received most intelligent attention, but want of time prevented all of them having the amount of time devoted to them their importance demanded. Visitors were present from as far as Junee and Tenterfield and even from Wellington, New Zealand, and the attendance would have been even better had the gathering not had to be postponed in consequence of the wet weather necessitating the exhibition of the Hunter River A. & H. Association being postponed and it having been decided that the convention be held on the date of show. This gathering was greatly enjoyed by all present and many were the expressions of appreciation.

Our Association having set the convention ball rolling, it was speedily followed by a similar gathering in Melbourne which was also a great success and it was decided at our convention that another be held in Cumberland next

year.

A good display of bee-products and bees was made at the local exhibition on 27 and 28 April by members on behalf of the Association and attracted much attention from visitors, being one of the most striking features of the show. These displays are valuable as a means of bringing honey and its value prominently before the public.

A number of samples of honey are to be forwarded for competition to Chicago Worlds Fair and Mr. Patten having charge of the matter is a guarantee of success.

The Rules of the Association have been revised and printed during the year for distribution among members and those contemplating

joining.

As showing the great growth and present importance of the bee-keeping industry, it is significant to notice that a journal—The Australian Bee Bulletin—is now being published, devoted solely to the interests of the little bee. It is published at West Maitland, and edited by Mr. G. R. Harrison, who has now for some years been a member of our Association, and is proving most helpful in keeping Australian beekeepers in touch with one another, and diffusing the latest information in regard to the pursuit. It is to be hoped that the venture will be so liberally supported that the venture will be so shortly be justified in further enlarging the paper, and issuing it fortnightly instead of monthly. A bee-keeping department has also been added to the Fanciers' Chronicle and the Rural Australian is also now regularly giving an "apiary" department.

To improve the strain of our bees importations s rom both Italy and America are now being made,

and the question of mailing bees has come to the front. It appears that live bees are not legal mail matter within the colony, and seeing the great benefit which would accrue to bee-keepers, the Postal authorities have been written to in regard to the matter, but so far nothing definite has been done as it has been referred to the London Post Office.

A library of works on bee-keeping is now being formed, and placed for public reference in the West Maitland Technological Museum, which will be a great convenience to persons interested in apiculture. It is also intended to file the journals to which the Association subscribes in

The meetings of the Association, of which twelve have been held during the past year, are now being called by advertisement in the

Australian Bee Bulletin.

Mr. Tipper has interested himself in the matter of establishing an export trade in honey, and has made enquiries about the price of honey in his native city-Bristol. Some of our members have also forwarded samples to London, in the hope of being able to find an outlet for it, and also to show the Daily Standard, of London, which published an article reflecting on the quality of Australian honey, what real Austra-

lian honey is like. The disease, "bee paralysis" as it is sometimes called, is not now, as in former years, known only in a few districts, as reports of its ravages are now received from several districts in which it was previously unknown. So far no really good remedy for the disease appears to have been found. Foul-brood was very bad in some districts last season, but in our own it has not given much trouble, and two of our members-Messrs. Patten and Pender—had some difficulty in getting a sample on which to start a series of experiments to establish its real nature.

A splendid collection of bee forage from the Paterson district was shown at the October meeting of the Association, which forcibly showed the great wealth of honey which might

be gathered in the bush.

The following, among other subjects have been discussed at meetings during the year:—
"Hanging and Standing Frames," "What heat is necessary in rendering wax to kill foul brood germs?" "Best method of preventing excess of drones," "How often should brood-combs be renewed," "When running for extracted honey is it advisable to allow the queen access to the whole hive?" "How to keep ants out of the honey room?" "Can the Italian-hybrid be beaten as a honey-gatherer?" "Rendering Wax," and "Bee Forage."

As may be seen by the accompanying balancesheet, our finances are in a most satisfactory

In conclusion, your committee hope that their

successors in office may be able to give another report of continued success attending the efforts of the association, and of great progress in the bee-keeping industry of the colony

MICH. SCOBIE,

Hon. Sec.

The adoption of the report was moved by Mr. R. Patten and seconded by Mr. Mr. Munday (the founder of the Association and the father of beekeeping in the Hunter River Valley) in a graceful and feeling speech, in which he spoke of the tireless energy of the secretary. The chairman eulogised the report as a perfect and most valuable epitome of the work of the Association.

The following officers were re-elected to the positions they have so long and creditably filled: President, the Hon. R. Scobie, M.L.A.; Vice-President, Mr. John W. Pender; Secretary, Mr, Mich. Scobie; Treasurer, Mr. W. S. Pender.

The Executive Committee, consisting of Messrs. Tucker, Vögele, Munday, Pullen, Pender, and Harrison, were reelected, and the name of Mr. R. Patten also added.

Mr. R. Patten gave notice that at next meeting he would move that the title of this Association be changed to the B.K.A. of N.S.W.

Mr. G. R. Harrison informed the meeting that steps were being taken to form a class for the study of Botany and General Gardening, under the tuition of Mr. J. Leopold, in connection with the Technical Branch of the Department of Public Instruction.

