

# The progressive bee-keeper. Vol. IX, No. 3 Mar. 1, 1899

Higginsville, Mo.: Leahy Manufacturing Company, Mar. 1, 1899

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MARCH 1, 1899.

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We will send the Progressive Bee Keeper with ......(\$1 00).......\$1 35 The Review Colman's Rural World.
Journal of Agriculture 1 00 00 .. Kansas Farmer ...... 00..... 1 Home and Farm .....

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No bee keeper can afford to be without a li brary of bee books A book costing from fifty cents to one dollar is worth many hundreds of dollars to one who would succeed. Every be ginner should have a book suitable for beginners, (one that will point out the road), and those more advanced will need something more scientific as a reference book. We will here give the names of such books as we recommend, and will be pleased to furnish you, sending them by mail at the following prices:

The Amateur Bee Keeper, (a gem for beginners) by Prof Rouse, price, 28c.

Advanced Bee Culture, -by W. Z. Hutchinson; price, 50c.

Manual of the Apiary,—By Prof. A. J. Cook; price, \$1.25.

The A, B, C of See Culture, by A. I. Root; price, \$1.25.

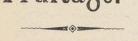
Treatise on Foul Brood, Howard; price, 25c. Add by Dr. Address,

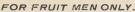
LEAHY MFG. CO. Higginsville, Mo.



#### WANTED.

10,000 fbs of Beeswax, for Cash. LEAHY MFG. CO., Higginsville, Mo. 





The Exclusive Fruit Paper of America

is a 32-page paper, the reading matter of which pertains to nothing but fruit. It is indispensapertains to nothing but fruit. It is indispensable to any one engaged in fruit growing. Is a It is indispensagreat fruit section, (PORTLAND, OREGON). and costs 50 cents per year. We want every one of our readers to have it on their table and will therefore club it with the Progressive BEE-KEEPER, both for one year for 60 cents, to all our subscribers who will send their back subscription and one year in advance, or to new subscribers who will pay one year in ad-This offer is good for but a short time.



scription for free report as to patentability. 48-PAGE HAND-BOOK FREE. Contains references and full information. WRITE FOR COPY OF OUR SPECIAL OFFER. It is the most liberal proposition ever made by a patent attorney, and EVERY INVENTOR SHOULD READ IT before applying for patent. Address:

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Please mention the "Progressive."

WANTED—Agents for "History of the Spanish-American War," by Hon. Henry Watterson. A complete, authentic history, illustrated with over 76 full-page half-tones, and many richly colored pictures Large royal octavo volume, superb outfit, postpaid, for only 50 cents (stamps taken). Most liberal terms given. The greatest opportunity of the year Address: THE WERNER COMPANY, Akron. Ohio. 11-6 Akron, Ohio, 11-6

Please mention the "Progressive."

Instructions by mail, adapted to every one. Methods approved by leading edu-cators. Experienced and competent instructors. Takes spare time only. Three courses—Preparatory, business, college. A opportunity to better your condition and prespects. Students and

graduates verywhere, Eight years of success, Full particulars FREE. SPRAGUE CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL OF LAW 618 Telephone Building, DETROIT, MICH.

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

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

Mrs. MARY GORMAN CLARKE.

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

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

Mrs. J. BROOKMYRE.

R·I·P·A·N·S 物學物 L The modern stand-Ш ard Family Medi-0 cine: Cures 5 Ш common every-day ill of humanity. Ш TRADE Z

國家安全學會學學學學學學學學學學學學學學學學學

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

I want to inform you,

Miss BEESIE WIEDMAN.

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

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

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

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

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

### "Higginsville" Bee Supplies at Kansas City.



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

You will save freight by ordering of me. Catalogue.



419 Waluut St.

C. E. Walker, Kansas City, Mo.

# Smoke Engine | largest smok-

PRICES OF Bingham Perfect Bee-Smokers and Honey Knives.

per doz. 4 inch stove \$13.00-Mail, 9.00-1.10 1.00 6.50 -Conqueror .... 5.00 .90 Large..... .70 Plain. Little Wonder. Honey Knife .60 6.00-.80 All Bingham Smokers are stamped on the metal, patented

1878-1892-Knives B. & H.

The four larger sizes have extra wide shields and double coiled steel wire handles. These SHIELDS and HANDLES are an AMAZING COMFORT—always cool and clean. No more sutty nor burnt fingers. The Plain and Little Wonder have narrow shields and wire handles. All Bingham Smokers have all the new improvements, viz.: Direct Draft. Movable Bent Cap, Wire Handles, Inverted Bellows, and are ABSOLUTELY PERFECT.

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

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

Corning, Cal., July 14th, 1896.

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

O. W. OSBORN.

Mt. Pleasant, Mich., Aug. 7th, 1896.

Dear Sir—Smokers came O. K. They are the best I have ever seen; sell like hot cakes.

Respectfully, Wm. BAMBU.

With a Bingham Smoker that will hold a quart of sound maple wood, the bee-keepers' trials are all over for a long time. Who ever heard of a Bingham Smoker that was too large or did not give perfect satisfaction. The world's most scientific and largest comb honey producers use Bingham Smokers and Knives. The same is true of the world's largest producers of extracted honey. Before buying a smoker or knife hunt up its record and pedigree.

Please mention the 'Progressive."

T. F. BINGHAM, Farwell, Mich.

## The Progressive Bee-Keeper.

A Journal Devoted to Bees, Honey, and Kindsed Industries → 50 Cents a Year. ← + Published Monthly by Leahy Manufacturing Company.

Vol. IX.

HIGGINSVILLE, MO., MAR. I, 1899.

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#### TWO WOMEN.

WOMAN erred from the right one time, And shocked society damned her crime, And passed her by with a haughty stare As a sinful thing too base for prayer. But the woman's error opened her eyes, And turned her face to the glad surrise. Tho she walked alone o'er the better way, Doing her Master's will each day.

A woman stepped from the right one day, And cast her priceliest jewel away. But the world held out a friendly hand To her who had broken her Lord's command; And welcomed her back to society As tho she were queen of propriety. Yet still she walked in her robes of sin, Though freely forgiven—by women and men.

Two women there were, and one was good, Though an error clouded her womanhood. But her after life the deed atoned, [stoned. Yet the world condemned and the churches The other a wanton in garments fine, Knew not of the lees as she drank life's wine. For one was poor, and the other rich, The greater sinner—now tell me—which?

-Will Ward Mitchell.

#### JUST WAIT.

thought we ought to do
Concerning foreign missions, and he
seemed to think he knew.
Of sending missionaries to our late-acquired
confines,

Hawaii, Porto Rico, and the distant Philip-pines.

The talk was largely twaddle, but the brother

The talk was largely twaddle, but the brother got good pay.

And he warmed as hunger gnawed us, and the shekels came his way.

And he said, and waxed more earnest, "It is evident to me we should haste to send the gospel to the heathen o'er the sea."

Then a brother interrupted, "Parson Brown, it seems to me, You are borrowin' of trouble—let the Filipinos

be.

Till Dewey gets through teachin' em, as only he can teach.

For there's like to be no Filips, then to hear a fellow preach.

-Will Ward Mitchell.

#### WAYSIDE FRAGMENTS. Somnambulist. **\***

OMMENTS on the recent "cold snap" and its effects constitute the major part of conversation in this locality; and as the "snap" was of the "long drawn out" variety, and covered an extended territory, it is presumable that most communities are at present similarly engaged. Of chronic croakers, there is, most generally, an over-supply at all times, and just now pneumonia and light and heavy grades of "grip" are doing their best to lower the spirits, and in some individual cases, they certainly have been most successful. a consequence, reports are coming in that the wheat crop (the standard crop in this country) has vanished, and along with it the fruit. Next the bees are also dead, or a greater part of them, owing to the continued cold. All of which reports I hope the future will ameliorate. Indeed so much do I think so that I've already pursed up my mouth ready to say, "I told you so," when the wheat fields shall have put on their green dress and the fruit trees their pink and white, lace-like robes, and the busy bees come out to call on them. O, I shall await the time with pleasure. I shall be found at the old stand, with a full stock of reminders. If, on the other hand, I should prove a poor prophet, don't store this up against me. Fortune tellers are very rarely reminded of their failures; 'tis only their lucky hits that are remembered. The same principle holds good in all, or most all, of the affairs of life. Well do I remember, in my youthful days, how often I was enjoined to "put the best foot foremost," and—just think of it!—after practicing this precept until it has become a child of adoption, along come those folks who raised such a hue and cry about putting our best honey to the front. "Sort o' between two fires," you see.

"Pickings from Oar Neighbors' Fields," is a new department in Gleanings, of which "Stenog." is manager. Looks as if he would prove a first-class hand in the extracting department. One of his picked paragraphs reads: "I have the management of the Plunkett Hill fruit farm at this place, (Livingston county, Mo.,) and I sold last season \$16.25 of fruit. It should have been that many hundred dollars; but the rain kept the bees in so they could not fertilize the blossoms, so we had only 'a drop in the bucket.' I was the only one who had any fruit to sell in this section of the country; and if it had not been for my bees, I do not think I should have had 16 cents' worth of fruit." "Stenog." thinks this should be pasted in the hat of every bee-keeper in the land, presumably for ready reference, as it would be difficult to discover a bee-keeper who had not embraced this belief. It's the balance of mankind that need to be converted; more especially horticulturists and others engaged in rural pursuits. Just why there should be any opposition to bee-culture, (open or otherwise,) is yet an unsolved problem, an unanswerable question.

