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The Southland queen. Vol. I, No. 11 March 1896

Beeville, Texas: The Jennie Atchley Company, March 1896

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THE 
Southland
Queen.

Beeville, Texas.

MARCH, 1896. 

Established 1884.

J. M. Jenkins,

Wetumpka, Ala.

Steam Bee-hive Factory.
 Full line of Bee-keepers' Supplies.
 Italian Bees.
 60-page Catalog tells you all
 about it. Free.

✱ ROOT'S COMB FOUNDATION! ✱

New Product.

We are pleased to announce that, having secured controll of the new Weed process of manufacturing foundation for the U. S., we are prepared to furnish **Foundation by the New Process**, for 1896. Samples will be mailed free on application, and will speak for themselves.

New Process.

OUR SANDED and POLISHED SECTIONS, well, they speak for themselves, also.

A Big Success

Our 1896 Catalog now ready for distribution. Send in your name at once for catalog, samples of the new foundation, and those superb sections, and while you are about it ask for a late copy of **Gleanings in Bee-Culture**.

THE A. I. ROOT CO., MEDINA, OHIO.

56 5th Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Syracuse, N. Y.

1024 Mississippi St., St. Paul, Minn.



W. R. GRAHAM.
LEAH ATCHLEY. ROSA ATCHLEY.

THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

MOTTO: FAIRNESS.

Vol. I.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, MARCH, 1896.

No. II.

Three years ago Bee county did not have one single practical bee-keeper. Today they are counted by the score.

Every body notice and see if all colonies now have good queens, as there lies the secret of success and a honey crop.

The absence of bees has often caused good fruit localities to fail, as trees will not bear well without bees to fertilize the blooms.

This part of Texas will ship out, last month and this, five hundred car loads of cabbage, and in the near future honey will be going out by the car load.

Fruit growing is taking fast in South Texas, and we note that bees are being started right along with fruit, and the growers say they must have the bees to pollinize the blooms.

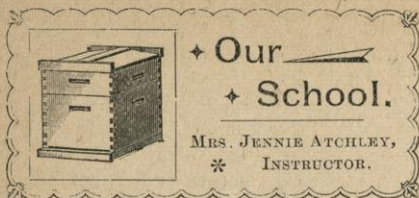
It is all right to have nice, yellow bees, but the point we wish to make, is; it takes too much of one's time to keep every colony yellow, and while your time is being lost you may loose a honey crop too.

Some of our Northern friends wish to know when our bees began gathering pollen this year. They did not begin. We have had a warm winter, and bees gathered pollen and some honey all winter.

We note the color craze among beginners as of yore. Dear friends, will you listen to one that has been there? If so, do not place too much stress on color, but look for a honey crop, and use the bees that bring in the largest yields.

Pinch the heads off of all queens that do not bring up strong colonies by March 15, in South, and April 15, in North Texas. If their colonies have had plenty honey, and the balance of the apiary doing well, you may know something is wrong.

Our North Texas bee-keepers better look after their bees close for April and the first part of May. Swarming may begin first of April, and by the first of May the whole apiary be on the verge of starvation, and your honey crop be cut short by the bees getting a check at this season of the year.



LESSON NUMBER 8.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—

If you will answer the following questions I will be very thankful to you, as I am now a scholar.

(1.) How do the Golden bees winter, compared with 3 band Italians?

(2.) Since a cross mated golden queen will often produce all 3 band bees, how are we to be sure when they are pure?

(3.) Are Golden bees any worse to rob than 3 band bees?

(4.) I wish to rear queens for sale. Which strain would you advise me to raise.

J. S. WORLEY.

Isom, Tenn., Feb. 24, 1896.

FRIEND WORLEY:—To your first question I will say; that all bees seem to winter alike in this part of the country, but I have some complaint from Northern states, that the Golden bees do not winter as well as other bees. Whether it is so or not, I am unable to tell, as those that made the complaint may have given the Golden bees more notice than other bees, and impartially made a decision. Then, it may be they are not as hardy as 3 banders. This will be proven later on.

(2.) If a Golden queen cross-mates, some of her bees will show 4 or 5 bands, and her drones will

show more yellow than common. I have yet to see one single cross-mated Golden queen make all uniform three banded bees. Any cross-mated queen will not make a uniform color on her progeny. This is my experience.

(3.) I am led to believe that the Golden bees are worse to rob than 3 bands, as I have often found them robbing when 3 bands were not. Still we are more apt to take notice when the Golden bees are doing wrong than when other bees are doing the same, as they are so conspicuous. Their pretty, golden color is against them in that respect.

(4.) I would keep both, and which suited me and my customers best, these I would raise. We do not choose for any one, as it is as cheap and as convenient for us to rear one kind as another. We let the people do the choosing, and the Golden bees still lead with us.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—

Will you tell me if the 5 band bees are brighter than the 3 bands? I prefer pretty, yellow bees, if the two qualities can be combined—beauty and usefulness—in the same bees. I would like your opinion in this matter. Also give me the best plan for getting a good stock of bees.

CHAS. W. FAGEN.

Aransas Pass, Texas.

FRIEND F.:—I will try as best I can to define 5 banded or Golden bees. They are brighter than 3 banded bees, and in fact have but little band at all, being nearly solid

yellow, with only a small, dark tip at back part of their bodies. If you want bees to look at, and also for business, get the 5 banders. If you are raising honey for a living, pay but little attention to color, but look out for business. We have an out-yard we call "any thing" yard, where good queens are taken regardless of color or name, that we do not have orders for, and we use this yard to draw brood from, and run for honey; and our "any thing" yard does just about as well and sometimes better than those we try to keep pure all the time. We have 5 bands almost solid yellow, and they are good workers; also 3 bands that are good honey gatherers; and the "any thing" bees get there too, as nothing but good queens are tolerated any where. I write this for the information of our many beginner readers, to warn them of the folly of trying to keep every colony bright and purely marked, for it won't pay, if you are making honey raising a business.

Now I will give you my best plan of getting a good stock of honey gathering bees. Breed from your best, and most prolific queens, mating to drones from a different strain if you can, which should also be good stock. Watch your colonies, note those that give you the most honey, raise your queens and drones from these queens, get a new Italian queen once a year,

let color go as it pleases, and set your eyes on a honey crop.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—

As I am a beginner, I wish to ask a few questions about drones.