Mr M. Scobie pointed out the value such a class would be to the beekeeping fraternity, and trusted that the class would be successfully formed.

The Secretary moved that an official stamp, with the association's name upon

it be procured. Carried.

Mr Pullen gave notice, that in the event of any alteration of the bye-laws at next meeting he would move that the night of meeting be the Tuesday upon or nearest to the full moon.

Mr E. Tipper also gave notice that he

would move at next meeting that a second vice-president, also assistant secretary be

added to the list of officers.

On the motion of the Secretary, the Treasurer was authorised to procure files or binders, to contain the various periodicals subscribed to by the association, that they may be placed in the library of the association in the Technological Museum.

Mr Patten reported the progress of the World's Fair exhibits. It would be necessary for intending exhibitors to send honey enough to fill seven two pound jars, which should be in Maitland by Oct. 30, addressed "R. Patten, care of R. Blair and Sons, booksellers, West Maitland." Also that the sum of 3s. per entry should be forwarded for the purchase of jars.

Mr. Munday exhibited to the meeting the latest bee brush, which he said was an adaptation of a waste product to a good purpose by one of his younger sons. It

was the husk of a corn cob, combed out into strips with a table fork and then flattened into shape and trimmed-very

cheap and very effective.

Mr. Tucker produced a collection of blooms and buds. The blooms were: red gum, small-leaved ironbark, the whitethorn, and a small leguminous shrub, and the buds were spotted gum. He said the trees of the latter were almost breaking down with buds.

Mr. Munday mentioned a new experience with queens: He had found one without even the elements of wings; she

was, of course, a drone layer.

Mr. Vögele had often had wingless queens, and attributed it to shaking the comb with queen cells attached. Since he has learned better he has had no wingless queens.

A short discussion ensued on Mr. Gale's paper, after which the meeting was adjourned till Tuesday, October 11.

Write to DRUMFIN APIARY, West Maitland, for COMB FOUNDATION.

OUR QUESTION COLUMN.

Superseding Queens.

Question 4.—If a colony supersedes the old queen during winter or when drones are scarce, and the young one turns out to be a drone-layer, will it destroy the latter and raise another till they have another fertile one (if the mother holds out), or will they do away with the old queen as soon as the young one is laying, whether dronelaying or not?

The old queen will die.-J. F. Munday, Iona Apiary, Woodville.

I have not paid sufficient attention to answer this question.—ADAM KIRKPATRICK, Blayney.

This question reminds me of the mountain that was in labour and brought forth a mouse.—J. TUCKER, Paterson.

To the former part of this question I would say No, to the latter I would say Yes.—P. S. Grunsell, Goulbourn.

This is too hypothetical for me. Climate and circumstances must qualify every answer. As a matter of fact workers in natural condition never displace mother bees when there is no prospect of a honey flow or when drones are scarce.

The mother bee may die of old age or accident and then whatever the workers raise they keep. Under other conditions bees have to do whatever the Beemaster makes them.—BINNI. Bolwarra.

Believe they will very seldom supersede a queen during winter, or when drones are scarce, but if they did so, I think they would do away with the old queen as soon as the young one commenced laying, irrespective of whether she was a dronelayer or not .- F. G. DALEY, Richmond.

Strip-naked this question means "Do Bees descriminate" if a Queen lays fertile or unfertile eggs my answer is "No". I have not found that bees supersede their Queens in the winter nor at any time when drones are scarce.-L. T. CHAMBERS, Franklin-street, Melbourne.

1. They would treat the drone-laying queen with all the respect they would an ordinary fertile queen. 2. They are likely to let the old queen die a natural death, hence the reason we hear so many reports of two laying queens in one

hive.-W. S. Pender, W. Maitland.

If a colony raises a queen too late in the season to be fertilized, that colony cannot raise another queen without the help of man, because there will be only drone brood in the hive and no queen can be raised from it. The old queen disappears almost every time before or immediately after the advent of the young one .- A. J. C.

Vögele, Paterson.

As far as my experience goes I find it is rather the exception than the rule to find the old queen still in the hive when a young queen is laying. (ask Doolittle)—B. Naveau, Osborne Apiary,

Barrengarry.

I hardly understand this question. In the first part we hear of "superseding the old queen" and then "if the mother holds out. How can the old queen be in the hive if she is superseded? Two queens cannot reign in one hive. If the young queen turns out to be a drone layer, how is it possible to have a queen raised from an unfertilised egg? The winter is a bad time, as a rule, to talk about queens being fertilised. If the queen turned out a drone-layer, it would be absolutely necessary for the workers to supersede her or the hive would inevitably dwindle away. But how can they do it, if there is no worker brood in the hive? Some assert that the old queen is allowed to remain for a while, but I have never proved it.—W: Shaw, Denison-st Mudgee.

Queens often disappear at the end of Autumn, and it is a part of the regular programme to double up queenless hives at that season.

The many reports we read of two queens laying in the same hive and upon the same comb, seems to point to the inference that the bees do not always execute the old mother on the advent of the new, but it still requires proof that it is the rule. As Mrs. L. Harrison observes, "Bees do nothing invariably.—EDITOR.