The great Designer of the universe evidently intended a close af-

finity should exist between bees and fruit, as He created them so dependent each on the other. But some men are so narrow-minded as to be unable to furnish accommodations for more than one idea at a time. Such are obstinate students, but they are the very ones that need education. Some there are who are so prejudiced that they will not give credit to bees for anything. (I'll take that back. They WILL give them credit for anything that is REPREHENSIBLE.) The wheat crop for '93 was ruined by heavy rains, the fertilization being so badly interfered with that the separate grains were imperfect to such a degree that it could not enter any of the grades. Wheat is dependent on the wind for distribution of its pollen. When it became known that many fields of it would not pay for cutting, the farmers would shake their heads wisely, and say, "I knew it. Whenever we have hard rains when wheat is in bloom, there'll be no grain." The FACT they have observed; the CAUSE, to THEM, remains a mystery. And they are satisfied that so it shall remain. Ah, well! what need to know? would not put a dollar in the sack. The rains were heavy enough to wash or beat the pollen off the entire head or collection of blossoms. In the case of the fruit, the same conditions existed. The continued rains, minus any interruptions, made it impossible for the bees to take their usual outings, but had there been any chance, the blossoms would most probably have been washed so clean of both pollen and honey as to render them decidedly unattractive. For it is through no act of charity that the bee waits upon the flower, nor is it "out for fun." Pollen and honey are the incentives, and if the blossoms have been stormbeat and robbed of their treasure,

bees neglect them. The All-Wise Creator taught us to be kind when in His plans He placed before each creature an objective point, or incentive, to induce His creations to act as He designed they should. In short, He originated the reward system, and all things whatsoever, are operated, more or less, by this system. This makes it all the more mysterious and unaccountable that there should exist any antagonism, even in man's imagination, between bees and fruit.

The Modern Farmer and Busy Bee furnished "Stenog." with another paragraph which is of peculiar interest to "we uns", i. e., Missourians: "The present legislature will be asked to make an appropriation of \$30,000 to advance horticulture, but there is no thought of any money being used to promote bee-keeping, although the horticulturist is largely dependent on the bees." Brethren and "sisteren" in Missouri, what do you think of it? A dose that is difficult to swallow? An injustice? Not alone to the bee-keeper, nor yet to the horticulturist. It would seem that in the entomological department of the agricultural college, if nowhere else, bees and apiculture should demand and receive recognition, and the amount of recognition equal to their importance.

One of Dr. Miller's "Straws" states that he is in the business 37 years, and still he "dares not skip instructions to beginners, lest they contain something he does not know." Glad of it, Doctor—and sorry, too, in the same breath. Glad to discover myself in such good company, though making no pretense to being a veteran, and sorry to know we have yet so much to learn.

A "Straw" gleaned from Bienen-Vater tells us that "fruit blossoms covered with netting to keep out the bees, remained one to seven days longer than those uncovered; apparently waiting to be fertilized." The different colored petals of flowers have been likened to signal flags for to attract the attention of bees or other insects. How wonderful that they should remain longer than usual in order that the object of nature should be accomplished; or having been accomplished, and these signal flags of no further use, that they should be taken down.

R. C. Aikin, in an article headed. "Tall vs. Square Sections," gives his reason as to why the tall sections are better filled out than the square ones. He claims, "the universal rule in comb building is, the downward progress exceeds the sidewise in a proportion of about 3 to 2." It follows "then that a section or brood frame either, in which the width and depth are in the proportion of 2 to 3, will be filled with comb, and finished quicker than when the width is equal to or greater than the depth; the greater the width in proportion, the more uneven the work." This theory would obtain support from the manner in which the combs of wild bees in the bee trees, are built. Some of the oldest inhabitants hereabouts tell of mammoth bee trees which contained combs several feet in length. Now it never occured to me that the bees had a natural propensity for building lengthwise, in preference to widening out. Stupidity, thou art the mother of pervesity. Instead of their being controlled by circumstances, that is, their combs shaped by their circumscribed limits, it would seem they make intelligent selection of a site where they can follow out their natural inclinations according to their own sweet will. While I have always respected the superior instinct (or intelligence I've been tempted to call it) of the bee,

I was not prepared to go so far as this train of thought (for which the above article furnished the steam) would lead.

In answer to the question, "How to secure the greatest increase from a single colony, the editor of Gleanings says it is possible to secure an increase of thirty from one, but that it would take an expert to do Says that in '92 he reared all queens and increased an apiary from ten colonies, some of which were almost nuclei, to some eighty-five good colonies that went into winter They were given full sheets of foundation; were not fed, but made to depend entirely on natural sources for their supply. He thinks, had he fed after the honey season and given empty combs, he might have made double the increase. All of which proves him to be an expansionist, insofar as the bee business is concerned. I secretly suspect most supply dealers are. But had your humble servant, Sommy, accomplished either of the aforesaid feats, I greatly fear it would have given HIM expansion of the brain, and that, in these hard times, when one is forced to stick to the same old hat of last season, would be a calamity.

And now it becomes our painful duty to note the death of one of our family of correspondents. Altho acquainted with him only through his writings, my heart thrilled with pride when I read the first sentence of the extract from the Chillicothe Times, which was as follows: death of one of the BEST CITIZENS OF THIS COUNTY occurred early Monday morning." Every bee-keeper will rejoice to know so much could be said of him. To win an independence, to become a good citizen, to bear the usual burdens of responsibility, which attach to an ordinary life, is an aim worthy of any man; and when we consider how he was afflicted, words are lacking with which to sound his praise. No more shall we greet "Straws from the Apiary." Who will fill Fred S. Thorington's place? He was not well, even as usual, when his very last article was written, yet he remembered the misfortune and suffering of others, and expressed a hope for their speedy recovery. Passing strange it seems, that he, to whom reference was made (Doolittle), is strong again, having once more "girded on his armor" for the active duties of life, while the well-wisher's lips are sealed in death.

Naptown, Dreamland.

#### TEXAS QUEENS.

Golden Italians, Adel or Albino Queens.

Dr. Gallup of California, writes Oct. 6, 1896: "The queens received of you are decidedly the very best honey gatherers I have in a lot of 30 stocks, and I have received queens from ten different parties this season." Price of Untested Queens, \$1.00.

J. D. GIVENS, Lisbon, Texas.

#### EXTRACTED HONEY.

H. H. HYDE.

N the production of extracted honey, the main object is to give plenty of room, and for this purpose in my locality, a hive tiered up 3 or 4 stories high is the hive I use. To be successful, we must have a strong colony of bees. To obtain this, we must have a No. 1 queen. Too much stress cannot be laid on the importance of a good queen, but we must also allow the colonies plenty of honey, and if you havn't the honey, feed them. In other words, do everything possible to obtain a large colony. Just when the flow commences, give the queen unlimited egg laying room. I would not hamper her. Let her go into the second or third story, if

she likes. My motto is to never use a queen excluder. They are worse than useless; in fact the greatest curse ever put on bee-keepers. I know this after throwing away several hundred. They not only hamper the queen, but obstruct the workers from passing freely. If a queen doesn't fill more than 10 fbs. of brood, I cut off her head. fall and every spring I go over our 450 colonies, looking especially for poor queens. When they are found they are at once replaced. I prefer this plan for several reasons. One is, some queens commence failing much earlier than others. I always know the age of the queens, as I keep a record of every hive in a book, giving one page on each hive. If a queen is all right in the spring, she will generally be all right till fall, and if all right in the fall, will likely be all right in the spring; but this is not so often the rule as with the former, because of the winter confinement. But no matter how strong the bees are, or how good the management, to be successful we must have a good locality, and for extracted honey, a long slow flow is preferred to the same amount of nectar secretion in a fast one. Among the reasons for this is that in a fast flow unnecessary wax is secreted, and the bees are inclined to cap the honey too soon, or before it is ripened properly.

The foremost point, however, is to have a locality with plenty of nectar-yielding plants or flowers; whether fast or slow. When the flow commences, give unlimited room, but just as they need it. Empty combs are preferable, but in the absence of combs give full sheets of foundation wired in. I believe in using full sheets for several reasons. Bees have comb to store in quicker. Combs when built

out are all worker, and combs are nice and straight. I consider this last point the most important of all. Another reason for supplying unlimited room is, it gives bees more time to cap the honey and therefore a better article is the result. would always wait till honey is pretty well capped before extracting. In good locality I believe the 10frame hive, 3 or 4 stories high, is just right, always giving the queen unlimited sway in extracting. Extract from all the bodies just so you don't extract any frames containing small larva, (if you are careful, however, you can lift even them). Just so you don't extract too close, if there is prospect of a letting up in the flow, of course putting most or all of the brood in the bottom story. Each time after securing a good crop of fine ripened honey, the next step is the package to use. If you expect to ship, 60-pound tin cans are my preference. Cans are much better than barrels. No leaking or absorbing of honey. If you expect to sell altogether at home, smaller tin cans and Mason fruit jars are very nice. I believe everybody should sell as much as possible at home. If you have to ship, don't ship to unknown commission firms, but go and sell it yourself, or hire a drummer to do so.

My next contribution will be Comb Honey, and the next Comb and Extracted Honey in same apiary. Hutto, Texas.

"Now is the time to subscribe for the "Progressive." A whole year for 50 cents.

### American Bee Journal

Established in 1861. Issued weekly. All devoted to bees. Has a review of all the other bee papers each week. Best bee-keeper write for it. Send for free sample copy. Address.

GEO. W. YORK & CO.,

2-12 118 Michigan St., Chicago, Ills.

#### HONEY JARS.

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

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

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

LEAHY MFG Co., Higginsville, Mo

### THE DISHONESTY OF FACING COMB HONEY.

F. L. THOMPSON.

UERY:—Is it honest to face a case with the best sections of the same grade in that case? Mr. Hutchinson says, "So crate your honey that, if by chance you should unknowingly buy one of your own cases of honey, you would not be disappointed when you opened it." But suppose Mr. B., who does not expect facing, buys a case of honey put up by Mr. A., who believes in it. The only way to soothe Mr. B.'s feelings would be to prove that if Mr. A. THINKS he is right, he is right.

I think the discussion cannot be dropped just yet. We do not thoroughly understand each other's

points of view.

A case faced as indicated would not be objected to by the average commission man, or the average retailer either. Nor would a case of uniform honey, not faced, in most markets. We, the producers and packers, are therefore rightly held responsible by the consumer for the arrangement of the honey as it reaches him, and, in common with the merchants, are responsible for any deception arising in consequence.

Does any deception arise? a certain kind and degree undoubtedly does. I know that in one grocery, in which the honey-case stood on a shelf behind the counter, the front sections were not sold until the last; that is, customers were tempted by the front sections, but got the rear ones. It would be inferential on my part to imagine other possibilities, but taking mercantile human nature, as I know it, into account, it would be a rasher statement to say that they do not occur, than that they do, when given the opportunity which faced honey presents.

