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The Southland queen. Vol. II, No. 1 May 1896

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The 
SOUTHLAND
QUEEN.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS,

May, 1896. 

Established 1884.

J. M. JENKINS,

Wetumpka, Ala.

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

Root's Comb Foundation!

New Product.

New Process.

A Big
 Success.

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

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

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

The A. I. Root Co., Medina, O.

56 5th Ave., Chicago. Syracuse, N. Y.
 1024 Mississippi St., St. Paul, Minn.

THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

Monthly. Devoted to the Exchange of Thoughts on Apiculture.

51.00

Vol. II.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, MAY, 1896.

No. 1.

Since horse-mint came in bees have been booming, and are doing well at this writing.

The South has long been in need of a good "bee paper," and if you will lend us a helping hand we promise you such a periodical.

If each one of our subscribers will secure us one new name, our subscription list would be doubled. Had you thought of that? Well?

We have a new, Chandler & Price job press, with steam power, and are prepared to print anything from a queen card to a catalogue.

An extra number of pages this month, and a great stock of good matter left over. We will reach you all by and by, even if we have to make THE QUEEN twice her usual size, 24 pages.


We are fast coming more and more to the conclusion that our saying is right; that any obstruction between the upper and lower story of hives, such as queen excluding honey boards, etc., is a loss to the owner.

How do you like the looks of the bee-keepers we show up in this issue? Take a peep at their pleasant faces.

We note in "Stray Straws," May 1st Gleanings, that neither Dr. Miller nor Ernest can peddle honey. Can't talk to the ladies, eh? Well, we hardly thought they would own up like that. Wonder if it was leap year when they got married?

Tell us how you like THE QUEEN, and don't forget to tell us how to improve in reading and general make up. Please remember this is YOUR paper, and you have a right to offer suggestions and counsel, so don't feel backward; come along.

Well, what do you think of THE QUEEN? She starts out on her second year printed on her own press, with her own type, in her own house, on her own soil, and run by her own hands. Now, that THE QUEEN is a fixture, and a settled fact, send in your subscriptions, and see what a bee paper we will send you.



Contributors' Column.

SOUTHERN APICULTURE.

BY W. H. PRIDGEN.

Special to THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

The South has been slow in progress along the line of modern apiculture, but wide and rapid strides are now being made in that direction, and many well kept and profitable apiaries are beginning to appear, where a few years ago only neglected box-hives were visible. The importance of the industry is being realized, as well as the fact that nearly all localities are favorable to its production; in many sections it yields handsome returns, and with the proper use of improved methods these results may be largely increased; and, that it is a pleasant occupation requiring but little capital. That it is receiving consideration from a pecuniary standpoint by the inexperienced, is evinced by the interest shown, and the demand for information. There is nothing that will extend the industry as fast as the assurance that it is remunerative, and with the return of favorable seasons, which seems to be at hand, many will embark who have heretofore given the subject but little study or attention.

While the excellent journals published North deserve the credit

of making bee-culture what it is here, as well as in other parts of our country, they have been unable to reach every section, and the addition of *THE QUEEN* to the list is doing a great deal for the advancement of the cause, and will add hundreds of names to the subscription lists of the older journals, by falling into the hands of those who will become so enthusiastic as not to be satisfied with just one journal, though it meets their wants ever so well.

That much good would result from a recognition of this particular industry by the different Experiment Stations cannot be doubted, and the probability is that it would be done if the attention of the Authorities was called to its importance, and what it would add to our resources. In this way the farmers who keep a few bees, but do not know there is a journal published, devoted exclusively to bee culture, which is the class that needs instructions most from that source, would be reached sooner, but the "bee fever" is easily contracted by such as would make a success of it, and rapidly passes from one to another everywhere it gets a foothold. Ere long, every section will have its "bee crank," and according to the experience of the writer, the demand for the products of the apiary will increase with the supply.