To the Editor.

Dear Editor.—Don't you think that the H. R. B. K. Association could very profitably discuss the high rates that honey is charged at on the railway. I believe that the Commissioners are anxious to foster the colonial industries, and if a deputation from the Association waited upon them, I feel certain that they would secure lower rates. If the farmer benefits the country (and he undoubtedly does) the bee-farmer benefits it more so, and therefore should be put on the same basis as the farmer. The farm produce runs at a very low rate, why should the honey be charged higher.

We have just got a shipment of 7 cwt. from Kelso, near Bathurst, and the freight came to 17/6 for a distance of 143 miles. Take this at 14 tins of honey, it is nearly one tin as freight to pay for 13.

I think that anyone will admit that

this is an unfair tax on our bee-keeping brethren in the back country.

MAJOR SHALLARD.

Blue Mountain Bee Farms, Glenbrook.

Introducing Queens by Chloroform.

BY J. R. H. GAGGIN.

Sir,—It is a well-established fact that the introduction of queens in Winter by any of the usual plans is a difficult and riskful proceeding, and it should therefore never be undertaken when we can avoid it,

But we cannot always avoid it, and so it were well to know of some method of queen introduction that could be relied upon with a certainty of success in winter; a plan, too, that could be used in other seasons with refractory colonies, which (as Mr. Root styles it in language more expressive than elegant) "out of sheer cussedness" will not accept queens; and that also will insure the safe introduction of virgin queens of any age. Such a method, I believe, we have in the use of chloroform. It is infallable so far as I have tested it.

I used chloroform many times last season to introduce virgin queens from one to ten days old, and within the past few weeks I have introduced over twenty laying queens by it, in both instances without a single failure. The majority of the laying queens had been caged over three weeks, and could not be released by any plan, on account of the cold and abundance of robbers, until I tried chloroform.

The manner of using it that I have practised is, as follows:—

HOW TO USE THE CHLOROFORM.

Having the queen to be introduced caged in the centre of brood-nest, and standing yourself by the side of the hive with its cover removed, take a piece of

flannel 8in. x 24in., and fold it three times so that it is about eight inches square, now measure two (2) teaspoonfuls of chloroform (which should be kept in a glass-stoppered bottle) and sprinkle it upon the upper surface of the folded flannel, then instantly peel off the quilt and place the flannel with the chloroformed side downwards, upon the frames over centre of brood nest. Replace the quilt quickly, pressing it well down over the flannel (to confine the chloroform vapour to hive), and then leave matters in statu quo for just about one minute, when the bees will really "scream" for mercy at their topmost notes (this "screaming" may be heard more than twenty yards away). Having left the flannel on for just one minutte, lift the quilt and remove the flannel, when you may probably see a few dozen bees on the bottom board, lying "stiffened out" apparently, but two or three minutes fresh air will revive these thoroughly. All the remaining bees will be "screaming" and clinging desperately to the combs to prevent their tumbling down among their aforesaid comrades on the bottom board (the chloroform partially paralysing their little sensoriums). The queen, having been caged in the centre of brood-nest all this time, and enjoying her chloroform along with her subjects, should then be released immediately, and the hive closed. Your queen is safely introduced, and no further trouble is needed. Not a bee will be killed, save perhaps three or four that come into direct contact with the chloroformed flannel, as it is being placed in position, the others will run away as far as possible from it.

I cannot give the rationale of the process yet. Chloroform seems to temporarily deprive bees of all their inherent warlike disposition, for, if they be examined some hours after its administration, the most savage hybrids will not attempt to use their stings, no matter how roughly they may be handled.

Lismore Apiary, Lismore.

Flat v. Gable Covers.

BY F. G. DALEY.

I must first of all apologise for not answering the question as to Flat and Gable Covers, but I have been away from home enjoying a few weeks' holiday. However, as none of the answers given in last number, except two, appear to meet my view of the case, I will ask you to accept my answer to the question.

Nearly eight years ago, when I first commenced bee-keeping, I bought a few Langstroth Hives with flat covers, but receiving, shortly afterwards, some catalogues of bee-keeping appliances, hives, etc., I was much struck with the fine appearance of the gable covers, and straightaway had some dozen or two made, and very nice they looked on the hives, giving them a finished appearance, and making them look like little houses. For five years I tested them, together with flat covers, both on the same kind of hives (Langstroth), but have now discarded them, as I prefer the flat covers for the reasons to be herein named. Before doing so, let us consider what are the chief requisites of a good hive cover. 1. It must, during our hot summer months, shed the sunshine, to keep the hives as cool as possible during the very hot weather. 2. It must likewise shed the rain during wet weather. 3. It must conserve heat during the spring and winter months. 4. It must be watertight. 5. Be cheaply constructed. Now let us see which of the two fulfil most of these conditions.