I want to know the best way to make a colony raise drones early in spring. I want to know if I can put young larva from worker cells into drone cells and produce drones. Please answer in the School, and oblige.

T. A. ELLIOTT.

Hagansport, Texas.

FRIEND ELLIOTT:—The best way that I know of to get a queen to lay drone eggs in early spring is to stimulate the bees by feeding, or uncapping frames of honey, and hanging the uncapped honey right in the center of brood nest, and when the queen gets a good headway, and has three or four frames of brood, just slip an empty drone comb right in the middle of the brood nest, and if the weather is warm, and the bees getting pollen, you will likely get a frame of drone eggs laid. To protect the drone eggs, as soon as you get a comb full take it out and give to a strong queenless colony, made so for that purpose, and a little cool snap will not cause the bees to tear out your drones. If left in the hive where your laying queen is, a cool snap, or sudden check in honey flow or pollen may cause the bees to destroy all your drones. No, you can not get drones by transferring worker larva into drone cells, they would be workers just the same. I have

tried that to my satisfaction. It is an unfertilized egg that makes a drone, and an egg laid for that purpose. Bees have no power in my opinion to change the sex of an egg or larva, but they can change larva that were laid for workers, to queens, by giving more food and larger cells than workers are raised in, but the sex is not changed, as workers are undeveloped females. The queens are fed higher, grow faster and hatch quicker than any other bees in the colony, which gives them the power of becoming fertilized, and taking up her duty of laying both worker and drone eggs.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—

Don't you think that Hoffman frames would be better to have the top bars only 1 1-16 wide instead of 1 1-8? I like mine only 1 1-16 in. wide and 7-8 in. thick. Please give us your idea on the matter.

GUSTAV KUNK.

Ballinger, Texas.

FRIEND K.:—You have struck something just in line with our own thoughts—we have been making all our Hoffman frame top bars only 1 1-16 in. wide. It gives more room for the bees to pass, also for a more full and free circulation of the heat of the brood nest to the supers, and the bees will begin work in sections sooner, also they are easier handled. We have the end bars 1 3-8 at top, to make a true spacing, and 1 in. for the lower or small end of end bars, and a

bottom bar 1-4 thick by 3-4 wide. This makes a good, strong and durable frame. We do not like our top bars 7-8 thick, as that much solid timber between the brood nest and the supers is only a bunglesome affair, and throws the supers too far from the brood. There are extremes to every thing, and a top bar 7-8 thick is one extreme to top bars; 3-4 is all we want in our top bars, and less, if it would give nailing room for end bars etc.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—

Will you please answer me a few questions in THE QUEEN? What is the cause of some bees being so much iller than others? Is it the fault of the queen, or what is it?

Z. T. ELLIOTT.

Hagansport, Texas.

FRIEND E.:—Did you ever notice human nature? If so, you likely have taken notice that some people are more irritable, and worse to complain and quarrel than others, even among the same families. The traits of bees come from the queens and drones of course. You may kill the queen of an ill tempered colony of bees, and give a queen from a gentle colony and as soon as the bees from the gentle queen appear, and the others disappear, you have a colony of gentle bees. The cause of this difference lies in nature, and is one of her secrets, and likely never will be found out. We have often noticed that the bees from these ill

colonies gather more honey as a rule, than those of the gentle ones. Did you ever notice that nervous, quick tempered people are likely to be early risers and very energetic? We think it is not a good idea to breed out the ill temper of bees, as it may lessen our products, still we are going to experiment along this line yet a while, as it would be very desirable indeed, to get a gentle strain of bees that would prove as good workers as the more ill races.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—

I am after some information about wired foundation. I have had no experience with it and would like to know how to use it. Will it be absolutely safe from falling down when wired? Last year I had poor success with common foundation, as it gave way and is now in all kinds of shape. I would like some information how to remedy my crooked and tangled combs. I see no way for a remedy only to leave it alone. If foundation can not be used without its falling down, I think it best not to use it at all. What would be best to use, full sheets, or narrow strips for starters?

A. H. WEBSTER.

Walnut Springs, Texas.

FRIEND WEBSTER:—The best way to wire foundation, is to wire your frame by stretching the wire from each corner of frame, next the top bar, to the center of the bottom bar, then run one wire from the center of the bottom bar straight up to the center of the top bar. Fasten the wire by driving small

wire tacks in the frames, and bend them, making a hook. This way of wiring will give strength to the frame and prevent the foundation from falling out. When the wire is in, lay the frame over a board that will just come up to the wire, lay on foundation, run over the wires with a Spur Wire-Imbedder, firmly placing the wire out of sight, or down into the foundation. Some use more wire than this, but we object to any more, and in fact do not now use any at all ourselves. We object to any metal about the hives, as we fail to find any benefit from it. We do not use any tin rabbets, but the rabbets we use and now make in all our hives are knife edged. No cold metal about hives for us. We have no trouble with foundation breaking down. I think the wiring will prevent your foundation from falling, but I hardly know what to say in regard to your crooked combs. Better work the bees off of them slowly, and render them into wax. This you can do by using them in building up queenless colonies, and when brood is all out extract the honey, if there is any, and melt the combs into wax. If you have no queenless colonies hang these combs in upper stories until the brood is all out. Try starters only about two inches wide, so as to insure straight combs, and see if it is not better. You probably did not fasten the foundation firmly to the frame.



MAILING QUEENS.

As I have been asked how many bees ought to be put in the cage with the queens when sent by mail, I will say that it depends on the size of the cage. In a one cent cage, in summer time, six bees are a plenty, and for a two cent cage, eight or nine will be sufficient. When caging them, be careful and never let one sting you, nor put one in the cage that has stung any thing, as she will be very likely to die within a short time, and in addition to being no benefit in the cage, will be in the way of the other bees, and is very likely to get stuck up in the entrance to the food chamber. Pick nice and thrifty young bees; those that are old enough to have once been filled with honey. In fall and early spring, or when the weather is cool, put about twice the number in that you do when the weather is warm. I have had lots of experience in caging queens and bees for mailing purposes, and I used to when caging bees, pick old

ones, and those that were filled with honey and looked large, but now I find that such bees are not best, as these bees that have themselves full of honey and look a little like they are swollen, when confined in a cage where they have no place to clear themselves do not live long. Select bees that are not full of honey, and that look gaunt, and when put in the cage they can not fill themselves to hurt with the candy used in shipping, and they are much more able to stand confinement than those that are full of honey and have their sack full also.