Those who fail to show or send

a neighbor a copy of a journal from selfish motives, loosing sight of the fact that "competition is the life of trade" would find about as much pleasure in aiding and encouraging others as they do in their work among the bees.

Creek, N. C.

OUR HOPEFULNESS.

—
 BY GEO. P. SHIRES.

FOR THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

Ever since I began bee-keeping, many years ago, I have been on the constant look-out for some means to enable me to get increase of surplus honey. At times during my enthusiastic periods, when every thing seemed booming, and the flowers yielded bountifully, I was sure that, owing to some improvement or device that I had on trial at the time, that I had struck something good; at these times I would be very hopeful. But alas! Bad years would come and my hopes would be set back. Bee-keepers seem to be of such a hopeful disposition that reverses don't seem to stop their efforts. We first try new hives, then we try comb foundation, next it is the particular strain of bees to give us the big yield of honey, then the non-swarming craze. Well, most of these are great improvements over old methods. In following up all of these suggestions we have found many that are useful and laudable.

One thing, in some localities there might be improvements by introducing new honey plants, but here in Southwest Texas there are more natural honey plants, and the flow lasts longer than any place that I know of. It seems as it would be superfluous to add any thing to what are already here, as there will be tons of honey go to waste in this Southwest Texas for the want of bees to gather it. The worst draw back here is the wind; it has been blowing hard for four days, still the bees are just tumbling over each other with their loads of precious nectar.

I might say, first get a good hive, and sail in, and your chances are as good to get a fine yield of nice honey here, as any bee paradise that you have ever read of. One reason bee-keepers are so hopeful, is, the most of them are hobbyists—zenivuses—and they are so absorbed in their loved occupation that their minds have no room for mischief making, and they will keep right on, whether they make money or not, and I might say they are built or constituted that way. Our calling is a good one, and we should be of courage, though reverses come thick and often. I am sure that bee-keepers are as kind hearted and hospitable as any class of people; as the old saying has it: "their latch string hangs on the outside."

Lafruita, Texas.

JACK HID THE SMOKER.

By J. A. W.

Special to THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

WANTED, One thousand colonies of bees; willing to give the cactus off of 50 acres of land—provided the purchaser will take the job of cutting them off.

I believe it's just as natural for a man to take the bee fever when he comes to Bee county, as 'tis to live, especially after having a chat with the different members of The Jennie Atchley Co., and reading THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

We came to Bee county last Fall, and had not been here a week till husband said we must get some bees—he dearly loves honey, and I really like to see it on the table—but when he first made that remark I think his pulse beat only about $2\frac{1}{2}$ degrees above normal.

I went with Mr. Atchley and Amanda to visit their Holyland apiary one day, and we had not been there long till one of the bees greeted me with a Holy kiss (I guess you'd call it, as it was a Holyland bee) right over the eye, and next morning my eye was a sight to behold, only you couldn't see any of it but the lids, and it continued so for almost a whole week. I'll not tell the fun they had at my expense; will leave that for some one else to do; but husband was not afraid of as small a thing as a bee—the dear little innocent things—all he cared for them stinging him, was 'cause they had

to die afterwards; the sting didn't hurt long, and it wouldn't swell him much; along about that time I took his temperature, and found it reached $108\frac{2}{3}$. Well, I knew something had to be done, so did Willie Atchley; we knew that other kinds of fever couldn't get much higher than that and the subject live over it, so we held a consultation and came to the final conclusion that he must have a colony of bees. We being old neighbors, and knowing that we needed all we had, Willie said he would make me a present of a colony; of course he knew I was too big a coward to work with them myself, and husband would have it to do, and thought by that means to cure his fever, or run it down so he wouldn't die. I brought them home on Monday, and the very first thing he did, was have me make him a veil. He lit up the bran new smoker and went to take a peep at them; he found them all in fine shape, but as it was a new colony, and they had been confined in the hive for two days, naturally, their stores had about exhausted; it rained every day for a week, and they couldn't get out to replenish their stock, so they began to die, and he had them to feed—only once though—and those that did die I am not sure they died from hunger, and I am not doctor enough to tell if it was the smoke. Reader, probably