The flat covers, as I use them, with rough shade boards, will fulfil all these conditions, the gable cover will fulfil only numbers 1, 2, and 4, it will not fulfil 3 and 5, most important ones. I flnd the gable cover a very great drawback to early brood-rearing, as the double top prevents the full heat of the sun penetrating through into the brood nest, and in the case of gable covers with a space over the brood chamber instead of a

second board, the result is the same. I have tested this matter with similar strains of bees in the same kind of hive, some of the hives with gable covers, and others with flat covers, and in every case the bees in the hives with flat tops were ahead in the spring in brood-rearing. Do not think I am advancing a theory, culled from some bee journal, this is the result of my own experience after several years trial. I need not enlarge on the advantages of early brood-rearing, as bee-keepers are too well aware of the same. For hives placed out in the open, gable covers certainly possess two advantages, viz., they shed the rain in wet weather, and keep the hives cool in hot weather. The flat covers I use are made out of a single piece of board, cleated at each end to prevent warping, one side painted red for winter and spring use, and the reverse side painted white for summer use, and I find this plan is also used by Mr. J. F. Munday, the father of bee-keeping in the Maitland district. In the hot weather I use a rough shade board placed over the flat cover, with two battens nailed across it to prevent warping. The advantages of the flat cover are its cheapness, easy construction, durability, assistance to early broodrearing, 'tis easily handled, useful to place smokers, supers, &c., upon when manipulating, and I say that none of these advantages can be claimed for the gable cover, except perhaps durability. In spring time, when heat is required to assist brood-rearing, the red painted side of the flat cover is placed uppermost, as the darker color attracts and retains the rays of the sun much better than a light color. For those bee-keepers who need to move their hives any distance, say, to catch the honey flow of certain flowers, or for any other purpose, the flat covers are invaluable, as they can be screwed down, and the hives piled or tiered one on top of the other. The hive of the progressive bee-keeper, all things considered, is, I believe, the new dove-tailed hive, of which I will speak in another

article (as I tried it the last season) when treating of the Hoffman frames. I will conclude by saying that with covers, as with hives, frames, &c., each kind possess certain features and certain good points, so that in selecting a hive cover, be certain to take the one which combines the most important points, as the flat cover does when compared with the gable cover.

Richmond, N. S. Wales.

A New Use of a Waste Product.

Mr. J. Wilson-Green, of the Wavertree Apiary, Logan River, Queensland, amongst other valuable communications

sends the following :-

As so far I have seen no use for the refuse of the Solar Wax Extractor in any of the Bee Literature, only to bury it, etc. I relate the following: I used to do that until one day having a lot of roasted drones from the old combs I was melting down, I gave it to the fowls, and found they ate coocoons and all; next a calf came along, and he liked it too, so I continued it; but it was some time ere I found its real value. A large number of my calves (hand fed) kept dying with scours (for which I have tried everything. without avail) and still this one that ate the refuse from the extractor did well. and never had the scours. It was a motherless calf, and I took no trouble with it until it occurred to me that it might be the wax. Well, I tried it on two calves (valuable ones) that were just getting sick, and found it cured them, nor have they had it since. So I have come to the conclusion that if they are taught to eat it as soon as they are taken from the mother, and continue it, they will thrive as well as if the mother reared them. I have tried the water when boiling wax in cloth, etc., but it is not effective in any way, so far as I've tried, only the Solar Extractor, and that will not cure it, if gone too far. If given to young calves (they will soon learn to eat

it) when warm, they will soon eat it up and not let the bees get a chance at it, and as long as they have it they will never scour, I have proved. The only trouble is I cannot get enough of it this time of the year. They will eat any quantity without injury, but a little suffices.

To sell your Honey get some "HONEY PAMPHLETS."

General Notes.

BY W. SHAW.

Sir.—I suppose a few remarks in general will not be out of place. The busy time with the "bee man" is fast approaching; in fact, in this district, it is already here. Bees are now storing honey in any quantity. Less than a fortnight ago I extracted from the supers of two colonies, and they are almost full again, nearly all the combs being sealed. The honey in some instances is exceptionally thick, and cannot be extracted with any success, the combs invariably breaking in the extractor; the color of the honey is a fine amber. Bees have stored honey all the winter here.

The first swarm of the season has made its appearance. Mr. J. Graham, of Denison-street (not far from the residence of your humble servant) secured a young swarm on Thursday last, 25th August. This is one of the earliest swarms that I have ever known of in this part. Mr. Graham is a real enthusiast in the bee line, and I hope he will have a very

prosperous year.

I have been keeping the extractor running in order to prevent swarming as much as possible. I find the pure Italian behind the blacks and hybrids, not much

though.

I notice where friend Daly, of Richmond has managed to get a small letter inserted in the Daily Telegraph in answer to M. Bray. He has had a little more "luck" than some other bee-keepers, including myself.

To give your readers some idea of the amount of honey in this district, I may add that I was recently conversing with a gentlemen who lives in the bush, and he informed me that from three trees, felled in the bush, he secured five buckets of strained honey.

Everything points to a great honey

year here.

Denison-street, Mudgee.

A New Enemy.

Mr. C. F. Jeannerett, of Hunter's Hill, whose advertisement of imported queens appears elsewhere, says: "It is a pleasure to see the steady improvement in our bee journal, and trust it may be appreciated as it should be by the Bee-

keepers of Australia.