The question is plain enough, and it is hard to see why so much irrelevant matter should have entered into the discussion of a similar question last year, such as the attempt to trace its historical development; which, however, I do not understand. Facing was fully developed long before it was applied to honey. Those six-pound boxes with glass sides, with combs in each box just as the bees left them, and all sold together without grading, appear to me just as different from the next development, the two-pound sections in cases faced by man's intervention, as they are from modern faced cases of one-pound sections. The six-pound boxes were not faced; the two-pound sections were. true, there was an element of uncertainty in judging of the contents of the six-pound boxes from their exterior, but that was not facing. Everyone knew the combs were arranged by the bees, and knew that there was uncertainty in judging from the outside. In the next stage of the business, everyone knew the combs were arranged by man's hand, just as they know it now, and they had a right to expect, therefore, that the uncertainty would cease. And even a proved development would not decide the right or wrong of present EFFECTS.

Another irrelevancy is in assuming any necessary connection between the questions, "the expediency of grading" and "the honesty of facing." Perhaps I am to blame for some misunderstanding here. once said, "I consider that the only honest method," referring to putting uniform sections in the cases at random. I did not intend to refer to grading. Of course, when the sections are put in at random, they must be uniform if the fronts are to be representative; but there is more than one way of killing a cat, and if the sections are not uniform, representative fronts (all I intended to refer to) may still be obtained by proper selection. So far as I am concerned, the idea of dishonesty in facing is not of recent origin, and did not originate in the idea that any man is dishonest who would attempt to sell his crop of honey as a whole, without grading or sorting it; nor do I believe that it thus orig inated in other minds, for there is no apparent reason why it should. With me, it was the other way—the desire for uniform grading originated because of the greater certainty which uniformity affords of avoiding accidental facing when sections are put in at random, and of avoiding the trouble of picking out ex actly representative sections when the fronts are not put in at random.

It is irrelevant, too, to refer to the practice of a not over-scrupulous mercantile public, when we know that the average trader openly disclaims exact standards of right and wrong, and makes expediency his sole conscience.

It is irrelevant to refer to the acquaintance of a part of the consuming public with the tricks of the trade, so that, to that part, they

are no deception, when we know another part is unacquainted with them.

It is irrelevant to refer to the alleged financial importance of facing as an essential part of the question, when its moral importance is alleged to be transcendent.

And it is highly irrelevant to refer to the higher prices realized for goods faced with discrimination. That has nothing whatever to do with the question. First prove the practice is honest; if it is, it needs no bolstering. If it is not, and we have not the backbone to sacrifice profit for principle, we might well give up all ideals, and say average humanity, "Thou art my God." You who complain of the evil in the world, what are you doto make it better? If all would cease to face, there would be no such discrepancy of prices as seems to some to call for more urgent consideration than perfect rectitude. They almost seem to say, "Honesty depends on profits." Save us from such elastic ideals. A business man with whom I was discussing this question said to me: "I always feel that if EVERY one cheats me, I have to strike back in order to get along; but if there is a chance of making the world gradually better, then you are right."

I rise to a point of order, and move the consideration of the previous question. I grant that some consumers really prefer that the honey itself, as well as the case, should have its better side out. I grant that by far the great majority of consumers either don't know or don't notice the difference between the No. 1 facers and the No. 1 sections back of them. But does "by far the greater majority" mean "ALL"? Look that question straight in the eye, gentlemen, and tell us your conclusions. Which shall we

cater to—the vague expectations (not "demands," as it has unfortunately been phrased) of some, or the slight preference of a few others, or the indifference of by far the great majority—or the unmistakable desires (extending often even to the willingness to pay more) of a few? It is but shallow logic to assume all purchasers are alike. When Mrs. Harrison paid a fancy price for faced apples, thinking they would all be fancy, and found they were not-prove to us, ye honest facers, that it was all the fault of her imagination that she was disappointed. These arguments "they all expect it" and "they all do it," are entirely too loose. Even the indifference of "by far the great majority," as everyone well knows, would become the reverse of indifference if the attention of each one of that number were specifically called to the transaction.

I didn't do much trafficking in the early seventies, but I do remember buying a little toy at that time, perfect in appearance, which I found to be broken as soon as I got outside of the door. I took it back to exchange it, but the woman wouldn't do so, though she admitted it was broken when she sold it. I forget her words, but her attitude was, that it was my business to see that the toy was perfect before I bought it. Was that honesty?

Reader, have you not hundreds of times bought articles on the strength of their appearance, and found they were somewhat inferior to that appearance, so that if you had the choice again, you would refrain from buying them, and choose others? I have. And in many cases, was not that appearance plainly due to the idea that DISPLAY must INVARIABLY outweigh all other considerations? Is that honesty—in its EFFECTS? It would be a waste of

space to carefully explain that I do not assert that a few prominent beekeepers, who have taken the other side of this question, have any but honest intentions. But the effects of their practice and teaching remain, to be judged by their own merits.

Will you say that the difference between No. 1 and fancy honey, when viewed separately, and much more between selected sections of a grade and the rest of the grade, is practically imperceptible? that is proving too much for the health of your argument; for if it is true, how can a difference which is practically imperceptible, contribute at all to purposes of display, and why should you take the trouble to face at all, when it does no good? But if facing does give a finish, perceptible to the eye, how is it going to be proved that the difference in the appearance of the interior sections will not also be perceptible to the eye of some consumers when they unpack their purchase?

Someone has expressed surprise at the idea of LOOKS cheating, as contrasted with flavor. I am in turn surprised at that surprise. People often pay for looks here, no less than for flavor. The commercial value of looks is especially apparent in comb honey. Any housekeeper in Denver will tell you that she would rather have a white, regularly formed comb "for company" -yes, and for every-day use-than an uneven and off-colored one, and most of them will add that they are willing to pay extra for the better comb. I know this, because I have had experience in trying to sell in the home market-mostly with extracted honey, but some comb also. Why, of course they are cheated if the average of the rear sections is not the same as the average of the front sides, in looks, even when the flavor is the same.

We may acknowledge, for the sake of argument, that many will somehow be impressed with the tasty appearance of the front, and yet be so unobservant as not to realize the inferior looks of the rest when they consume the honey. But that finished appearance will make a deeper impression on others; and some of these will PAY for it, under the impression that it is all alike, just as Mrs. Harrison did.

All good men, whether freethinkers or doctrinal religionists, accept the spirit of the precept, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect." How do the defenders of facing reconcile that precept with their practice? Let them first prove beyond the possibility of a doubt that no rational consumer-NOT ONE-EVER is more favorably impressed with the front of the case in the store than with what he finds he has after he takes it home. Let the number of such customers be small; let their disappointment be comparatively slight; but-!

All intentionally good men (even evolutionists) accept the spirit of the golden rule. Let us even suppose (what is almost inconceivable) that no kind or degree of disillusion ever results from the practice facing; is it to be supposed that if the purchaser were TOLD of what he did not find out for himself, he would invariably reply, "I would just as soon have one as the other"? If the purchaser THINKS he is getting a perfect article, how can a believer in the golden rule be otherwise than inconsistent who sells him what he knows is slightly inferior?

Let no one suppose that we who insist on honesty set ourselves up as bright and shining examples. It is because I have failed so often to secure the approval of my own con-

science that I argue for more careful action to win the approval of that guide of each of us.

Moreover, no other accusation is hereby made than that of superficial thought,—of a failure to look the question squarely in the face, and consider all its bearings, and their relative values.

A strictly honest arrangement, so as to give a finished appearance, is possible with some goods, even when intended for sale. Apples may have the stem ends up. Everyone knows apples have calyx ends. Dress goods have finished side out. Everyone knows they have a roughlooking side. Fleeces have the clean side out. Wool buyers know the difference between the inside and the outside as well as you or I know the two ends of an apple; and they want the clean side out anyhow, because the fibre is most readily appraised on that side. Does that line of argument apply to honev? Of course not-one side of a section may be better, or may be worse, than the other side, or than the interior sections. There is nothing to go by. And the man who puts average sections in front, but turns their better sides out, is also facing, and attempting to compromise when no compromise is possible. This has the effect of a trick, so that the customer cannot say the outside sections are any better than the rear ones. But it is sides he sees at first, not sections. The only way not to face is to put average sides in front, not average sections.

It is not necessary to actually pick them out. By sub-grading, with the aid of pattern sections, every case may be made so uniform that it would be a hard matter to face it with material in the same case, and not worth while even if it could be done. That was the plan

I followed two years ago, and I am going back to it, as the one which has proved itself best. Then no one can say, "If they don't see the good sections in front, they will think there are none," because the "good" sections ARE there, and ARE in front—in the good cases. sub-grading, the sections are put in at random, taking care that no extraordinarily perfect side gets in This contingency is not very frequent. Someone inferred that I would put the worst outside an altogether unwarranted conclu-The other side of that partially perfect section is not inferior to the average of the case; else it would not get to the front at all, and would be unlikely to get in the case. We are not considering individual sections, but whole cases, which each consist of many section sides. To those who expect trickiness, if they don't look out, each section may say, "Here am I;" but to the indifferent majority, and to those who do not expect to be fleeced, each section in sight says, "Here are WE."

The whole issue is clear, sharp, and concrete—will you shut your eyes to the possibility of deception as a partial but direct result of your sections, or not? And the answer must be that taking the facts of life into consideration, there is no such thing as an honest facing of goods, intended to be sold, when the general character of the hidden portion is not a matter of common knowledge.

As to the æsthetic argument, the lesser consideration must yield to the greater. No comparison can be drawn between beauty and honesty. But a good deal of beauty is left in the average case of honey. And

"How much more doth beauty beauteous seem By that sweet ornament which truth doth give. [Shakespeare].

Denver, Colo.

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#### EXPERIENCE AND ITS LESSONS.

R. C. AIKIN.

(Continued from Feb. Progressive.) CHAPTER XVII.

GETTING THE SURPLUS—Continued.

CONSIDERING the experience related in former articles, and the many things I have gathered out of my experiences not related, and from the experience of others, I am a firm believer in some practice, whatever the method employed, that will prevent swarming. If swarming be prevented, then some provision must be made for increase, both to keep up the stock and to increase the number when one wants increase.