you will know; at any rate he made it an every day business, till I thought they were all going to die, and every bone in me ached for some fun, but the fun was closer at hand than I thought for. Jack, our oldest child, (a son of six winters) thinks what papa can do is just what he wants to do, so as usual, he was on hand, and as soon as his papa set the smoker down, and got busy with the bees, Jack picked it up and run, hid with it, and worked the bellows for dear life, to see the smoke come puffing out, as he thought, like a steam engine. Well, I guess the bees had got tired of so much smoke, any how, and as soon as the smoke left them they covered his hands, crawled up his sleeves, and covered his arms with kisses—"Holy mother!" "Jack! oh Jack! you little dickens! what have you done with the smoker?—murder! help! help! fire! police!" and many other things I heard, with a few mill(?) dam(n)s mixed up with it, and I ran to the door just in time to see (oh, horrors!) that good old easy-going, good tempered husband of mine (that I never saw in a hurry but once before, and that was the day we were married, and he thought he was behind time,) jump a five foot wire fence, then I felt real proud to think I had such a gymnast as that for a husband, until I saw that he had torn a 6 or 8 inch, three cor-

nered plug out of his pants, just below his pistol pocket, (that made work for me) and lost his hat and veil in making the descent. Now readers, you can almost guess the rest. He ran 'round among the mesquite till the bees all left, that did not sting him, and at last he stopped near an old tree that had been cut down, and sat down on it to pull out the stings and collect his thoughts, which were scattered over about 8 acres of ground and hanging to the cactus and mesquite brush. He heard me laughing, looked up and saw me sitting on the door step, where I had fallen in a fit of laughter, to see the last of the performance, and when he started back to the house I began to cheer him by throwing every thing that was in reach of me into the air, (which consisted only of a tin pail, quart measure and my old slippers) and holloing worse than a Comanche Indian, as he came up with a broad smile on his fast swelling countenance, and thinking of all the bee stories he had ever read, and said that came up with any thing he had ever heard of, and in answer to my "how is your fever by now," he said it was a little higher than usual, and I expect it was, till the swelling left him, which took about four or five days. He got the top back on the hive without a great deal more trouble. That has been more than three weeks

ago, and the bees have not been bothered any more than was necessary.

Oh the bees, the busy little bees,

That work among the flowers, shrubs and trees;
Gathering the nectar, so fine and sweet,
From the beautiful blooms of cactus and mesquite.

Oh, you beautiful, dear little things,

You can rule the world with those hateful stings;
You can bring a smile to the saddened face,
Or put a tear there in its place.

Work on, little bees, you'll not be molested,

Victory is yours, for I saw you tested;
Work on, till you fill the last empty cell,
Till then, little soldiers, fare thee well.

BIG HIVES, BIG HONEY.

By E. A. MORGAN.

Written for THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

Justice Skylark's decision in *Gleanings*, March 1st, page 169, settles the hive question in my mind exactly. Large, vs. Small hives. Plaintiff uses a large hive because a small one won't hold half his bees and honey. Defendant uses a small hive because there isn't honey enough in his location to fill a large one; and, dear Editor, isn't it a fact that location governs every thing in bee-keeping? It is getting tiresome up here in the great white clover and basswood belt of Wisconsin, to read to many articles on the 8 frame against the 10 frame hives, etc., and with the non-swarmer race of bees. Isn't it a fact that all the advocates of a non-swarmer race of bees use the 8 frame, or small hive? And I think both are from the same cause—a scarcity of honey—they resort