W. A.

When a queen is reared in upper story will it do to let her remain there? How about mating and laying there?

L. E. M. PAYNE.

Cokercreek, Tenn.

MR. PAYNE:—Yes, it will do to let them remain in the upper story until they are mated. I do not suppose that you mean to let her remain there and not let her fly out at all, as that would not do. You must have an entrance in the upper story so she can get out to take her flight, as queens never mate in the hive. You can, if you so desire, let her lay in there, but you must make the entrance in the back end of the hive or upper story, so when the young queen takes her flight she will not be likely to return to the lower story; and be sure she is a fully developed virgin,

for if she is not, very likely she can get through the zinc and kill your laying queen.

W. A.

THE SOUTHWEST TEXAS
BEE-KEEPERS' ASSO-
CIATION.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

[CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE.]

"How can we best tell when a honey flow begins?" Discussed by R. A. Jansen and others.

The balance of the program was taken in regular order, and we regret very much that we haven't the space in this issue for a full report, as the talks were very interesting, but we have so much matter from various sources, that we are most compelled to cut the Convention reports short.

The "Selected article," by W. F. Lynn, was of more than usual interest, being principally a comment on Mr. Benton's book, "The Honey Bee." But it is seldom, if ever, that there is a meeting of this kind without something to break the dull monotony, and this Association was no exception to the rule. When W. H. Moses was called on to explain "The best way to get bees out of super," he deliberately rose to his feet and said; "smoke 'em I gannies." It is evident that Mr. Moses knows a good way to get them out.

The election of officers created considerable interest, and resulted in the election of W. O. Victor, President; Mrs. Jennie Atchley, Vice President; J. O. Grimsley, Secretary and Treasurer; Willie Atchley, Assistant Secretary.

It was decided to hold the next meeting of this Association at Beeville, on Wednesday and Thursday, September 16, and 17, 1896, that being after the busy season has passed.

There being no further business, the Association adjourned.

J. O. GRIMSLEY, SECY.

CENTRAL TEXAS BEE-KEEP-
ERS' ASSOCIATION.

[CONTINUED FROM JAN. NO.]

10. Is careful breeding necessary to secure best results?

This, the last subject, was discussed at some length, by Judge Terrell, Mr. Bankston, Mr. Cairns and others, and the general sentiment was in favor of careful breeding.

Mr. Cairns, Judge Terrell and President Jones, each made liberal donations for the benefit of the Association.

The same officers hold over till the next annual meeting.

The Association adjourned, subject to the call of the President, some time this spring.

C. B. BANKSTON, SECY.

THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY, - - EDITOR.

— ASSISTED BY —

WILLIE ATCHLEY, CHARLIE ATCHLEY, AND
MISS AMANDA ATCHLEY.

E. J. ATCHLEY, - BUSINESS MANAGER.

This is a Monthly Journal Devoted to the Honey and Bee Interests of this Country, North end South, East and West, and we will not accept any of the rest.

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" " " year, - - \$10 00

We wish to say to those sending money to us from foreign countries, that our nearest International Money Order office is Victoria, Texas. United States Money Orders only, are paid by the Beeville P. O.

**THE JENNIE ATCHLEY CO , Publishers,
BEEVILLE, TEXAS.**

Entered at the postoffice in Beeville, Texas, as second-class mail matter.

BEEVILLE, TEX., MARCH, 1896.

We have just received a sample lot of The A. I. Root Co's. new, Weed process foundation, and it looks very fine indeed. It does look and seem as though this foundation was perfection, as it is smooth, bright and uniform. We will give it a test as early as possible, and report.

We have also received a shipment of that celebrated Dadant foundation, and it needs no recommendation, as it is able to blow its own horn wherever it goes.

This, 3rd day of March is warm and balmy, thermometer registers 68° above zero at Sun-rise. Corn large enough to cultivate, large cabbage in great quantity, and the whole landscape a flower garden.

Since writing the above a pretty sharp norther has blown up, and today, March 4th at Sun-rise the thermometer stands at 48° above zero. However, we expect the bees to fly and gather honey today.

Mexico uses more bees-wax than honey, and the wax they get sells pretty high. It is used in making candles to light up Churches etc., but we learn that practical bee-keeping is fast taking hold on Mexico, as it has lately been discovered to be a fine honey country.

In last issue we advertised for back numbers of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN, and the response has been very liberal, yet we havn't received near as many August numbers as we need. Who can send us that number? We need them badly.

From reports received from all over this State, (Texas) bees are expected to move out early. We noticed last week, queen cells with larva in them, and we look for swarms any day.

Cubans get only 2 and 3 cents a pound for their honey, and it's slow sale at that.

Just listen and look at that war, and useless and almost chronic growling in the bee papers about commission men. If they do as they agree to do, then the shipper has no right to say a word, yea or nay, and such unkind criticisms about them as we have been reading till we are almost sick of it, ought to be stopped. If you don't like commission people don't send your honey to 'em. They have as much right to do business as you have, and with few exceptions we have found them honest. Now, don't go and ship your next crop of honey to a commission firm and then set up a howl against them, but if you think they don't treat you right, just quit, that's all, as it shows poor business qualities, to entrust your honey to others (they do the best they can for you) then set up a public howl against them. Oh, what are bee-keepers coming to any how? Put your honey up in an attractive style, and in good shape and any reliable commission house will likely sell your honey well.

Please note and read the biography of W. R. Graham, this issue. This is a starter, showing the faces of prominent Southern bee-keepers. Look out for them often. Bro. Graham is one of the most successful comb honey producers of Texas. We do not remember ever looking through his honey

house without seeing a fine lot of nice comb honey.

The continued article by Chas. Dadant, has been running some time in the A. B. J., and the last number contains some very interesting remarks on artificial swarming, or dividing for increase. This is found on first page of March 5, '96 number. Good.

A neighbor came in on March 6, and says his first rousing swarm came out on Feb. 29. Our first came out on March 7—five swarms that day. What a fine lot of natural cells we are now getting for queen rearing.

Such talk as breeding out the swarming propensities, and breeding off the wings of queens. This we find in some of the bee papers. Such stuff for a bee paper! Oh hush!