My present practice to obtain in-

crease is to make nucleus colonies. As explained in the preceding article, when a colony has built up early, that is, become strong in advance of the honey flow, I use the surplus strength of such in helping weaker ones and in making nuclei. I take combs that have much RIPE brood and hatching bees, and make one and two frame nuclei. I try to do this early enough so that the new queens are ready to lay about the time the honey flow begins. These nucleus colonies will, if made thus early, have quite a nice little force of fielders when the flow comes, and as it is usually warm weather then, they can spare almost all the force to field, and they soon stock up in honey. I have never had any bees to work more vigorously than just such ones, and the fact that they do work so very vigorously and in the hot weather, the temperature of the hive is maintained sufficient to carry on breeding with almost no bees remaining home for this work. Not a bee is idle; they cannot afford to be; not even fanners at the entrance: they are not needed there. I have often thought how nice if I could just divide 100 colonies into about 500; having about such condition. I could then just take my ease while they filled the hives, and not a swarm. Would not that be a good way to produce extracted, reducing to original number and taking the honey, except for bee bread and brood. I have never tried it.

Think I hear somebody saying, There, Aikin contradicts himself. He has been arguing for very strong colonies as the ones that get there in honey gathering. I did and do yet say that for surplus, especially Section Honey, the rousing colonies are the ones that get there. It makes all the difference whether you want the work in the surplus

apartment or in the brood chamber. Right here is where the hive comes into play, the elastic, the divisible brood chamber, the easily contracted, etc. The hive that gives us the greatest control with the minimum of labor.

The basis of contracting, as I understand its general application, is to force the colony to the surplus apartment. Is not the main object with those who practice contraction, to make the hive fit the size of the colony, as it were, thereby getting them to work in the super? I know that some have used contraction to compel the colony to store a certain grade of honey in the surplus, then afterward give more brood chamber room to get the darker or poorer grade in for winter stores.

In this field the honey is all white and fine; and more, it all comes in midsummer—no fall flow. This being the case, there is no object in contracting except to force the colony to the super. I do sometimes contract for this purpose when a colony is not strong enough to go there of their own accord.

But you will ask, How strong must a colony be before it passes the point where contraction should be practiced on it? That, like many other things in the management of bees, depends, and cannot governed by a certain rule. Many times 3 pounds of bees will fill an ordinary hive, and go to the super and work there, while at other times 2 or 3 times as many bees would not do any better. Here is a rule of general application: more rapid and long continued the flow, the fewer bees per hive are required to do fair work. The poorer the season or flow, the more bees required to accomplish an equal work as to both amount and finish. From this you will see that in a poor year your fair colonies may not give any surplus, while the very strong would give some, and in a good flow the fair colony would give some and the strong 2 or 3 somes, or a good yield. Put it down as a rule, that when only very strong colonies are kept during the flow, you will usually get some surplus, and in the good years they will pile up surplus just about in

proportion to numbers.

Note this, that when a colony gets just about strong enough to fully occupy an ordinary hive 8 to 10 L frame capacity, they are just about strong enough to swarm, and usually will do so if other conditions are favorable. Your colonies in such strength and a rapid change from a condition of no nectar in the fields to that of a reasonable abundance and coupled with warm weather, they will swarm. At same strength and a dearth of honey continues, but little swarming will result, only a few that undertake to supersede and a few having a plenty of old stores, will do so.

But, should this condition of prime strength obtain just as a good flow opened, a flow that would fill all empty comb in the brood chamber, then, if a super is on with a few bait combs, or full sheets of foundation, or in close contact with the brood, they will proceed to work there. The change being abrupt from unfavorable conditions for swarming to very favorable, the majority have made no preparations for swarming, hence will be some days in getting ready. Usually the prime swarm does not come out till the first 2 or 3 queen cells are sealed or ready to seal, so they are not ready for a week to 10 days, for swarming, after the flow begins. In this time they should have begun the super work.

Again, if the flow comes on more gradually, coming up little by little

for a week or 10 days, swarming will be more irregular; that is, not come so much all at once, and many colonies will swarm before doing one thing in the supers; others will make a start, and still others will go to the supers and not swarm at all.

This is a very critical time in the management, both as to control of swarming and as to amount of surplus to be obtained. The quicker you can get the colony into the super after the flow begins, the less the swarming and the more the surplus. It acts on the swarming in this way: An early start in the super lessens the crowding of the brood combs with honey, and as naturally follows, the more room for the queen to lay. It also draws a large part of the nurse or inside workers to the super for comb building and ripening the honey, and the larger the force at work in the super the less pressure in the brood chamber. So true is this in reducing the swarming tendency, that if we could just get every colony at work at once in the supers and with the very beginning of the flow, I verily believe it would reduce swarming at least one-half.

To obtain such a condition augments the surplus crop in a twofold way. First and foremost it puts the whole force at work-no idlers and plenty of elbow room, because they are spread out. Being spread through 2 or 3, and in extra flows even 4 to 6 supers, the center of activity is transferred from the brood chamber to the super, and the center being in the supers, the brood combs are not filled so plump, and honey will even be moved out of brood combs to the super to make room for a vigorous queen. Why, friends, I have seen in just such conditions, a colony pile their honey to the super until the brood combs were left too light for winter.

Just look at it. I could go and on telling you of the almost endless chain of variations in results in the work of the bees, caused by the leaving out, adding to, or transferring the factors making up the sum total. See what a vast difference it makes in the result whether you place simply the numeral 1, or 1 and 5, or 1-5 and 8. Now transpose these 3 figures, put the 5 first, or the 8, and see how the proportion changes. So it is with the bees. It depends on number and order of the factors what the result will be. Our feeble. finite minds grope along darkly, getting hold of a little here and a little there, till finally we get an inkling of what might be-only an inkling.

Loveland, Colo.

(To be continued in our next.)

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

Non-Swarming.—Bro. A. tells us almost the first thing in this article that he is "a firm believer in some practice that will prevent swarming." How times have changed with beekeepers during the past quarter of a century. At that time there were only now and then a person who ever thought of such a thing as preventing swarming. To be sure there was old Jasper Hazen, who studied on nonswarming and non-swarming hives, but to the great mass of bee-keepers he appeared only as fanatic, to be held up for ridicule by the masses. Then later on such men as Heddon. Doolittle and others, claimed more honey could be obtained by allowing each colony of bees to swarm just ONCE, and so manipulate that the larger part of the working force was thrown in with the swarm, than by any plan of non-swarming extant. But now we find nearly all desirous of some plan by which bees

can quickly and surely be prevented from swarming, while the whole working force is kept together on the old stand. And strange as it may appear, even Doolittle quite agrees with Bro. Aikin in this matter, and at the present time is more interested in perfecting some plan of non-swarming, which will work satisfactorily and completely, than in anything else pertaining to bee culture. In fact, I am ALL interest, and can hardly wait for A. to tell us what he has found out along this line, but so far he has given nothing that the masses can tie to, and when he will, is-yet to appear. But, hold on, the "conclusion of the whole matter" may be in this very article I am reviewing, for all I know, for I have so far read only the first paragraph.

Increase.—But I see that Bro. A. thinks if we prevent swarming, we want some plan of increase. Well, yes, I suppose most of us would, but this point does not worry me in the least, for given only 10 good colonies of bees on the first of May, it would be no trick at all "in these latter days" to increase them to 100, and I believe I could do the thing and secure some surplus beside, at least enough to provide all the feed it would be necessary to have to get the 100 through the winter. One colony, whose queen would be laving all the time, (thus giving stores and bees for increase,) would provide all the queens necessary for the increase, and with the nucleus forming box and funnel, a pound of bees could be taken every three or four days from each of the ten colonies, without materially weakening them, after the first of June. Then later on in August and September, enough bees could be taken from three, four, or five colonies, to make a full colony at once, and with combs of sealed honey for stores, a colony all perfect for winter be made in a day, said stores taken from all the colonies as they could spare them during the working season. I much prefer the funnel and nucleus box plan of forming any colony, from the weakest one-frame nucleus up to a full-fledged colony at once, to any other plan I know of, and I have used scores of plans during my 30 years of beekeeping. One thing I am sure of, it is away ahead of Bro. A.'s plan of using frames of ripe brood, as he gives in the next paragraph. With the nucleus box plan, the bees stay where put; field bees and all, while with Bro. A.'s plan, unless much precaution is used, all the field bees from the combs taken, and often all but the youngest "fuzzy" fellows, will return home, or leave the brood, thus causing a loss of much of the brood placed in the nucleus, especially if the weather should happen to turn cool, which is often the case.

Theory Still.—After reading farther on in that second paragraph, and becoming all excited regarding how those nuclei Bro. A. makes will work, (even sending the very last "fanner" into the field to roll up a big surplus of honey for the man who will work his apiary according to that PLAN, [?] and soaring away up into the "ethereal blue," as my thoughts went along with the writer in extending the thing out into the thousands and millions of colonies, which could be thus made by numerous hired help, who could be taught to do it while "I could then just take my ease," thinking that no swarms would occur, this same help doing the doubling up and extracting in the fall), the reader can imagine with what a "thud" I fell to the ground, when I read those five concluding words, "I have never tried it." Then in the first of the next paragraph I find Bro. A. thinking someone is going to say he is contradicting himself. No, no. Don't you fear any such thing, Friend A., for you cannot well contradict yourself till you have "TRIED" some of the things you so graphically describe to us. Allow me to suggest that it might be well to try some of these plans before you give them to the world, and not be trying to use us as the "cat's paws to pull the chestnuts out of the fire," by way of our doing the experimenting for you, to see how your "never tried" plans will work.

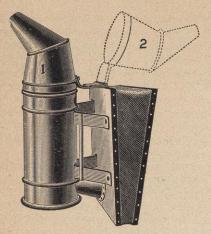
Contraction.—Next I find Bro. A. asking, "Is not the main object with those who practice contraction, to make the hive fit the size of the colony, thereby getting them to work in the super?" No, sir, not where non-swarming is practiced, and rarely in any event. The object is to have only combs filled with brood in the brood chamber when the honey flow commences, so that the first honey shall go into the sections, and after the bees are once started in the sections they will continue to work there, no matter how much the brood chamber may be enlarged afterward, when working consistently for section honey. But once allow the bees not to work in the sections, by allowing much empty comb in the brood chamber, and all the contraction that may be practiced afterward will not secure to the "practicer" success along the line of section honev. And herein lies another objection to Bro. A.'s "double up and tumble down" hive he has been theorizing about for the past six months. He, nor any other person, can use it as a divisible hive, so but what there will be considerable empty comb in the part over which the sections are to be placed, for the very shallowness of the proposed frames is so opposed to the natural instinct of the bee that the ends of the outside combs will nearly always contain empty comb, which is just the thing to induce the bees to make their first start at storing honey in the brood frames.