to every means, trying to get a little surplus. Now, I claim the swarming habit to be due to prosperity of the bees, and the location governs their prosperity, and prosperity changes the habits of the bees. Give these non-swarmer, small-hive bees a good location and their habits are all changed. On July 26, 1895, I received a tested Italian from G. M. Doolittle, supposed to be a non-swarmer, but on September 2nd—42 days in this location, so changed her that she led out a swarm which actually weighed 17 pounds; they were hived in a 10 frame, L. hive, on starters; they filled the hive and 80 one pound sections, surplus, and went into the pit weighing 74 pounds—golden rod honey—for winter besides. I saved her queen cells, and have eleven daughters wintering, but do not expect them to be non-swarmers. I tell you, brother bee-keepers, what you want, is a system of management for profit, whereby you can handle bees successfully in their prosperity. Encourage swarming, for in it depends your success. But hive your swarms so that they continue storing in the sections all the season; the impetus gained by swarming can not be secured any other way. The past season 126 swarms issued in my apiary, in the month of June all contained 10 frames of brood and 56 sections, surplus room; they

were hived in new hives on old stand, on starters of 10 frames, L. size, and the two supers both given at same time, and within one hour were storing honey in same sections, with that renewed energy gained by swarming, and an increase of but 20 colonies was had for the season. These swarms were very large, weighing from 9 to 17 pounds, and could not have been hived in an 8 frame hive. I have run apiaries in several different locations in the past ten years, and have used the 8 frame hive one half that time, and once considered it too large. I have had the non-swarmer strain of bees where I had only 16 swarms issue from 200 colonies, Spring count, but I can now see it was all a lack of prosperity, scarcity of nectar, a short honey flow, drouth, etc.

* * * * *

We are still ice-bound, snow is one foot deep, and the thermometer at zero. One man tried to winter 20 colonies of bees in Root's chaff hives, but has lost them all. There has been no time since Oct. 20th that mercury went above 40, so his bees could not take a flight.

My bees have wintered nicely, without the loss of any yet. I hope to get them out this month if it turns warm soon; we might have weather by the 20th that would do to set them out; they have been in cellar now 152 days—5 months. I got them out last year the 16th of

April, and they got natural pollen May 2, but May 12 it froze up again, keeping so 8 days, so that the season was late.

It must sound strange to you to hear of this weather, but not as strange as to us to read of your bees being already out and getting pollen while we have good sleighing yet.

Chippewa Falls, Wis., Apr. 2.

WARMER IN MICHIGAN.

BY JACOB MOORE.

Special to THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

Now, this the second day of May, how changed to what it was the last time I wrote—in March. Ice and snow then covered the fields, and dreary Winter held his sceptre over us, till the 12th of April, then we had beautiful weather. Mercury, at Sun-rise, 44°; at noon, 80°; and at 2 p. m., 84°; 44° was the lowest that mercury has been during the rest of the month. Vegetation came forward as by magic; today, apple trees are out in bloom; cherry and peach trees send their fragrance all around us, although we were a little afraid we were going to have a backward Spring, but we are nearly two weeks ahead of some other years. The bud may have a bitter test, but sweet will be the flower.

I suppose the readers of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN will want to

know something about bees. I have been through my 34 colonies, and find that I lost two by starvation; they were good colonies, and plenty of honey in the hives, yet they starved to death; lost one by diarrhea; all the others seem to be doing well. One lost their queen, but there is a good colony of bees left. They have been gathering honey for the past ten days. I have a neighbor who had 16 colonies put in the cellar last fall; their fate is sealed—all gone. I asked him if he fed them last fall, and he said no. Another old bee-keeper had some 75 colonies and lost 18; another one lost 10 or 12—he fed his bees very heavy; and so it goes. I tell you I just went for the granulated sugar. I made four nuclei and they are doing nicely. I tell you, bee-keepers, go to the sugar barrel, and my little experience is that we are all right, and after you get the combs well filled, make candy and lay it across the frames, and we of the North will succeed largely; and how is it in that Sunny Southland—keep your hives well filled with honey?

I wish some one would tell what is the cause of those black, shiny bees. I had a colony last summer that had so many the other bees would drag them out and then let them go, and back to the hive it was "which and tother" that got there first. What is the cause? May be our teacher and editor of

THE QUEEN can tell us; that colony, today, is just booming.