Texas Fruit Grower, is the title of a paper published at Myrtle Springs, Texas, and comes marked X. Glad to X with you, as fruit and bees should go hand in hand.

A good plan to manage bees with as little swarming as possible may be in order for some apiarists, and a plan to have them swarm the most may be in order for others.

Late catalogue received from E. T. Abbott, St. Joseph, Mo.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

W. R. GRAHAM.

We are pleased to furnish our readers with a few notes from the life sketch of one of our leading Southern bee-keepers, and believe that, while it is not a full biography, it will call to memory some of the ups and downs of old time bee-keeping. The following is from Bro. Graham's own pen.

"I was born in Lee County, Va., January 14, 1828. My father was a farmer and I was raised on the farm. I was the first child of my father's family. My father kept bees from my first recollection, in the good old way of the box and hollow log, and I was always very fond of honey. My mother often said that when I was but a child, not as much as two years old, she would miss me and go to hunting for me, and often found me about the bee gums with case knife, trying to pry into them, sticking the knife through a crack into the honey, then licking the honey off the knife blade. Was always very much interested in bees, and always around when father had any thing to do with them, and was a close observer of the way father managed them and hived them. We rattled bells and tin pans, to make a peculiar noise to settle the bees when they swarmed. There are many things I have forgotten, and some that never can be forgotten; one of them is about-trying to hive

a swarm when I was about 8 or 9 years old, in the Spring-time and on Sunday—it was the first Sunday that I have any recollection of. Father and mother had both gone to Church and left me and the three less children at home to watch the bees if they should swarm, and it was a very pleasant duty with me to perform. Nothing could have pleased me better, so the old bell and other rattle-traps were kept in standing readiness, and the bees closely watched, and sure enough here they came swarming. I used the bell with all my power, and the next two sisters to me used the pans with all their strength until breath was almost gone. But they had to settle, yet it was high up in an oak tree, and in those days we had no swarm catchers, and now I had a big job before me, for I thought we must hive the bees. [We will state here, that Brother Graham fails to state that in those days boys of his age were clothed only in a long, loose shirt. Old-timers will remember the custom.—ED.] I had never hived a swarm, but had seen father hive many a swarm, so I got every thing ready; a hand saw to cut the limb off, and a rope to let it down with, and being assisted by my oldest sister, I ascended the tree but did not understand how to arrange it to have it come down easy and slowly. After tying and fixing as best I knew, then went to sawing

away. The swarm was a large and heavy one, and the limb began to fall before it was cut off, so it came down thrashing against the body of the tree, knocking most the bees off and making them very angry, so here they came by the hundreds and thousands, and covered me from the sole of my foot to the crown of the head, and it was not necessary to tell me to come down, for I most let all holds go and down I came; no veil or protection; and for life, run my best around the house and place, and sister after me with broom and brush, sweeping and brushing to get them off—when she could get up with me—I hollowing and screaming for dear life, got in the house after a while, and with water, wet blankets and cloths, smothered and killed and scraped off the bees and stings, or most of them. A comb was used to get the stings out of my hair, and oh! I was hot, burning up in pain. Sister kept pouring water and bathing me until most night when father and mother came home, and seeing the limb hanging down by the side of the tree, and the bees all clustered back on the limb, he knew that something had happened, and into the house he came, and seeing me in that awful fix, he says; "oh, ho, old fellow, theyv'e got you this time," and then went out and hived them. But I was unable to do any thing for several days, but this all

wore off and I was as much interested as ever before.

There are many things I might tell all through my boyhood days, but space here will not allow.

When I was married and went to housekeeping, my father gave me a few stands of bees, but I had learned about all there could be learned. I took good care of them of course, and they increased in numbers till I had a right good lot when the war of '61 came up. At the close of the war I had but few colonies, and by some means about the year 1865 or 6, a pamphlet, written by N. C. Mitchell of Indianapolis, Ind., which is preserved till yet, fell into my hands and completely woke me up on the subject, and I discovered I had not learned it all, so this was a ray of light that came to me, and that light pointed out other lights, and I traveled a great deal in search of more light about the little busy bee. I will right here say that I have found a great many bee men in my travels, and have never yet found one but the latch-string to his mansion was on the outside to me, and I was made welcome during all my traveling and searching for more light. I discovered almost each day that I had not learned it all yet, and so I continued to learn more and more.

I first came to Texas in the year '72 to look at the country, and while here, purchased a few colo-

nies of bees, made some hives and transferred them into the hives I had made, then I returned back home to Va., and made arrangements to move to this Texas country, so you see I had bees here before I moved to Texas, and have never been without bees from the beginning, even all my life, and I have not learned it all yet, although I have read all the bee books and journals, and every thing published in that line that I could get hold of, attended all the bee conventions possible for me to, got all the light on the subject I could find, and yet I have not learned it all. Have visited and been with most all the great bee men in the U. S. and Canada, and some from foreign countries, and heard them tell of the little bee, and yet I have not learned it all. Many of their ways it seems to me are past finding out."

Among Our Correspondents.

A WARM BEGINNING.

BY A. W. REEVES.

Five years ago I got in possession of A. I. Root's A B C book on bee culture, which soon run the bee fever to $107\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, which is getting near to where a man lives. I determined to try my hand, as bees was the only remedy that would reduce my temperature. I bought

fifteen stands of black bees in log or box gums, and then fifteen simplicity hives, and transferred into them. I wish you could have seen us the first evening we worked in the transferring business. When the robbers got possession of the job and us too, we all got the idea about the same time to vacate the yard, which was done without any orders from the boss, every one taking his or her own direction, were all soon crouched behind barns, smoke-houses etc, with bee-veils, hats, bonnets and smokers scattered promiscuously on our various routes. As my better-half was troubled with rheumatism, and not very swift on foot, I was first to get to the barn, and after entering, saw that she was making extra good time (for an old lady that weighed about 190 pounds) with about a dozen bees accompanying her. I was very busy when she came to the door, and did not let her in. There was only ten of us in family, and held our positions until night and then ventured in. We could hardly recognize each other on account of increase of flesh about the face and eyes. We were soon assembled in a bee convention, and agreed that we bring suit against A. I. Root for damage, and all cost of suit for misrepresentation of the honey bee. Temperature near normal. Next morning I got a little help and proceeded with my job, and got through with a loss