"I suppose you have already heard that some unknown disease has broken out in Central Cumberland. It is at present undergoing diagnosis at the Agricultural Department, and I am just taking them some healthy bees for comparison, as there has been no disease of any description among my bees since I started.

I am told the disease becomes very contagious, but has not yet been identi-

fied.

With every good wish for the success of the *Bulletin*, I remain, yours sincerely, C. F. Jeanneret.

Swarms.

Mr. G. R. Humble, of Warrah, has already had two swarms, and Mr. Kline of Tamworth three, one of which already has sections on the road to completion.

Apis Niger.

It is whispered that Mr. R. Patten has made arrangements to import a colony of Punics from "Hallamshire Bee-Keeper." We at present have in Australia, the Italian, Cyprian, Carniolan, and Black, the good old Bumble, and our own Australian varieties.

Italians, Hybrids, or Blacks?

BY W. ABRAM.

Substantial proof is the best in any case or argument, also here; observe then that the Italian bee has proved to be the best wherever introduced. It is only 40 years since the Italian bee became known outside of Italy; it is only 30 years since the first Italian bees landed in America, and only 12 years since their introduction to Australia. What short time within which to establish itself in the three great beekeeping countries. But, what is more, the black bee was abundant everywhere where the Italian was introduced, and in spite of all, the latter not only held their own against the former but they superseded them in every instance. Such must be a superior bee, or else what other reasons would anyone give? Why should they win thousands after thousands of admirers if not for their better qualities? Such are facts and they cannot be shaken by the opinion of a few, some of whom are even wanting in experience to express an opinion. If I had not the majority of bee-keepers of three countries to back me up my opinion might look advertisinglike, although the fact was established before I made Australia my domicile. Single instances cannot be admitted as conclusive. Satisfactory conclusions can only be drawn after experiment lasting several years, and on a large scale. The purity of the new race must be a certainty. There are differences in everything, also in bees and queens. I have had some excellent stocks of black bees, but these were exceptions; also some Italian stocks were very inferior to others-exceptional. All in all the Italian is superior to the black or any other bee, they combine beauty, gentleness, industry, etc., etc., and for these reasons 1 uphold their repute.

So long as the black bee only was known there were no hybrids. The pro-

geny of a black queen mated by an Italian drone is a hybrid-black hybrid; and the progeny of an Italian queen fertilized by a black drone is hybrid-Italian These are primary. further queen or drone progeny is according. Primary black-hybrids resemble the black, primary Italian-hybrids the Italian strain. The black hybrids are better honey gatherers than the pure black. Italian hybrids are better honey gatherers than the black hybrid, and they are good breeders, but decidedly Their stingyness is the great irritable. objection I have against them. Besides it is almost as difficult to keep them pure -primary-as it is to keep the Italians pure. Secondary hybrids would delight anyone desirous to have many swarms issue.

In connection with the above I may fulfil my promise and give fuller explanation to questions in No. 3. Circumstances by which a queen is influenced in her laying in winter are the age of the queen, the temperature by day and by night, number of bees, amount of comb, and the quantity of honey being gathered and its continance. An aged queen is less inclined to lay in winter than a young one. Cold nights hinder breeding, too many combs in a hive is no inducement for breeding. Different treatment occasions different results. If breedingspace was scarce in the autumn, and is abundant in winter, as it is after extracting, it induces breeding, and especially so does comb building. Black bees swarm often, and they supersede old queens; they have young queens and these lay in winter. However, although I have known them to have brood all the winter through, they were no stronger, and had less honey in October than Italians which had no brood from April till July, and I can see no advantage in breeding in winter unless the weather is suitable. The queens I brought out with me and took care of on board ship were splendid layers indeed, and surpassed all black ones I kept alongside with them. But if they suffer, sometimes unknown to the beekeeper, their laying capacity will be faulty, through no fault of theirs though, and this applies to any queen.

Beecroft.

THE "Honey Pamphlets" are a good line.—

BLACKS Y ITALIANS.

(BY A. J. C. VOGELE.)

Friend Niven in his letter on Blacks v Italians, tells of a very high average with Black Bees. What would you have averaged Friend N. had you good Italians?

At the outset Friend N. says his bees suffered from the moth, so much so, that they where reduced to neucleii. Get Italians F. N.-I never knew them to suffer from the moth; and a man with an average of 165lbs per colony (to say nothing of the wax) ought to be in a position to get the best bees extant.

In manipulating Friend N. can work

faster with blacks. I can't, and I don't know anybody else that can. How do you get the bees to stay on the comb? My Blacks would bundle off pell mell if I wanted to find out something—say the queen.

In producing honey-comb the Blacks take the cake, and then only in appearance; in quality the Italians are equal.

In laying eggs the Italian queen beats both Black or Hybrids for regularity; Italians are also less inclined to swarm; again, Italians are not so easily demoralized as Blacks in the case of robbing; and last, in point of beauty the Black must give way to the Italian, though Friend N. may dispute this, it is nevertheless a qualification, even in bees as in everything else, and, if he should doubt it, please let him ask some of the young men and women whether goods looks are not a qualification.