Honey in Brood Combs.—And Bro. A. admits the correctness of the above when he says, "Should this condition of prime strength obtain just as

a good flow opens. a flow that would fill all empty comb in the brood chamber." And how long does it take to fill this "empty comb in the brood chamber?" We will let Bro. A. answer, where he says, "So they are not ready for a week to 10 days, for swarming, after the flow begins. In this time they should have begun the super work." Thus we find from a week to 10 days are to be allowed for the bees to fill the empty comb in the brood chamber and begin work in the super, with his much lauded hive, when a good flow of honey is on, while with the contraction plan, as used by myself during the past 30 years, the bees would commence work in the sections the very day the flow commences, for they would not have anywhere else to put the honey, and by the time the ten days were up, many sections would be ready to take off, especially the bait sections, as I have done scores of times, with no swarming following, when under the conditions he describes here. With the proper hives and management, taking off sections as fast as fil'ed, I have very few swarms when the bees have made no preparations for swarming before a good flow of honey comes on, and that, too, without any manipulation of the brood combs to prevent it. But just let the bees have plenty of empty combs in the brood chamber in which to store honey at first, and you will have swarming, just as he describes, for the bees will encroach on the room occupied by the queen, instead of readily entering the sections, and swarming and discontent are the results. And I see Bro. A. is in perfect accord with this in his next two paragraphs, which I have now read. Yet I suppose he will stick to that "new imaginary" hive of his, in theory, if in no other way, despite the practical proof he gives of its inability to accomplish what he allows it may in theory. Oh, Aikin! had you not better leave that "jack rabbit gait," "rackety" or otherwise, entirely, and come back to the good sense you had before you started out after that will-o'the-wisp hive, which is leading you off into the "morasses" of sin? Myself, and the readers of the PROGRESSIVE stand with outstretched arms to welcome you back to your "father's house." Don't be out there feeding on the "husks" in that strange hive country any longer.

Just So.—Then hear Aikin again: "Why, friends, I have seen in just such conditions, [the conditions I always have where the size of the brood chamber is in accord to the amount of brood in the combsl, a colony pile their honey to the super until the brood combs were left too light for winter." And so have I, scores and hundreds of times, ves, thousands of times, at the end of the white honey flow, but with our fall yield of dark honey, which we always prefer to have in the brood combs, while the white honey is in the sections, it is quite a rare thing to have many colonies which are not well supplied with winter stores, with such colonies as have worked in the sections during the white honey harvest. Nor do I admit that what has proved true with me time and time again, is only an "inkling." It is not an inkling. It is a knowledge. And here is another thought worth pasting in "your hat:" What I can do, others can do, under like conditions, and what others can do, I can do, under like conditions, and I am what I am today by taking hold of what others have handed down to me, through the bee papers, as far as bee-keeping is concerned, and all of the readers of the bee papers can become what I (or Aikin, Miller, Root, Elwood, Coggshall, Hethrington, or any of the other prominent bee-keepers) am, if they will only sift the "wheat from the chaff" of what they read, and put it in practice.

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#### WHAT WILL THE HARVEST BE?

JAMES CORMAC.

OUBTLESS there are but few bee-keepers that this question has not impressed their minds more or less forcibly since the closing of '98 and opening of The auspicious signs of resumed activity in whatever avocation one may give attention to, and the promise of ample reward for the labor, with greater demands for additional helpers than the past few years have employed, have already encouraged the gloomy and foreboding spirits that were shadowed by darkened clouds which enveloped them like a mist, through which their ardent gaze failed to penetrate to see the picture of hope beckoning them forward. The silver lining to the clouds is reflected from face to face, causing a cheerful aspect to the wanton gloominess so long encouraged. Drooping shoulders, hanging head and downcast looks, with listless movement, have given place to a more vigorous action, upright carriage, and the smile of hope.

Whilst this is true of many, in various avocations, not all are so hopeful, and are mentally repeating the above caption. Business activity as generally understood, has to them no clouds with silver lining. Theirs is only hope anchored on PRECEDENTS. Signs of plenty to them are elusive, beckoning them on only to extend an empty hand, after arousing enthusiasm. To the year just closed can be charged an aggravated case of hope betrayed, which intensifies the inquiry, What will the harvest be? This to the specialist is an important inquiry, as all his plans are built upon a favorable answer. Shut in, as it were from any ray of light or mental vision that can be relied on, he drifts upon a sea of helplessness, without oars or rudder, to steer for a haven of light. Enticed on by the intense activity of his winged helpers, he counted his supers, and figured out his income, planned outlay or improvements, after the harvest to behold a blank. He contemplates the case with dismay, his fingers working among a few coppers in his pocket, where a short time before he contemplated being filled with dollars. All signs at the beginning led on to this ignis fatuus or 'Jack-with-a-lantern' condition of mind, which, however harassing, can only be borne with stoicism, heaving a sigh, and ask the question of the future. Listlessness to last year's conditions ought not to dwell in the mind, but a more careful procedure be inaugurated upon each failure, whether it be our fault or that of nature and its elements.

To the specialist, a sweeping fail-

ure like that of 1898 proves that one ought not to place himself in a position to be left stranded by however large a wave. He should to an extent to a year's keep, provide other methods of living. There are "in-betweens" which can be cultivated before and after his main dependence needs attention, which will employ his time and render enjoyment in their pursuit, and assist in warding off entire loss of income.

To the specialist, no need of coun-As to the novice, your excellent journal, the Progressive Bee-Keeper, is distributed so widely that one cannot counsel, dictating from this latitude, as to invariable methods of procedure, even had he a sure and tested case to advise throughout the season of nectar secretion. But I would warn against too much experimentation with your bees. Provide yourself with some good standard work, if you are an amateur. If a novice, the Amateur Bee-Keeper, cheap, although to be relied on, and the teachings of either, until experience gives you confidence and knowledge to strike out a line of conduct independently. To be successful requires close and frequent observation, aided with good judgment. Success may obtain in some cases with the most ignorant and careless, but conditions which produce failure with an expert, may be a condition to the total loss of the novice. There is a field of study for the most talented and observing minds. No one can be assured of continued success and perfect results year after year. Last year's results may be the Waterloo to many bee-keepers. Honey dew in place of nectar during the time of the usual honey season; after drouth to an unusual extent; no fall secretions from flowers, and what gathered consumed rapidly by a warm spell in November, when bees

seemed extra active and consumed their stores unusually fast, leaving the hives light; with a close winter, with a month of mild weather, but not mild enough to give the bees flight. They break the cluster and consume more than if kept colder; their stores will decrease till spring will find them short of food, and if not promptly relieved with painstaking care, will be reduced beyond recovery. It is a question what stores were in the hives, whether honey or "bug juice" was the most plenty, and what effect poor food may have on the colony.

Many colonies examined in October, with plenty of stores and to spare, were none too well supplied November 20, when winter weather closed in with sleet and snow, and

held close for six weeks.

There are articles being published in the various bee, journals, which distract the minds of beginners, from the great differences of practice by bee-keepers. One ought not to try to follow them if change of methods is required, as said above, but continue as instructed by a good reliable bee guide. While it is interesting reading, glean from them some helps, for frequently you will be called upon to exercise your mind to select some aid not of your own experience, to help you out of a troublesome quandary. It is well to be always within sight of the sower's stakes, so we may go in a straight line.

Des Moines. Iowa.

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E. R. JONES, Milano, Tex.

#### CONCERNING SHALLOW FRAMES, ETC.

W. C. GATHRIGHT.

R. AIKIN'S article in the January Progressive, with Mr. Doolittle's comments, were very interesting to me, as I have been studying and experimenting with shallow frames and divisible brood chambers. I think Mr. Doolittle is unfair to Mr. Aikin when he infers that the latter would recommend producing comb and extracted honey from the same hive at the same time. I am sure a man of Mr. Aiken's experience would not recommend anything of the kind, though he should have warned beginners in regard to this. Mr. D. seems to delight in calling Mr. A.'s hive a "double up and tumble down" hive. I am using a hive somewhat similar to one Mr. Aikin describes, and, like him, am working into this style gradually, for the most of my bees are in the standard size 8-frame hive, and to change them all into the new style would be expensive.

Mr. Aikin's plan of contracting the brood chamber is the correct one to get the best results in comb honey, according to my notions. Mr. Hutchinson well says: "In the production of extracted, the size of the hive matters very little, provided it is large enough. In pro-

ducing comb honey, the line between the brood and surplus must be very sharply drawn, and to get the right proportion of fine white honey stored above this line requires skilful and peculiar management."

In drawing this line we must have a special purpose hive. The general purpose hive cannot be as good for a special purpose as one made for that especial purpose. How often we hear it said, "the Jack at all trades is good at none." On the other hand, take a man trained for a special line of work, and he will excel in that especial line.

I said my hive was somewhat similar to Mr. Aiken's. Well, it is what Mr. Doolittle would call a "double up and tumble down" hive. In size and shape, it differs a little from Mr. Aikin's hive. Instead of 16 inches, my brood chambers are 17 inches long, because I do not want the sections to extend even the fraction of an inch past the brood. At present I am using the 4\frac{1}{4}x4\frac{1}{4} because I have so many hives taking that size, but when I get more of the new style of hives in use, I will change to the 4x5 section, by nailing a \(\frac{3}{4}\) inch rim on the bottoms of the supers, and putting in a  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch strip inside of each end. This will bring the sections squarely over the brood, instead of having them extend a little past at the ends. I cannot agree with Mr. Aikin in regard to having each part of the hive the same size, and splitting the brood nest in the MIDDLE. I think too much importance has been placed on having each story the same size, so that the frames may be interchangeable above and below. In actual practice I find very little advantage in having them so. Now for the reason for not having them the same size. I never want a brood chamber, under any circumstances,

less than  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches in depth. With a double brood chamber, each  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep, to use two together would make a hive too deep for best results in comb honey at least, here.