of two colonies and many bees. I then sent off and bought Italian queens at \$2.00 and \$3.00 and Italianized them, with better results than I had in transferring. At the expiration of three years I was out \$240.00 cash, and had realized only 3 per cent on my money, and an increase in bees to 81 colonies. When Spring opened, fourth year, I had only 35 colonies, a decrease of over 50 per cent, on account of cold snap late in the Spring, but you will now see that things began to come toward me, as did the robbers when transferring. I got that year, 2,880 pounds of extracted honey, for which I received \$239.60, and 500 pounds of comb honey which brought me \$50.00, and an increase in bees to 55 colonies. Fifth year I got 840 pounds extracted honey, for which I received \$52.50, 400 pounds comb honey, and received for it \$40.00, and an increase in bees to 76 colonies, which I have at present, with no loss this winter so far. When I began to sow pasturage for my bees, then it was that I began to get both honey and bees. I sow from 2 to 4 acres in buck wheat every year, which pays me well in both grain and honey. It is the surest crop that I have planted for my bees. I have sown two acres in mustard and rape, which is fine food for bees, but makes pollen only, while buck wheat makes both pollen and nectar, but mostly the

latter.

I use the Simplicity hive, ten frame. When I began the bee business several of my neighbors had bees in the old box hives, they had "kings" in their hives, and I had "queens" in mine. Theirs are all dead, mine are prosperous. Muldoon, Texas.

DAVID FARIS REPORTS.

I transferred my bees from the cellar yesterday. I think a couple of hives have lost their queens, otherwise they have wintered well.

DAVID FARIS.

Olney, Ill., Feb. 27.

[Two days later, we had swarms in Bee Co., Texas.—ED.]

During the last few weeks we have had so many calls for sample copies of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN that we have run out of the August, September, October, November and December numbers, and are about out of the January number, and as we are constantly receiving subscriptions that call for all the back numbers we will extend your subscription one month for each of the numbers named, that are returned to us in good order. Who will be first?

It looks now like we are going to run out of the Feb. number, and fearing we will, we extend the above proposition so as to include the Feb. No. We increase the number every month, but there seems to be a greater increase in the circulation of the QUEEN.

NON SWARMERS.

—
 BY E. A. MORGAN.
 —

For The Southland Queen.

I was pleased with a four line article taken from your paper, which appeared in the A. B. J. of Jan. 16, page 39, in which you say you do not want any non-swarming bees, and that it is your opinion that when the swarming propensities are bred out, the keeper of such bees had as well have no pocketbook if he depends on his non-swarming bees. This so exactly agrees with my experience that I cannot refrain from writing a few facts concerning them. What is the matter with Eastern bee-keepers? Have their localities become so poor that they can think of nothing for a remedy but the prevention of swarming? Here is just where they fail—they do not stop to see how to take advantage of one of nature's laws, but study to try to prevent swarming. This seems to be the burning question of bee-keepers today—how shall I prevent swarming? Most of the writings of bee men in the several journals have this for their subject, and most of them have decided that what they want is non-swarming bees. They have experimented year after year and most of them claim that the only sure success results from non-swarming bees. Several large bee-keepers claim to

have at last succeeded in producing such a race, after years of careful breeding, and I can remember the time when I was made to believe that I wanted some of those bees, and purchased some queens at a high price, and before one season had passed I found they were not only non-swarmers, but non-workers as well. Let them move their non-swarming bees up into the great basswood and clover belt of Northern Wisconsin and they'll swarm. Swarming shows prosperity and the prevention of it I believe causes a loss to their owner. I have studied this swarming habit closely for the past ten years with an apiary of from 75 to 125 colonies, and have found by experience that to make the greatest profit we must manage bees in a manner conforming to their natural habits and instincts. I do not mean by this to let them go on increasing by the thousands—far from it—but I mean to prove that swarming is an advantage in running for comb honey, and to be encouraged rather than discouraged. The secret is in hiving in such a manner that stinging in the sections goes on during the whole season. Swarming gives to bees a grand impetus to work, and we cannot afford to lose time, as the honey season is precious. We have waited all winter and spring for the honey season; the swarm contains $\frac{1}{4}$ of the flying force of honey gatherers; they swarm

when the super is two thirds full. My plan is to have a full set of combs, or starters of foundation, move the old hive away and place the new one on the same stand, at the same time remove the newly filled super to this hive, and hive the swarm back on same stand. We now have the new swarm and all the flying force of the old hive; these bees have gained a new impetus by swarming, and are satisfied; they finish the sections at once; another set is put on, another and another throughout the season. I set the old hive on a new stand. It contains all the brood and a few young bees, put another one like it on top until enough bees have hatched from both to make a rousing colony, then give a laying queen and a super. The past season was one of excessive swarming—126 issuing. Several stocks had two swarming seasons, one in May and one in July, but each time they were treated as above, and a very large surplus secured, and at no time did I consider swarming a disadvantage, but rather a benefit. At the end of the season I had an increase of but 20 hives.

An apiary worked on the above plan year after year has given a large profit, and in this location much larger than any non-swarming plan I have ever tried.

We have a continuous honey flow here for four months, and I have had seven 28 lb. supers finished

by many of my colonies, and a few have finished nine the past season, several as low as five, and the poorest three.

I do not think it possible or advisable to prevent swarming here.

Chippewa Falls, Wis.

“We have proven to our entire satisfaction that the fertilization of a queen affects her drone progeny. In other words, drones from an Italian queen that has mated with a drone other than her species are not pure Italians. * * *

Some queens, at least, that swarm out from under empty sections are far from worthless. We have taken from these queens that came from under empty sections in April as high as 150 pounds of honey by the end of the season.

Italian bees that are loth to enter sections in a poor season are always the purest of stock, and are the gentlest, and will prove themselves to be the most profitable in the end.

When a queen is about six days old she flies into the air, meets a drone upon the wing, becomes fertilized, and in two or three days will begin to lay. Fertilization is then complete for life, which is from four to six years. If an Italian queen meets an Italian drone upon her wedding flight, all the bees she produces to the end of her life will be pure Italians.”—Catalogue of Cleveland Bros.

CARNIOLAN BEES.

—
 BY C. B. BANKSTON.
 —

I am frequently asked to give my experience with Carniolan bees, and will do so.