Friend N. only had one colony of Italians, they may not have been up to the standard and, as his experience has been with only a single colony, he cannot sit in judgement on the two races.

Paterson, August 30th.

Write to DRUMFIN APIARY, West Maitland, for COMB FOUNDATION.

Blue Mountain Bee Farms, Glenbrook, N.S.W.,

August 11th, 1892.

Dear Editor,—I have a shipment of four of Doolittle's best queens just to hand, but three of them are dead. They were mailed in a long shipping cage and the whole enclosed in very large envelope. I blame the method of shipment for the deaths, and I think it is scandalous that the beekeepers here should be hampered by the absurd postal regulations. Strange to say the survivor was xxx and is as lively as possible, and running all over the combs quite contentedly. I enclose copy of Doolittle's letter with the queens.

Yours Truly, MAJOR SHALLARD Dear Sir,—I mail you this day, herein two queens, one tested, by natural swarming and one extra select for breeding, the latter having an x on the apartment. Just as soon as the queen marked xxx reaches you go to breeding from her, for she is alright, being about the best breeding queen I ever owned, and worth about 50 dollars or £10 for that purpose.

G. M. DOOLITTLE,

Borodino, New York.

Major Shallard, Glenbrook, N.S.W.

WRITE to E. Tipper, High-street, West Maitland for sample of Honey Pamphle

The Right Way

Mr. Josiah E. Taylor, the pushing proprietor of the Cowra and Coota apiaries has a sprightly, well-written notice of a visit to his apiary in the Cowra Guardian. That is the way to work up your home market; have your apiary fit to look at, and get a representative of your local paper to do it, it will cost you very little, but it will boom. your honey.

At the Minmi Show

The display of honey was excellent. Messrs. C. Osborn, H. Taylor, and R. A. Taylor competed for the best trophy for comb foundation, strained or extracted honey, and honey in comb, and a very good display they made too. The honey flow in this district must have been good, in fact there must have been some flow all through the winter, judging from the well-filled trames, which by the way are the \(^3_4-Langstroth size, those beekeepers considering that the Langstroth is too large, and is liable to "sag" when full.

The following are the awards of the judges in the department of apiculture at the Show at Minmi on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd September:—Three jars or bottles honey: R. A. Taylor, Black Hill, 1; C. Osborn, Mount Elliott, 2. 7lb Beeswax: Henry Taylor, Black Hill, 1; R. A. Taylor, Black Hill, 2. Best trophy comb foundation, strained or extracted honey, and honey in comb: C. Osborne, Mount Elliott 1; Henry Taylor, Black Hill, 2.

I have moved my bees recently to a new location, about two miles from town. The hives are now full, and I intend starting to extract at once.

> G. Packham, Quickbourne Apiary, Molong.

An Early Swarm.

Dear Sir,—I received my first swarm of bees to-day, hybrids, a real "whopper." We have had bad weather for the bees for the last week, nothing but rain.

Yours truly, W. SHAW.

Denison-st., Mudgee, Sept., 8, 1892.

A Correction.

Mr. J. R. H. Gaggin, whose valuable paper on introducing queens by chloroform appears in this issue, writes asking us to correct an error we fell into in entitling him Doctor, he says he is not a doctor yet.—May he be one soon, and a good one.

My bees have come through the winter very successfully. Out of about eighty hives, I have not lost any, and I look forward to early swarming. On fine afternoons the flight of young bees is quite musical. They are still working from blind nettle and other weeds growing on the cultivation lands. Stringybark is in bloom, white clover is coming in, and so are the various fruit trees. Things apicultural ought to hum along during the incoming season.

C. MANSFIELD, Hunter River Apiary, Largs.

Among the Bees.

Last week we—a party of three—took a trip to the garden and apiary of Mr. H. Peterson, which is situated near Wattle Flat, in a pretty little turn of the Turon River, and where he is in the midst of clover, and has also a good run of numerous varieties of eucalyptus. We were shewn through his snug little orchard and vineyard, kept in the neatest of order, with the soft tints of the early

fruit bloom giving promise of fruitful bounty. But that which interested us most was his 150 stocks of bees, all in "long idea" hives, ranged around by the fence.

We learned that the beginning of the previous season had found him with only 50 stocks, so that he has increased 200 per cent and obtained also 16 tons of honey, the greater part of which is from clover—half of which was still in hand, awaiting the increased demand which always occurs in the early spring.

We much admired the numerous little contrivances for making work light, and the various appliances which are neces-

sary for modern beekeeping.

After sampling some of his vintage, we bade good-bye to Mr. Peterson with many thanks for his courtesy in showing us so much that was interesting and with many wishes for another most successful season. Bathurst. H.

Beekeeping in Tasmania.