To use a single story would throw the brood nest out of normal shape, restrict the queen, and make queen excluders a necessity, and probably induce swarming. With my hive having frames  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep below, and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  or  $5\frac{1}{4}$  above, the queen has ample room for egg laying, and it tends to prevent swarming before the main honey flow, at which time they are removed (the upper stories with shallow frames) and are used to build up colonies not yet strong enough to enter sections.

Now for the advantage of having the main body of the brood chamber not less than 7½ inches. Mr. Doolittle writes in a former article about having bees "brooding sticks and empty space," the brood chamber being plenty large for the queen until settled warm weather, at which time a super of shallow frames are placed on top, provided the colony is beginning to be crowded, and the queen readily passes from one to the other, so there is no "brooding of sticks," etc., at a time when bees must be most saving with their heat.

Next: Dividing the brood chamber one-third of the way from the top, instead of in the middle, does not throw the colony out of their normal condition, but only flattens the top of the brood nest, and brings the sections as near as it is possible to get them to the brood, (with the 8-frame L hive, I usually find 1½ to 2 inches of honey next to the top bars, and amount increases as the season advances).

Third: It is not necessary to use a queen excluder. By this method, I get them into the sections earlier, have less swarming, and when the cool nights come in the fall, they

continue work in supers some time after colonies in the standard L hive have gone below. But I recommend taking off sections at this time putting on the extracting frames, as the fall honey here is too dark to sell well in sections. style of hive was designed to overcome the objections I found in the standard L hive, and after three seasons' use, I cannot see wherein they could be improved. frames in the lower story are  $16\frac{1}{2}x$  $7\frac{1}{2}$ , and nine are used in each body, giving about the same amount of comb surface as the 8 frame L hive.

There is much difference in locality, and more in men, so let each decide which is best for his particular locality. Let the beginner use only the Standard fixtures, for in so doing he will be safe, while if he followed someone's pet theories, it might cause him much inconvenience and loss in the future.

Dona Ana, New Mexico.

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Theodore Bender, Canton, O.

#### SIZE OF BEE HIVES.

T. F. BINGHAM.

F late much has been written relating to the size of hives. There can be but one proper size, viz.: That size best adapted

to the bee pasture the apiary exhausts.

Mr. Manum regards a larger hive than the "Grimm size" of Langstroth, which has been so generally adopted; that is, 8 regular Langstroth frames. Mr. Manum's reason for a larger hive, is that he secures enough honey early in the season to tide his bees over summer drouth and winter's cold, so as not to be compelled to feed. The reason is a good one.

It is not an easy task to feed 700 colonies of bees, even if it would be economy to do so at any time, which with the present price of honey leaves no margin for labor. The only reasonable excuse for feeding bees at the present price of honey, is to insure a better food for wintering than is obtainable from FALL FLOWERS.

To know how much honey an apiary will gather in a certain field, does not hinge on what one exceptional colony in an exceptional season will do, but upon what the apiary really does produce one year with another for a series of seasons.

It is safe to conclude that the yield is much less than is generally We do not as a rule supposed. read reports from those who have a small crop to report. It does not seem to be a leading feature in human nature to herald its failures, so we only know of human successes. Could any bee-keeper form any adequate idea of the average honey crop per hive, of California, for the last four years? Yet I think the honey crop has been as good an average as the rain crop, for the same time.

The bee-keeper who gets all the white honey which the HIGH TASTE CONSUMERS keep their mouths wide open for, may thank his stars, for he is guaranteed a first-class market for all he can obtain. The white

honey feature brings us back to the adaptation of the hive to the field of flowers.

Mr. Manum's plan implies, though he does not say so, that the size of hives absorb the early honey, such as clover and basswood, to a large extent, but he feels paid for the loss by the lessening of care. He has not written, neither have others. that by not getting the first run a much better grade of honey is tained, yet such is the fact. best and handsomest honey cannot be obtained except from new swarms hived into empty hives, or old colonies overcrowded with bees crazy with the instinct to build combs. We should not hear of "travelstained" combs in sections, if sections were filled when the best comb building conditions prevail. It is of more interest to the lover of best that he get his honey from new swarms just when they would make the most and quickest.

If quantity be the main object, more depends upon the use we make of our new swarms than how to prevent swarming.

Farwell, Mich.

Now is the time to subscribe for the "Progressive." A whole year for 50 cents.

1899.





I am now ready to receive orders for May delivery, 1899. Full colonies of three-banded Italian bees in 8-frame dovetailed hives. \$5. Strong three-frame nucleus, with tested queen, \$2.75. Untested Italian queens. each, 75c; per doz., \$7.00. Tested Italian queens, each, \$1.00; per doz., \$10,00. Best breeding queens, each, \$2.00, \$2.50.

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

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### SOME QUESTIONS ANSWERED BY DR. C. C. MILLER.

The following letter was sent to Dr. C. C. Miller, with a request that he answer it through the columns of the Progressive Bee-Keeper:

- 1. What kind of hives are you using, or do you recommend best?
- 2. What style of corners would you like best for your hives? Mr. Boomhover, of New York, and some others, use plain square corners, and seem to like them best.
- 3. I have tried five Danzy hives for 1898, and it looks like I do not like their wax paper mats and deep entrances much. Some bees cut through the mats, and some built bridges or stairs in the bottoms. I think I will return back to & inch entrance. Some bee men here use quilts made of calico and cotton batting, for wintering, and also by which it is no trouble to open a hive to see if there is any honey enough to take out, and some others do not use mats of any kind the year round. Some told me that bee-keepers in the north use oil cloth. What kind of cover is best for summer and winter, or none at all? I study to have none, as I think it will pay much to let bees have access between brood frames and roof, but oh, I had rather use covers, as it is pleasanter to roll them up a little way to see honey or anything else, than use a smoker and take roofs off.
- 4. Advertisers of toot-power buzz saws advise, "Make your own hives," and hive factory men say it is cheaper to buy hives in flat, and nail them up, than I could buy lumber from a saw-mill here. I am born a fine mechanic. I made hives with carpenter tools for awhile, but now I have a buzz saw table of my own make, except mandrel and saws from A. I. Root. It is hard to sell hives here, and therefore I will decide to make or buy hives ready to nail for my own use in future. Poplar planks (sides both planed) sell at about

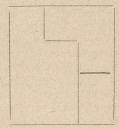
\$1.50 per 100 feet here. Which is cheapest, to buy Barnes' buzz saw, or order for hives by freight for my bee yard?

5. I would like for you to send me measurements of your best hive body, super. frames, etc., if they differ from Root's.

W. G. B.

Following is Dr. Miller's reply:

- 1. Most of my hives have been in use a long time, and have frames 18x9. For all practical purposes, that's as good as the popular  $17\frac{5}{8}x$   $9\frac{1}{8}$ , but it's a nuisance to have an odd size, so as fast as I can get new ones, I am getting dovetailed with frames of the regular size.
- 2. I like the dovetailed corners best, as they are strong and hold to place better than others. However, if I were making my own hives, I wouldn't have that kind of corner, for without special machinery it would be too expensive to make a good dovetailed joint. But I wouldn't make a common box joint. That can be nailed only one way, and in course of time the corners are pretty sure to open and make an unsatisfactory hive. I would have the hive double-halved at the corners. I'm not sure whether that's the right way to call it, but Friend Leahy can straighten it if I'm off in my language. The end of each board has a rabbet cut out like this:



That allows nails to be driven each way, and makes a good close corner, next to the dovetail.

3. Your experience in the mat-

ter of wax mats is the same as that of some others. I had two Danzy hives in use, and don't want any more, but I don't consider the bottom-board the objectionable part. You don't need to have the deep entrance. Turn your bottom board t'other side up, and you'll have the 3 entrance. For winter the deep space under the frame is a nice So far as comfort of the bees is concerned, it's a good thing to have a quilt or a sheet over the brood frames. All in all, for the convenience of the bee-keeper, it's best to have nothing of the kind. If I used anything of the kind, I would take a plain piece of sheeting to cover the frames, and over this something like a pillow case with several thicknesses of newspaper in it. I have used many such, but prefer now to use nothing of the kind. Excellent though it is, I still have a longing for something warmer than the Higginsville cover, and am hoping something may be gotten up with a dead air space, and with tin over all, so as to be warm in winter and cool summer.

Whether a man can more profitably make or buy his hives is a matter for each one to figure up for himself. It's simply a matter of figures, like almost anything else. But I believe the cases are very rare in which a man can count any fair wages for his time and afford to take the boards and make his own hives. I count that I have good mechanical genius, have made a good dovetail joint with common tools, and can do anything that's to be done about making a hive, but I don't believe I can earn 50c a day at making hives if I count the price at which I can get them from the factory ready to nail together. case is better if one is in the region of planing mills and machine shops.

Well, I am in just that sort of a place, with skilled and accommodating workmen, and I've tried the plan of having my stuff cut out at such places, and in every case I've found it cheaper to send off for hives. If I were in your place, I would do a lot of careful figuring before I would invest in any more machinery, for I don't believe it will pay you. By the way, poplar is not nearly so good lumber for hives as soft white pine.

5. My dovetail hives and T supers are the regular thing, only my frames have top bar, end bar, and bottom bar, all the same width, 1s. Possibly that isn't the very best width, but I see no good reason for having end bar or bottom bar nar-

rower than the top bar.

Marengo, Ills.

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draw old friends closer and attract new ones, by the power of inherent merit and unfailing service.

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### OUR LETTER BOX.

#### Ruminations by "Rambler."

I have been more or less interested in the series of articles written by Mr. Aikin and reviewed by Mr. Doolittle; but somehow I do not like the way they are put, for I always skip Aikin and read Doolittle. Not because Aikin is any the less interesting, but for the reason that the Aikin ideas are all summed up by Doolittle, and to read the latter first, saves a lot of time to get all of the points, for Doolittle does it up thorough. If there is any point though that needs further elucidation, I turn back to Aikin. Now I have not the least doubt but some of your busy readers do about as I do, and I would suggest that in order to give each writer fair play that you turn them around occasionally; put Doolittle at the head and Aikin at the tail; then Aikin could do up Doolittle just as Doolittle tries to do up Aikin.

The December PROGRESSIVE was some time in finding me, but when it did arrive; I noted with interest what Doolittle had to say about "brooding sticks and empty space." Then I turned right back to Aikin to find out the

why and the wherefore.

I have read some shy hints before from Aikin that he was experimenting with a shallow brood chamber hive, but in the December number, the love of it seems to have gained upon him, and he comes out into the open a little further, but still he is rather coy, and is evidently holding something back.