There are some things about this race of bees that are a little strange. We queen breeders very often allow our colonies to go queenless for quite a while. With Italians this does not matter so much, but with the Carniolans it has a bad effect, or that I have left queenless have always turned out a regular mess of laying workers. Last spring I purchased a fine breeder, she raised a large swarm of workers and died out. They raised a young queen and she was lost on her mating trip, and in a few days apparently the whole swarm began laying, and I never saw just such a mess. I introduced a queen but she never done any good. She was very prolific, but the workers continued to fill the combs with their eggs in such numbers that no brood could be raised, and they finally dwindled down to a hand full and starved out. During a honey flow I slipped a queen in at last and left another hive queenless for about two weeks. This being so late in the season, I did not think that the workers would lay, but they did. I introduced a queen, and the workers continued to lay and they are still at it. They have con-

sumed twice as much honey as any other hive in the yard. I do not know that this condition of affairs is characteristic of the Carniolan bees or not, as I have had only one year's experience in rearing them. But there is one thing I do know, that in all my experience with other races I have never had as bad cases of laying workers as I have described above. These bees are good workers and fine breeders, most excellent cell builders, and very gentle when pure, but when cross-mated with other bees, will sting you all over in a minuet. If I was running my bees for increase I would prefer the Carniolans, as they seem to increase faster than the Italians. They are better comb honey producers than the pure Italians, but for extracted honey I am like Judge Terrell, give me the pure Italians—they swarm less and get the most honey. If I was a honey producer and knew what I do about the two races of bees, I don't know that I would spend much money in exchanging one for the other, as they are both good enough. In queen rearing I believe the Carniolans are the best, especially where cells are built above a queen excluder.

Chriesman, Texas.

If you have back numbers of the QUEEN, read the notice on page 13 of this issue.

THOSE YELLOW BEES.

—
 BY J. S. WORLEY.
 —

I bought two untested five band queens of — in June '94. They both produced gentle bees, and one of them was very yellow, and produced a large per cent of four banded bees. She was balled after she had been laying several days, and died the latter part of September. Her colony showed a disposition to hang out at the entrance, and the majority of her daughters show the same characteristics. While her bees were gentle, very few of her daughters produced bees that were as gentle as my other strain—well graded hybrids of the leather colored strain. I think five of these queens produced pure goldens, but they are harder to handle than most of my old strain. I suspect they have Cyprian blood in them. They did not come up to the others as honey gatherers. Not one of these queens showed bees with less than three bands, and the queens were all golden. I find these bees to be bad robbers. The other queen produced well marked three banded bees, and her queens varied from golden to leather colored. I supposed them to be pure as they were very gentle, but one of the young queens produced drones that varied from yellow to nearly black. These bees are almost or quite equal to the old strain. I have to

judge almost altogether from the daughters of the queens bought, as both were short lived. The best one began to fail early the next Spring. Probably the long journey in hot weather weakened them. Some claim that yellow queens are not prolific, but the most of mine are. As to their wintering well, I haven't decided yet, but I find more of their bees crawl out to die during cold spells than the others. I noticed more difference before Christmas than now. I have been disappointed in the yellow bees, but intend to give them a fair trial before I give them up. They are the bees that I want, if I can get them that are equal in every respect to the leather colored.

The early part of last season was good, but the fall flow was very poor. Bees seem to be in a healthy condition, but will have to be fed soon.

I miss your writings in * * * *
 Isom, Tenn., Feb. 1, 1896.

During the last few weeks we have had so many calls for sample copies of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN that we have run out of the August, September, October, November and December numbers, and are about out of the January number, and as we are constantly receiving subscriptions that call for all the back numbers we will extend your subscription one month for each of the numbers named, that are returned to us in good order. Who will be first?

We now include the Feb. No. in this offer. See page 13.

OPEN LETTER

TO THE BEE-KEEPERS OF THE
UNITED STATES.

FELLOW BEE-KEEPERS:—

We have prepared for circulation, a petition asking the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States to take steps to secure the introduction of "Apis Dorsata," the giant bee of India, into this country. It is a duty that the Government owes and is willing to render our industry, (see report of Secretary of Agriculture, 1893, page 25.) That these are a distinct and large race of bees there is no doubt, but of their practical value we know nothing, and never will know until we have thoroughly tested them. As progressive bee-keepers, and honey producers, we should not rest until every spot on this earth has been searched, and every race of honey bees have been tested. We should do it for the advancement of scientific and progressive apiculture; for our selves, and for posterity. Our association has taken hold of this with sincerity, and expects the united support of the bee-keepers of this country, and with their support, the end of the nineteenth century will witness a new era in apiculture, in which the bee-keepers of the United States will take a leading part.

Yours Fraternaly,

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,
Ontario County, N. Y. Bee-Keepers Association.

Copies of these petitions may be obtained by any one who will circulate them by addressing W. F. Marks, Chapinville, N. Y.

FASTENING FOUNDATION INTO SECTIONS.

BY W. H. PRIDGEN.

To fasten full sheets of foundation into sections with melted wax, hold the foundation with both hands, curve it a little from side to side, let it just touch the wax from corner to corner, attach it to the section as quick as possible, by allowing your hands to rest on the section at the same time, hold it steady a second or two for the wax to set, turn the foundation down over the edge of a table or box to cool, by turning the section over endwise. Keep a dozen or more stuck on ahead of the person at the press, and when you become accustomed to the work you can give a person with a Hubbard press a lively time to keep up. If you dip the foundation down into the melted wax more than $\frac{1}{8}$ inch, it will double up when placed on the section, often separate at the highest point touched by the melted wax, throw the foundation out of the centre of the section, and make a bad job generally. The slight curvature in the foundation does not show in the finished section of honey; acts as a brace in handling;

holds on as well as thick foundation put on straight, and does not let go from any cause by swinging to and fro. Cut a hole in the top of a box or table, nearly as large as a sardine box; put some water and wax into a sardine can, which place over the hole with a lighted lamp under it. As soon as the wax is melted "turn the lamp down" so as to keep the contents of the can just below the boiling point. Have your foundation all cut up ready; pile your sections up with all the ends to which you want to attach the foundation together; place several at a time by your can of melted wax so as to have all things as convenient as possible, and you are ready to do the work rapidly without making mistakes in placing the foundation etc. If those who use bottom starters, as well as top ones in their sections, will give them a slight curve to correspond with that in the top ones, they can use them deeper and thinner without their tumbling over with their own weight. You are not as sure of having the foundation exactly in the centre of the section, fastened in as above, but in all other respects it is as neat and good as the work done with the Daisy fastener. The above plan of doing the work is old of course, but some of the "kinks" may prove to be of value to those who do not care to invest in fixtures etc., that are not abso-

lutely necessary for the best results.
Creek, N. C.