In reply to a communication, Mr. Magnus M. Smith, of Launceston, writes:—

Dear Sir,—I shall be happy to represent the B.B. in Tasmania, and if you send me along a few spare copies from time to time, say once every three months, I shall be happy to distribute them. We have about twenty, what I call genuine bee-keepers in Northern Tasmania, but many others are making enquiries. I promised our Mechanics' Institute committee a Lecture on the subject. I gave one and they asked for a second, these I find awaken much interest. I paint my own diagrams and exhibit appliances, combs, foundation, honey, &c., and at close give time for asking questions, and very many have been enabled to see and understand things which have puzzled them for years. I have now given a lecture in nearly every corner of the north part of our island. I shall be glad to meet you if you come to Launceston, if you could help in the way of a lecture, I would try and arrange for one.

Yours faithfully, MAGNUS M. SMITH.

[Thanks friend S., I have long promised myself the treat of visiting your fertile island, shall be glad to hold forth.—Ep.]

Queens Through Queensland Mails.

BY J. WILSON-GREEN.

When I received the June number of A.B.B. I wrote to the Post-master General re Queen Bees, &c. The following is copy of reply received:

Post and Telegraph Department, Brisbane, 28th June, 1892.

Sm,—In reply to your letter of the 20th inst., asking whether Queen Bees and their attendants can be sent through the Post from America, I have the honor to inform you that Queen Bees can be sent to and received from places within the Australasian Colonies at pattern and sample rates. The U.S. of America and several other administrations under the Postal Union have agreed to the exchange of Queen Bees, &c., at sample rates of postage if properly packed.

JOHN McDONNELL, Under Secretary.

Mr. J. Wilson-Green, Wavertree Apiary, Gramzow, Logan River.

By this answer-received we shall be able to have Queens sent at sample rates from the United States, which G. M. Doolittle has been doing; but A. I. Root would not, as he said it was illegal, although I asked him to try it.

Wavertree Apiary,
Gramzow,
Logan River,
Queensland.

The Ball is Rolling.

A Bee-Keepers' Convention is to sit in Adelaide to-day, Sept. 17.

B. L. GRAHAM,

THE BEE-KEEPERS' TINMAN

HIGH-ST., WEST MAITLAND.

BEE-KEEPERS!

Why degrade your delicious honey by putting it into second-hand cans, when you can get NEW CANS from me, made for the purpose.

I make a stock article of 60lb., 25lb., 20lb., and 9lb. cans.

I make to order all kinds of Honey Cans, Honey Tanks, Extractors, Uncapping Cans, and all BEE-KEEPERS' TINWARE.

The Cheapest Shop for Family and General Tinware.

Galvanised Tanks a Specialty.

Terms Cash.

Please mention the "Bee Bulletin."

Honey Pamphlets,

(8-Page Crown Octavo,)

ONTAINING an article on the Use of Honey, written by Mr. G. R. Harrison, entitled, "What do you know about Honey?" and also a large number of recipes, both culinary and medical.

Supplied to bee-keepers, with their own advertisement printed on the first and second page, at the rate of 30/- per 1000.

To push the Sale of your Honey these are Splendid.

Sample Copy forwarded by post on application.

E. TIPPER

HIGH STREET, WEST MAITLAND.

Answers to Correspondents.

Mr S. B. Collier, Bowning.—You have done well to use the Isabella vine for shade for your apiary, but we require them trained differently to the way Root shows; our sun is vertical in summer, and we want top shade, which is secured by a roof trellis about 7 feet high, for which this vine is first-class. Mr George Green of Clarence River, whose apiary took the first National prize in 1890, has a long gable shed and a verandah of horizontal trellis covered with vines on each side under which he keeps his hives.

The book we sent was the Melbourne one, by L. T. Chambers, and we wished you to compare the two and report which you thought best for beginners; kindly place it where it will

do most good.

Subscriptions Received.

Mr. S. B. Collier, Bowning	50
J. S. Marlin, Forbes	5 0
H. Jervis, Moss Vale	3 6
A. Sheather, Jones' Creek, Gundagai	5 0
T. M. Hewitt, Lismore	6 6
Henry W. Cook, Lancefield, Victoria	5 6
W. S. Gourd, Murrurundi	50
E. Blair, West Maitland	0 4
C. F. Jeanneret, Bunter's Hill	5 0
J. R. Atkinson, Cullenbone	50
John B. Kline, Tamworth	50
Rev. J. Ayling, Windsor	50
Mr. Jas. McFarlane, Lyndhurst, Victoria	150
F. W. Penberthy, Elsmore	50
Donald Campbell, Stawell, Victoria	10 0

Our Wants & Exchanges.

Advertisements under this head will be charged at the rate of 1s. per insertion of not more than two lines of this type, about 15 words.

Wanted to exchange comb foundation for wax or eash. Pender, Drumfin Apiary, W. Maitland.

To exchange, good Lancaster ½-plate camera, complete, for 200 L frames or offers. Z., c/o B.B.

The honey industry is assuming very important proportions in South Australia. One beekeeper turned out 50 tons of the article during the past twelve months.

ONS OF



BROTHER Beekeepers, if you want CHOICE QUEENS whose Bees will ROLL IN THE HONEY, and at the same time be GOOD-LOOKING and GENTLE, please write for my CIRCULAR and PRICE LIST.

Raising Choice Queens is my hobby. Fresh Imported Stock every season

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JAS. McFARLANE. ST. JOHN'S WOOD APIARY, LYNDHURST,

VICTORIA.