Now I use a shallow divisible brood chamber hive, and I am not afraid to call it by its right name at all times and places. It is the Heddon hive, and I would like to ask Bro. Aikin that in using the divisible brood chamber if he does not consider that he is using the Heddon hive, and why he does not plainly say so.

Perhaps he desires to be as easy as possible upon the feelings of Bro. Doolittle, for the mention of the Heddon hive, or in this case even the divisible brood chamber, is like flaunting a red

rag in his face.

Just see how he paws the air. "15 to 5," "let us figure," "empty space," "wonderful (?) hive," "brooding sticks." Why, old friend, that talk is all fiddlesticks. In spite of the way you hold those bottom bars, top bars, empty

space, etc., up to ridicule, I will take your word for it that it is a wonderful hive. Then witness that stage whisper, "the queen is very loth to go from one section of the hive to the other,"

Now, Bro. Doolittle, will you tell us that you have given that matter an extended and impartial trial, and if you have in York State, would you swear that the same rule would hold good in Colorado or California, and cannot you imagine that there are some compensating features for those points which you hold up for ridicule? The only point you can possibly make is that your queens are "loth to go up," but that has not been my experience even in the climate of New York, and most assured!

As to the compensating features, I suppose the recapitulation of them would be thrown away upon anyone so prejudiced against the hive and system, but I have some hopes, Bro. Doolittle, that you will see the error of your ways, for I note that you are not so hidebound in favor of the Gallup hive as you were formerly. You would be even willing to use the Langstroth hive now.

"Coming events cast their shadows before." In line with my own experiments, are the ideas of Mr. Aikin, Mr. Davenport, Mr. Golden and others, and if you have the insight to see it, there is a great feature in bee-keeping that will soon be developed. I will venture to say that there will be a great increase of the amount of honey obtained per colony. The ideas are all tending that way, and the Heddon hive will be the one that will bring the best results with the least manipulation.

And now, Mr. Editor, if I have kicked a little, I think you will excuse me, for when a man like Bro. Doolittle (who weighs 250 pounds more or less) steps on my toes, I have reason to kick.

Truly, etc., "RAMBLER."

P. S. We are not having much rain yet in California, and the outlook for the coming season is discouraging.

Shermanton, Cal.

DEAR RAMBLER:—It was Mr. Aikin who insisted on writing "Experience and its Lessons," and then we asked Mr. Doolittle to review them, thinking that this review of Mr. Doolittle's would in a way draw out his experience with his lessons also. You will notice that "Experience and its Lessons" has not come to a finish yet by Mr. Aikin. When it does, we should be very glad if Mr. Doolittle would consent to write

a series of articles, and have Mr. Aikin, Mr.—Rambler, or anyone else, review them. Now what do you all say? I am sure our readers have enjoyed Mr. Aikin's articles very much, and also the review by Mr. Doolittle. Friend Rambler, I hope you have received those much-needed rains, but from what I have heard later I fear not.—Ed].

#### Jordan is a Hard Road to Travel.

Mud, mud, everywhere. After the coldest winter ever known here, by 10 degrees. There were twelve days the thermometer ranged from 16 to 24 below zero. On Feb. 15, the sun was bright and warm, and there was 7 inches of snow on the ground. About 10 a. m. I saw bees flying, and I went into the bee yard. The snow was almost black with bees. My bives are on stakes about eight inches off the ground. The snow was drifted above the front of some of them, and I was cleaning it away with the scoop, when I noticed the bees were not coming out of some of the hives. I looked in the entrance. It seemed to be choked with dead bees. I began to rake them out, and behold! my first sight of diarrhea. I looked in at top, and found them scattered, all dead, and frost among them. I began to take out combs and brush off dead bees, and clean out hives, till I found 33 out of 53 colonies dead. But not all had dysentery. Some of them were nicely clustered on plenty of honey, and seemed to be dry. Bees may not freeze, but they get too cold to live. All had plenty of honey, except two colonies. Some of them have about 75 pounds nice clean honey. My hives are all 10-frame; a few two story. Some of them are a story and a half, with half-depth frames; and one story. They died in all alike; and there are about live bees enough in the remaining 20 hives to make about 5 good ones. I am never bothered with bees swarming, but will work to that end this spring, regardless of honey, and will buy more if I can find them for sale, and try to replenish my stock again. I have been a mechanic, and only kept a few colonies of bees till last March I quit my trade to go into the bee and poultry business. In order to deal in supplies and have the sale trade at this place, I got a large stock of supplies from a neighbor, part of which is out of date, and worthless. I have taken 46 colonies of bees, and did not get surplus

honey enough to pay for the time I worked with them as last year was exceeding bad in the early honey flow; rain all the time; though I had a good trade in supplies. Besides the stock I got here, I ordered 25 hives, 6000 sections and fixtures, of E. T. Flanagan, and did not supply the demand. I have talked with two prominent bee men. and heard from others, and find they are in the same fix that I am in; great lot of empty hives, with lots of combs and honey, and no bees. So, Bro. Leahy. your trade will be limited, if any, in this locality. All that I will want is an extractor, as mine got burned in a neighbor's house recently. I would like to write to the PROGRESSIVE, and give some of the modes of handling bees here. I live in O'Brian county, Tenn., two miles from Jordan, Ky.: five miles from Union City, Tenn., and ten miles from Fulton. Ky. All honey is sold on home market; extracted at 7 and 8c; comb at 10c. I am very much interested in the Aikin and Doolittle controversy. Wonder what Bro. Doolittle will think of a hive with 24 L frames in the brood chamber, giving more comb honey than 3 average 10-frame hives? J. H. DEMYER.

Jordan, Ky. J. H. DEMYLE [Come again, Bro. DeMyer.—Ed].

#### An Interested Bee-Keeper.

Here is an interesting letter from a Missouri bee-keeper:

As I have not seen a report on bee culture from this part of the country, I will try and give you the best I can at present. We had a fine flow of nectar until about the last of July, and from that on the bees did not store any surplus honey. All bee-keepers here work for comb honey. Honey sells for 10 and 5 cents a pound. We have the white clover and a weed that produces very fine nectar. The weed resembles the iron weed, excepting It has a white blossom and blooms next to the white clover. Bees have wintered fine up to this; they are wintered here on the summer stand without any protection. I saw honey in our town last week that if sent to the St. Louis market would not bring 5c a pound, as the glue had never been scraped off, and the sections were as black as though they had lain in the weather for six months, and one of my bee-keeping neighbors told me last month that he had not yet taken the supers off his hives to see if there was any honey, as he had no smoker, and could not think to borrow his neighbor's smoker when there, and could not tell me the kind of hive he used, but thought it was the dovetailed. It was the Simplicity. II ike to read G. M. Doolittle's chase after Bro. Aikin, and R. B. Leahy's travels, etc.

Festus, Mo.

#### A Pleased Bee-Keeper.

I received the PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER, Amateur Bee-Keeper, and catalogue all O. K., and am well pleased with all of them. I admire the PROGRESSIVE, very much. It is nicely printed and the paper is fine. I own a farm, and keep a few bees. I have 12 colonies at present. I am but a beginner, and like to read bee literature.

Gaines, Mich. M. V. JEWELL.

#### A Good Investment.

I believe the PROGRESSIVE is a good investment, so send it me for 1899, for which I enclose 50c.

Gordon, Mo. HENRY LUHRING.

#### Keep Aikin to Doolittle.

Enclosed please find 50c to pay for the PROGRESSIVE for 1899. Keep Aikin to Doolittle, and never mind the bee story, though I never fail to read the bee stories, and enjoy them, too. I especially enjoyed Bro. Leahy's 'Travels' of last year. WM. H. EAGERTY.

Cuba, Kas.



#### BEES WANTED!

Fine land, \$5 per acre, to trade for bees.

HARRY MCCARTER, DODGE CITY, KAS.

#### EDITORIAL.

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

A journal devoted to Bees, Honey and Kindred Industries.

TERMS: Fifty cents per year, in advance.

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

MR. R. M. HATTON. of Columbia, Mo., writes as follows:

"Here is 50c for the Progressive. I like it better than any of the bee papers I know of."

MR. E. W. DUNHAM, of Topeka, Kas., whose advertisement appears in another column, spent a day with us the past month. He was out on a tour, hunting a car-load of bee supplies, and of course we were able, and also very glad, to supply him.

MR. T. J. DUGDALE, of Galway, N. Y., in renewing his subscription to the PROGRESSIVE, writes as follows:

"Notwithstanding a somewhat severe and very changeable winter, my 150 colonies of bees seem to be wintering nicely on summer stands, where I have wintered them for the last ten years without the loss of a single colony thus far."

IN renewing his subscription. Mr. D. C. Milam, one of Uvalde, Tex.,' big beekeepers, writes:

"Enclosed find 50c, for which renew my subscription to the Progressive. I cannot well do without it."

WE have added another book to our already excellent list of bee books, "Langstroth on the Honey Bee," revised by Chas. Dadant and son. These men are practical bee-keepers, and no better authority could have been selected for its revision. The book contains nearly 600 pages, 16 large plates, and 200 other illustrations. Price by mail, \$1.25; by freight or express, \$1.10.

W. S. PENDER, a prominent beekeeper and manufacturer of West Maitland, N. S. W., Australia, spent a couple of days with us recently, which to us was quite enjoyable. Mr. Pender is a pleasing, genial gentleman. Before leaving for the antipodes, he expects to visit many leading bee-keepers and manufactories of the United States May his sojourn in our land be a pleasant one.

THE following is what we have for the Langstroth fund, as far as we know:

If anyone has sent in money to us that is not recorded above, kindly let us know, and if anyone wishes to add something to the above, let us know, too, by sending it in.

SOMETHING about "that best bee story" may be interesting to many of our readers. We received a good many stories, more than we expected, and they have all been sent off to be judged, as they have to be sent as far as New York, before their return. there are so many competing, it will be sometime before we know which will We hope, be decided as the best. however, to start with the best story in our next issue. Now is the time to subscribe, and get the full benefit of these splendid bee stories. Some of them are mirthful and instructive.