We have had splendid rains from the 11th of April up to date, and if the white clover has not been killed by the drouth last season, we may get some honey; this month tells the story. Last year it was on the 12th of this month ice was $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch thick; on the 14th we had about 5 inches of snow; 15th, heavy frost. So we are waiting till that time comes around again, but I hope there will be no ice nor frost, for our prospects are flattering for a honey crop this year. It is now 5:15 p. m. and mercury registers 71° in the shade.

May 3; the bees have been gathering honey today. They are beginning to send that joyful song, in remembrance, I presume, to Him from whom all blessings flow, and shall we, of the highest intelligence, raise one grateful song of thanks, day by day.

Iona, Mich.

[BRO. MOORE:—From the evidence you give us regarding those shiny bees, we think it a touch of that same old malady, bee paralysis, or bee fever. The bees seem to have a fever, which causes the hair to all come off. With these diseases some swell up and die before the hair comes off, and others get shiny and black, and still work right along for a time. When the case is not too bad the bees seem to get all right when warm weather and new honey comes.—ED.]



C. J. CUTLER and Family, Dallas, Texas.

IT'S "HEXAGONAL."

TO THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

Have just read your April number, and am horrified to see on page 12, myself using the word "hexagonal." Surely the printer who set up my article on "comb foundation," wanted to get even with me, for the trouble my bad handwriting gave him. Shade of Hadley! If some of my old class mates in the Greek grammar have chanced to see me using the term hexagonal, it would be a standing joke on me for the rest of their lives. I owe an apology for my penmanship I know, but will not give the excuse made to me by a dealer in apiarian supplies not long since, for his bad handwriting. He had caused the loss of some boxes of material by an illegible shipping address, and on being imperturbed by him for another order, I was compelled to tell him about it. He said in his reply that he thought it was hard that I should complain of a failing of his that was providential. To the credit of this dealer, if any body should guess who he is, it should be said, that the best strain of Italians in my apiary came from him, and his supplies are all right.

Accept my congratulations on the last two numbers of your monthly. Dr. Stell's article alone is worth a years subscription—it is strange that in the course of a

four years reading of the leading bee journals and handbooks on Bee Culture, one has not run across this remedy for a bee sting. Manifestly cocaine must be the very thing.

As an ardent well wisher for the success of the SOUTHLAND QUEEN, I can't help hoping that you will add to your staff of contributors, a funny man—some body who will make us laugh. Surely there must be some Rambler, some now mute and inglorious joker in the ranks of your Southern readers, who could if he would, help to brighten the pages of your magazine. Perhaps the study of the bee may, in its results, be something like Dr. Holmes said of the scarabæus—an occupation calculated to discourage mirth. The "Scarabee" did finally get off an atrociously funny thing at the last though. You remember when the hero and heroine in the Poet at the Breakfast Table married, and the wedding presents were laid out, the Scarabee gave the bride a specimen of the rare and beautiful diamond beetle. He said that possibly the bride might like to wear it in her hair. And "then you know," he continued, as he mused of the future of the young couple, "there may be larvæ, you know what I mean."

T. S. FORD.

Columbia, Miss.

[A funny man may bob up at any time; "there's larvæ."—ED.]



An Open Letter to Dr. Miller.

DEAR DR. MILLER:—I have just been reading page 211 of the American Bee Journal (which has just come to hand), and your talk to J. H. Martin is somewhat of a surprise to me. Therefore, "I smole a quiet smile, and said to myself, "Wonder what the Doctor is up to, anyhow." Then I thought the good Doctor is always communicative, why not ask him? So, Doctor, here are a few questions I would like to have you answer, that "we" readers of the American Bee Journal may be able to understand you (and ourselves) better. Please do not say "I don't know" to these questions, lest we lose our confidence in your ability.