亚滋乐型变料。仓币重重预告

Doolittle and Bianconcini Strain.

RDERS now booked for early delivery in September, perhaps sooner: Untested, 7/6 each; Tested, 15/-; Select Tested for breeding, 20/-. All are post paid to any address. I stand all risk through post only.

Also sole maker of the "Gallup" Hive-12 storey, 24 frames and starters set up complete, 12/6. Boss Foundation Fasteners, 3/- each. The best fastener made. Try one.

A Trial Solicited. Make all Orders payable to

George Zames,

BEE FARM, GORDON, N.S.W.

Mention A.B.B. when Ordering.

Gearing and Cages for Stanley Automatic Reversable Extractors.

> 4 Comb 40/-

The Ree=keepers' Supply (o.

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If you want

FOUNDATION

ITALIAN BEES,

For business and quietness combined, try

Strain, the result of over 5 years' careful breeding. Foundation 1/9 per lb. for 12 lbs and over. Queens from Oct. 12/6 each (warranted pure). Send for price list. Beeswax bought or ex-changed for foundation.

IONA APIARY, WOODVILLE.

MY Strain of ITALIAN BEES are Beautiful, Gentle, Prolific, and Hardy. Try a Tested Queen, posted 8/-Nucleus (1, 2 and 3 frames) Full Swarms, Bee Books, Section Boxes, Extractors, &c.

Prices on application.

Black Ranges, Stawell,

VICTORIA.

COMB FOUNDATION.

Medium & Light, 2s. per lb. 6 to 12 lbs. Is. 10d. per lb. 12lbs. and over 1s 9d.

R. H. JERVIS

MOSS WALE.

BEES.

BEE-KEEPERS

DOOLITTLE BEES.

1 have a few nice **PLASTER SLABS** for brush made foundation, on the Cheshire plan, for sale.

FOR SALE

Size of slabs, $17\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{3}{4}$. Can be cut to any suitable size

A FEW COLONIES of PURE THREE BANDED ITALIANS OF THIS NOW CELEBRATED STRAIN in SIMPLICITY HIVES with AMPLE STORES. Queens guaranteed Daughters of Imported Mothers.

Price, 4s 6d.

PRICE, FOUR GUINEAS.

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HIGH STREET, WEST MAITLAND

T. H. BRADLEY, SUNNYSIDE APIARY.

DENHAM COURT,

LIVERPOOL.

IF YOU WANT

HONEY 2

LABELS

PLAIN OR IN COLOURS,

CLUB RATES.

WE will supply Dovetailed Hive Bodies in Flat in lots of 50 F.O.B. at Melbourne at 2s 6d ea. Langstroth Frames at £5 per 1000. Frames are made with $\frac{7}{8} \times \frac{1}{2}$ clear pine top bar, grooved to fdn. shouldered to 5/16, end bars $\frac{7}{8} \times \frac{3}{8}$, bottoms $\frac{7}{8} \times \frac{1}{4}$. Fixed Distance Frames, same price. Hoffman Frames, solid, 16s per 100. Porter Bee Escapes, 6d ea.

BEE-KEEPEERS' SUPPLY CO.,

FRANKLIN-STREET,

MELBOURNE.

E. Tipper,

PRINTER & STATIONER,

NEAR TELEGRAPH OFFICE,

HIGH-ST., WEST MAITLAND.

A. J. C. VOGELE,

FELSENTHAL APIARY, PATERSON,

WISHES it to be known that he commenced beekeeping with an Italian Swarm in February, 1887. In the year 1888 he imported, and has continued importing and queen rearing ever since, never being without an imported queen in his apiary the whole time, and giving his very best attention to same. He is, therefore, able to supply the Choicest Quality of Italian Queens (tested or untested.)

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ADDRESS-

A. J. C. VOGELE, Felsenthal Apiary, Paterson, or C/o of Messrs. Barden and Ribee.

or C/o E. Tipper, Printer, W. Maitland.

Hunter River Bee-Keepers' Association.

MONTHLY MEETINGS.

-AT-

Technological Rooms, West Maitland.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11TH.
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH.
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH.
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MADE from pure Beeswax. In any quantity. Prices—1 to 6 lbs., 2/- per pound; 6 to 12 lbs., 1/10;

12 lbs. AND OVER I/9 per lb.

Honey, Bees, Queens, Colonies, Nuclei, etc.

"The National Prize Apiary."
OAKHAMPTON, WEST MAITLAND.

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ITALIANૠ← →₩QUEENS

FOR SALE-£1 each.

To arrive in September from Chas. Bianconcini's Apiary, Bologna, Italy.

By post or rail as desired.

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Price List on demand, with enclosed reply.

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HIGH STREET, WEST MAITLAND.

Bee - Hives : and : Appliances.

[Second shipment of Bee Goods due in October ex "City of Philadelphia.]

SIMPLICITY & DOVE-TAILED HIVES.

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A.B.G. OF BEE, STRAWBERRY & POTATO

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(AUTHORISED AGENT FOR A. I. ROOT,)

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