BEES AND FRUIT.

BY WM. G. VOORHEIS.

I am just about as ignorant of bees as many people are who come to me for instruction about fruit growing, but I have found that to succeed better in the growing of fruit, that bees must come in for their share of attention. If I had any neighbors near enough to attend to the "bee business," I should be better satisfied to let bees alone, but as I have not, I must learn about bees as soon as I can. I lost the most of my apple crop last spring for the lack of bees to fertilize the flowers while in bloom. The peach crop was a success, but the bees had a better chance to work on them than on the apple trees, as the wind was in the North most all the time when the apple was in bloom, the bees living, (what there was) some two miles South, could not get to the apple blossoms. I bought three colonies last summer, have been watching them, and reading Root's A B C, with other books on bees, but am sometimes puzzled, as I suppose all beginners are.

Perhaps your experience so far South would hardly do for this section.

South Frankfort, Mich.

THE NAMELESS DISEASE.

—
 BY O. O. POPPLETON.
 —

Will you allow me to agree to disagree with two of your answers to Mr. Smith, on page 2 of February QUEEN?

Names of nearly all things new are at first "picked up," but continued usage finally makes them real names. The disease, or diseases of Dysentery and Spring dwindling have been known as such for over 25 years, and those names are almost as fully established as any thing in our language. Bee paralysis has been known as a name for a special disease for a few years only, but seems to be generally used now for that particular trouble. Dysentery and Spring dwindling are closely allied, the one usually following or resulting from the other, but not always. I have seen each of the diseases present without the other, but not usually so. Dysentery, here in the far South, is rarely seen, but sometimes results from bees having been confined in their hives for a few days. It is to be feared by us here in the South but little. I cannot understand how you made the mistake of thinking that dysentery and paralysis are different names of one disease. The truth is, they differ as widely from each other as does Cholera and Yellow Fever in the human species. The symptoms of

dysentery is fully described by the name, and seldom or never occurs except as the result of undue confinement, while in paralysis there is little or no voidance of feces, and it occurs at all times of the year, and under all conditions. No one who is at all familiar with the two diseases could possibly confound them. I do not think that they even belong to the same family of diseases, one being contagious, the other not.

You also mistake in your answer to his third question. Whenever queens show any preference for either, it is always for old combs over new, for laying in, and the preference is usually very marked. Very early in Spring, when brood is confined to few combs, the preference is not marked, but later, when colonies get fairly strong, a very decided preference will be shown for old combs. By new combs, I mean those that have never had brood in. My method of handling bees in single story hives, gives me a much greater chance for observing this matter than if I used double story hives.

Some 15 years ago, in Iowa, I experimented largely in giving unfertile queens instead of cells to my nuclei, and met the same conditions, and reached the same conclusions as I see (page 9, Feb.) that Willie A. has. As a rule I got laying queens much sooner by introducing a nearly-ripe cell, than

by giving a hatched queen. The latter seemed to wait until older before going out on her flight, more than enough to make up for the first difference.

Stuart, Florida.

FROM THE FROSTY NORTH.

Here we are in the midst of a blizzard today, and the sleighs are running, but the house is my companion, and that beside the stove.

The average temperature for January, 21.29°. The coldest was the 5th; 12° below zero. The warmest day was the 31; 35° above. 21 days the wind was N. W. and S. W. On the 17th of February, mercury was 17° below zero near Sunrise, which makes one feel quite cool—you need no fan. This was the coldest morning we have had this winter. We have not had a great quantity of snow; the months of Nov. and Dec., we had the most, or largest fall of snow. We now have had sleighing for some ten days.

Well, where are the little pets, and how are they coming on? My bees are on the Summer stands, packed in chaff, and the hives set in outer boxes. A few days ago I found them all alive. On the 28th of January the most of them had a fly, as mercury at 2:30 went up to 44°; the first they flew since Nov. 18. Some are complaining about their bees dying. I

think this Spring will find many colonies dead, and that from starvation. I received your paper, THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN; well named.

JACOB MOORE.

Iona, Mich., Feb. 18.

THAT "HASTY" LICK.

SISTER ATCHLEY:—

Your shawl is too thin, or something. That "lick" on page 12, last QUEEN, must have been the smart of some other lick you got. I meant my lick for the other fellows that reported such easy success in introducing virgins, not for you.

Success, and lots of paying subjects for the QUEEN.

Fraternally,

EMERSON E. HASTY.

Richards, Ohio.

[BRO. HASTY:—Sorry I took the lick intended for "the other fellow." We will both strike those that introduce virgins so easily, and may be they will tell us more about how easy it is done. My back has quit smarting.—JENNIE A.]

We notice that a large land firm in Mexico has a contract with that government to have agricultural products shipped out free of export duty. Of course that would include honey. Mexico is a fine honey country—better, we are told, than any part of the United States or Cuba.

Prospects for '96 are flattering.



KIND WORDS For The Queen.

SEND THE QUEEN.

I very much miss your writings in my bee papers since you have started one of your own. Will you please send your paper to my address, and oblige,

CHAS. W. FINCH.

Chicago, Ill.

MUCH INTERESTED.

I feel much interested in the QUEEN, for its success. I think the times ripe for a live Southern Bee Journal, and hope the QUEEN will fully come up to this demand.

W. H. LAWS.

Lavaca, Ark.

HAS TAUGHT HER.

THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN has taught us how to manage our bees, and you don't know how much I like your paper.

MRS. A. SMITH.

Pettus, Texas.

LEARNS FROM EACH ONE.

I received the February number; all the numbers comes all right. I am so glad to see every one of them I cannot hardly wait. I learn something from every one I receive.

L. E. M. PAYNE.

Cokercreek, Tenn.

Bee-Keepers' Conventions.

Texas State Bee-Keepers Association.