### Queens Laying in Queen Cells.

—I see by page 58 of the PROGRESSIVE that Geo. W. Williams is in for a fight, and if fight it is, it might as well be a

[Doo LITTLE fellow who pitches into nim (as some one bigger) on the start. He doubtless will call to mind that it was a LITTLE D. (David) which was the first to challenge that great big Goliath of the Philistines, who strutted about so pompously before the Israelitish army. Allow me to quote from Bro. W.: 'Now, dear PROGRESSIVE, while we find these erroneous ideas among those who acknowledge they do not know anything about bees, we can well excuse them, but how is it with the fellow who has studied (?) b-e-e-s, and writes for the journals for the edification of others, and makes almost as wild 'shots?' For instance, the assertion \*\*\* the queen laying eggs in the queencells, a thing that never happens, or was never done.\*\*\*I have opened the gap to the fellow who says [different] \*\*\*and if he wants to take up the fight, etc. Well, see me hit him between the eyes, the same as David did Goliath of the Philistines! If Bro. W. had been at all conversant with the past, as to history about queens laying in queen cells, he would have known that Dr. Gallup and Adam Grimm gave conclusive proof that queens do lay in queen cells, and had been seen to do so, and that G. M. Doolittle's assistant in the apiary saw a queen lay in a queen cell, while Doolittle held the frame on which it was being done in his hand. These facts which are on record in our bee papers of the past, are hard things for the "royal bumper to bump up against," for they are equal to the 'little pebbles' which David carried in his sling, which, when 'slung' hit so hard that the 'big giant lays down and dies." Then, had Bro. W. been a careful observer, he would have seen that the eggs in a queen cell are always fastened to the base of the queen cell in just the same way the queen deposits all of her eggs in worker or drone cells, by a mucilaginous substance, sticking one end of the egg to the base of the cell, while eggs removed by bees (which is very rarely done) are found laying on their side near the base of the cells. Then had he been a close observer as regards the laying of queens, he would have seen them laying in worker cells right up around the base of queen cells, having eggs or larva in them, with the bees never clustering those cells at all, as I have done scores of times, and would have known that bees cluster about or guard any queen cells till after they are sealed. After sealing, the old

queen leaves the hive with the swarm, as a rule, so does not stay to tear open cells and sting the pupa inmates there-What he says tearing open cells is applicable to young or virgin queens, and never to the MOTHER queen, unless perhaps the swarm has been kept back by foul weather till the young queens are about to hatch. In such a case, old or mother queens will act very much like virgin queens do. The verdict went forth to all living things, from the great Creator, when he pronounced everything he had made as "GOOD, 'multiply and replenish the earth:' and hence we find the QUEEN just as anxious as the bees to accomplish this object, when the colony is about to cast its first or prime swarm, and all close observers with unprejudiced minds, admit this fact.

Foolish Bee=Keepers.—Wonder what those California bee-keepers think now, who have been advocating, and have formed an exchange (honey trust) to boom and hold up the price of honey, after reading what Hon. R. L. Taylor has to say on pages 16 and 17 of the Bee-Keepers' Review for January, We of the east are almost "hopping mad" at them in view of R. L. Taylor's version of the matter. How could they have been so unwise and foolish as to go into such a thing, when the Hon. Taylor so conclusively (?) proves that trusts lower the price of things? Do they not know that we don't want the price of our honey brought down to "11 cents or less a pound," as trust nails have been, by their foolishly forming that exchange. Strange that it never entered into their heads that forming such an exchange or trust would ruin prices and bring the price of honey down to below a living margin, as such things have done for nails, illuminating oil, etc., such almost making paupers of us beekeepers, the same as it has done for a Rockefeller, a Havemeyer, a Carnegie. etc. But then, bee-keepers are a thick headed set any way, and are not expected to know as much as they should about these things, or as they would have done had they studied, or gone to congress; so perhaps the rank and file are excusable for their ignorance regarding these trust matters.

Requeening Colonies.—According to the American Bee Journal, this question was introduced at the Colorado State Bee-Keepers' Convention: 'What

time is best to requeen a colony?" and I find a certain Mr. Martin answering as follows: "The most convenient time is during the swarming season, because the bees accept strange queens better then." This answer was a surprise to me, and strange to say, nearly all who gave their opinion on the subject agreed with the above, or at least gave no expression to the contrary. Quite a number spoke of requeening by way of cells, and that part is all right during the swarming season, but of all the times when bees are the most determined to kill a "strange queen", the swarming season is the worst with me. Time and again have I tried to introduce a strange queen to a just hived swarm of bees, only to have them nearly all go back to the mother colony, leaving in the hive they were put in only a lit!le handful of bees, whose only occupation seemed to be that of "hugging'' the strange queen. Then I have tried introducing strange queens to the parent colony, allowing the old queen to go with the swarm, and in nearly every instance the bees were determined to "stand by" their queen-cells, while the strange queen was either killed outright, or hugged till she was of no value. I have even cut the queen cells twice or three times, but as long as there was 'any larva in the hive which was young enough to convert into queens, no matter how poor, they would insist on persecuting the strange queens and hold to their own brood. Therefore if this meets the eye of any of those who answered that question at the Colorado convention, and Mr. Martin in particular, I wish he or they would tell the readers of the PROGRESS-IVE how such introduction, at time of swarming, can be successfully done.

The Wicked Root's.—In H. D. Loyd's "Story of a Great Monopoly," (which no man has gainsaid), he tells us how the Standard Oil Trust secured. by rebates on freight, a rate of less than nothing from the New York Central Railroad, for carrying its oil, while other oil parties were made to pay exorbitant freight rates, how petroleum refineries were driven into bankruptcy by the Standard's control of pipe lines and transportation, refusing to let other refineries use them till thousands of barrels run to waste on the ground; how refinery after refinery was crushed out, or compelled to sell to the Standard, for from one-half to one-tenth of what their "plants" cost, till hundreds and thousands of men were "ruined by these acts of the Standard and the railroads:" while Clark Erwin tells us how "Robber Rockefeller," the head of the Standard Oil Company, secured \$50,-600,000 "profit" from the monopoly of oil in a few weeks, by a "put up" of the same, and thus forced a contribution of 78 cents out of every man, woman and child in the United States, that he might put that much in his pocket. show what such a "steal" means, Erwin says: "This fifty million dollar holdup of the American people equals onethirty-second of the entire circulating medium of the United States, and a greater sum of money than could be earned by one man working at a dollar a day for one hundred and seventeen thousand years, or twenty-five thousand times as long as the earth is supposed to have been peopled." And in face of all this testimony, we find on page 16 of the January Bee-Keepers' Review, the Hon. R. L. Taylor saying that "Trusts are not properly chargeable with any of the ills of bee-keepers," and that "Trusts generally are monopolies in the sense that the A. I. Root Company is a monopoly." Such an assertion seems very strange to me. To be sure, I have heard some speak a little disparagingly of the A. I. Root Company at times, (and I have heard the same of nearly all other bee-keepers), but this is the first time I ever heard that they were chargeable with such wholesale, fraudulent practices, such and robbing, as the Standard Oil monopoly and other trusts are guilty of. Nor do I believe it now, and am inclined to be lenient with them, in thinking that Bro. Taylor was either not fully posted on what he was writing upon, or that the A. I. Root Company has been wilfully misrepresented to him by some one. No no. Bro. Taylor, I cannot believe any such thing of the Roots, even if you do so accuse them, I do not believe them sinners above the average bee-keeper. I much rather believe you were mistaken in saying what you did of them, the same as I believe you were in standing up for the trusts, and claiming that 78 cents wrung out of every bee-keeper, and each one of his family, (the ills of bee-keepers), was not properly chargeable to the Standard Oil Trust. To whom was it chargeable, if not to this Oil Trust? You would not have us infer that it was chargeable to the A. I. Root Company, would vou?

Borodino, N. Y. G. M. DOOLITTLE

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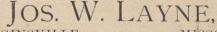
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## WHAT OTHERS THINK

—OF THE—

## Bee-Keepers' Review

#### 3338555

MY BEE-KEEPING FRIEND—If you really knew how good a journal the Bee-Keepers' Review has become, you would soon be one of its subscribers. It is my honest belief that in calling your attention to its merits, I am doing you (as well as myself) a real benefit. One way in which I can do this is by allowing you to see what others think of it. During the past year I have received hundreds of letters praising the Review; and from them I select the following:



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THE REVIEW has always been near my heart. It has struggled hard, and cut its way through thick and thin. It is neat and clean. Though mild, it is just. It has in its columns the least amount of light and superfluous matter. It is dignified but plain. I admire and love it because of the careful, thoughtful spirit it manifests. For depth with

brevity, it has no equal.—R. C. AIKIN, Love-land, (olo.



AM not much given to flattery; on the contrary, I am rather inclined to be critical; but I must own that I like the Review. Here are some of the reasons why: Editorially and typographically, it stands at the head of the bee-keeping journals. It is not disposed to ride hobbies, but is disposed to give all a hearing upon all topics. Neither

pains nor expense are spared to make it one of the best bee journals published. "Last but not least," it has recently published my picture, and that of one of my apiaries. Success to the Review.—GEO. E. HILTON, Fremont, Michigan.



your contributors, you have succeeded, Friend Hutchinson, making the Review an up-to-date first-class journal. I like it because its editorials are terse fearless and unbIased; because it frowns upon the very appearance of crookedness in any shape, because it opposes anonymous writings, and because it gives

the addresses of its contributors. I never close a letter to a bee-keeper without asking him if he reads the Review.—J. A. GOLDEN, Remersville, Ohio.



FRIEND H.—I may as well say right here that I like the Review. If I remember rightly, it was started with the etheory that the editor of a bee journal, to be independent in his work, ought not to engage in the manufacture or sale of supplies. So far as I know, the Review is the only journal holding such views that has stuck to

that has stuck to that has stuck to them, and lived to grow up. This shows how it is regarded by the bee-keepers of the land.

—J. E. CRANE, Middlebury, Vermont.

As I have said before, once a really good bee journal visits a bee-keeper a whole year, it usually becomes a permanent member of his family; and for the sake of getting the Review into the hands of new readers for this "first" year, I am making the following offer: For \$1.25 I will have your subscription to the "Progressive Bee-Keeper" renewed for one year, send you twelve back numbers of the Review, and the Review for all of 1899. But remember, you must be a new subscriber to the Review, and the order must be sent to

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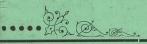


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