Meets at Greenville, Texas, April 1 and 2, 1896, at the apiary of W. R. Graham & Son. All bee keepers invited. No hotel bills to pay.
W. H. WHITE, Secy., Blossom, Texas.

Southwest Texas Bee-Keepers Association,

Meets at Beeville, Texas, on Sept. 16 and 17, 1896, at the apiary of The Jennie Atchley Co. All bee-keepers cordially invited. No hotel bills to pay.
W. O. VICTOR, President, Wharton, Tex.
J. O. GRIMSLEY, Secy., Beeville, Texas.

THE HONEY MARKET.

DALLAS, TEXAS, February 3, 1896.

Pound sections, full weight, bright, 13c.

" " " " d'k, 11 to 12c.

(Light weight, 1 to 2c. less.)

Broken comb, - - - 6 to 7c.

Extracted, - - - 5 to 6c.

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The Texas Coast Country is fast filling up with a thrifty class of people. Fine lands in high, rolling, healthy, localities. Large bodies of improved lands at \$2 per acre. Small farm tracts at \$5 and up. Printed matter free.

Address 

T. J. Skaggs Real Estate Co.,

BEEVILLE, TEXAS.

STANDING INFORMATION.

We are often asked these questions by so many, and they are so near the same, we have concluded to keep this standing for the information of beginners.

To make a start in bee-keeping, you will need the following.

Two colonies of bees, in movable comb hives, (better start with a standard size.)

One smoker,

One bee-veil,

Two extra hives for increase, should there be any,

Two pounds brood foundation,

One pound surplus foundation,

Two hundred sections,

One honey knife.

We could mention many other useful articles that would be handy to beginners, as well as others, but the above are really necessary, and you will soon learn to add many other things as you go along. We say two colonies for a start, as with only one, you would have no way to compare, and see which is doing best, but of course one colony will make a start.

TAR HEEL NOTES

TESTED or untested, either three or five banded queens, at \$1.00 each.

A record is made of every untested queen sold at the above price, and another sent as soon as their bees hatch, if they fail to stand the test, thus giving a purchaser a chance at a

FINE BREEDER

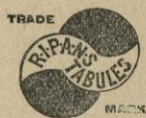
Without the risk of having to pay for one that shows in her progeny that she is not purely mated. I have bred my bees up to a high standard; Italianized my neighbors' bees for my own protection, and seldom have a queen mismatched. I am well equipped for the business; rear all the queens I sell; do not intentionally send out any except the best, and never sell "culls" as untested queens. The demand from dealers last season was greater than the supply. I give parties buying a few for their own use, the preference in filling orders. Have never seen a diseased colony, or heard of one in this section. If you want to do a square business, and be pleased, try a TAR HEEL QUEEN.

W. H. PRIDGEN, CREEK, N. C.

ONE GIVES RELIEF.

R·I·P·A·N·S

The modern standard Family Medicine: **Cures** the common every-day ills of humanity.



Dove-Tail Hives,

BINCHAM

SMOKERS,

And every thing needed in the Apiary. Best goods made. Freight saved to all central Texas points. PRICE LIST FREE.

E. R. Jones, MILANO, TEXAS.

RECOMMENDS ITSELF.

Our Foundation needs no recommendation among those who have used it and as it is given up to be superior to all makes we only ask a trial order, which will give you a chance to become a customer. Honey, beeswax veils, Lanthorn on the honey bee and general beekeeper's supplies.

Write for catalogue. Chas. Dadant & son, Hamilton, Ill.

Promptly Mailed.

Untested queens in the golden or leather colored, at 75 cents each, three for \$2. Tested, \$1 each, 6 for \$5. My custom grows every year and my queens give satisfaction. I send queens to the leading bee-keepers by 50 and 100 lots. Safe arrival on all queens. Try my beauties

W. H. Laws, Lavaca, Sebastian Co., Ark.

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Send Your Honey to Lillenthall & Grant, 107 Main Street, Houston, Texas. They will insure you quick returns and general satisfaction.

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We have made a great REDUCTION in DOVETAILED HIVES and SECTIONS. Will give you a BARGAIN in apiarian supplies. State what you need and how much.

THE A. I. ROOT CO.'S

make of goods kept in stock. Choice strain of Italian bees and queens for sale at all times. 36-page catalog free.

Jno. Nebel & Son,
3-6-tf High Hill, Mo.

50 THREE FRAME NUCLEUS

Hives, will be ready May 10th. Strong with bees and brood, with honey sufficient for trip. Price, \$1.50 each, per 25 or 50, at Express office here. One fifth with order, and the balance can be sent to A. I. Root or Mrs. Atchley, for me. Safe arrival guaranteed.

W. T. LEWIS, - - MILLER, MISS.

When writing to our advertisers please mention THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

THE Commercial Hotel,

W. F. DESHON, PROPRIETOR.
Beeville, Texas.

Most centrally located. Headquarters for the traveling public. Bee-keepers in search of locations, are well cared for.

Mississippi Hive Factory.

Your orders solicited on hives and supplies; 5 per cent discount till Dec. 1st. Roots dove-tailed hives, at Roots prices. Frames with slatted comb, guides and thick top bars. Dixie hives at 10 per cent less than Roots prices on dove-tailed hives. Patronize home enterprise. (Money order office, Byhalia)

W. T. Lewis, - Miller, Miss.

Gold Standard Italian

And
FREE SILVER GRAY CARNIOLAN

QUEENS will go from now until first for: Untested, 55c, 6 for \$3; Tested, \$1.2 for \$1.50. Untested Italian of the 5 banded strain, warranted purely mated. Address

C. B. BANKSTON, Chresman,
Burlison Co., Tex.

ATTENTION, PLEASE!

We wish to call the attention of the readers of "The Southland Queen" to the fact that we have purchased the

Bee-Hive Factory

we sold to Boyd & Creasy, and are better prepared than ever before, to fill your orders. We mean to not be excelled by workmanship in the U. S.

Write for free catalogue, get our prices, give us a trial order and be convinced.

W. R. GRAHAM & SON,
GREENVILLE, HUNT CO., TEXAS.

[Mention the Queen when you write.]

Notice!

Jennie Atchley Co.'s Queens may be had at the Crescent Apiary, corner Depot and Rose streets, Seattle, Washington, at the Atchley prices

C. M. Rivers & Sons.