Why do you object to California honey coming to the Chicago market? I never heard you make such objections years ago when we were getting from 25 to 30 cents a pound for our honey. Is it because you think California honey has been the means of bringing the price of what we produce from 25 cents a pound down to 10? Or is it because you think your honey and that produced in the State of Illinois is of better quality, and gives the Chicagoans better health? Hey, Doctor? If neither of these, is it because you think that there

is honey enough produced in the United States, outside of California to supply every mouth which "waters" for honey in the Nation? If so, should those California bee-keepers go out of the honey-producing business, that you and I can have a monopoly of the honey-trade? Then, Doctor, have not you and I been trying all these years to educate those California bee-keepers how to produce honey, through our articles, and by answering their questions? If so, what do you think Christ would say of us if we are not just as willing they should enjoy our markets as we have been that the world should enjoy and be helped by the mite we could contribute toward advanced bee-culture?

Say, Doctor, what is the reason there are so many mouths watering for honey to-day, and unable to get it, while you and I growl at the low prices we receive for our product? Scarcely one-third the price we formerly obtained!

Then, again, why is it that with these one-third prices, and nearly double the population in the United States there was when honey brought 30 cents per pound, hardly as much honey is consumed today as there was in the early seventies?

Why are you growling over low prices of honey when a pound of your honey will buy as much wheat, buckwheat, potatoes or land as it ever would?

I have many more questions I would like to ask you along these lines, but fearing I may weary you, and knowing what a host of questions means to an over-worked bee-keeper, I will leave the rest till some other time. I am not trying to "catch" you with these questions. The proper answer to them is of VITAL importance to every apiarist in the land.—G. M. DOOLITTLE, in the American Bee Journal, page 255.

—
Dr. Miller's Reply.

Mr. Doolittle, I don't—that is, I'm not entirely sure I can answer all your questions, but I'll make some effort in that direction, and as you refer to matters in preceding numbers, it's a pleasure to know that all the numbers of the "Old Reliable" for this year are before me, safely anchored in a wood binder. If you haven't tried one of those binders, I'm pretty sure you ought to, for I think you would be pleased therewith.

The first question (on page 255) is, "Why do you object to California honey coming to the Chicago market?" Before I can answer that, I must ask you to show me the place or time when I made such objection. I don't quite dare to say I never said anything of the kind, for you're such a hand to remember and refer to what has been said, that I don't want to run any risks. But I'll only go so far, just

now, as to say that I have no present recollection of having objected to California honey coming to Chicago. And as all the rest of the questions in the same paragraph are on the same basis, I must ask to postpone the answers till I know what I said against California competition.

Your next question wants to know why so many mouths are watering for honey while you and I are growling at low prices. Say, Doolittle, between you and me don't you think it's a mean trick of you to take advantage of a fellow the way you do by baring him out from the use of the only available answer he has on hand by saying in advance, "Please do not say, 'I don't know?'" Whatever other reasons there may be why so many people don't eat honey, I think one of the reasons is that they are ignorant and imagine that honey is a luxury they can't afford, when in reality it is a better and cheaper food than they suppose. I don't suppose many people know that children will be better satisfied and nourished with a pound of honey than with a pound of butter.

You next ask why hardly as much honey is consumed now as when there were only half as many people and honey three times as high. I didn't know that was so, but supposed there was more used now. If there's hardly as much

used now, isn't the principal reason that it isn't produced? For I have some doubt whether there would be such a wonderful sight more produced if the price was higher. Don't most bee-keepers produce all they can, and all they would if prices were higher? I'm not sure that I'd produce a pound more if prices were doubled. Would you? Then again I think, as I have already said, that more honey would be used if people knew its intrinsic value. Mr. Martin may be right, that people prefer glucosed honey at a lower price, but that's again just the same ignorance on the part of the people. They don't know how much better the pure article is.

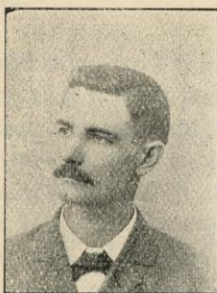
You want to know why I'm growling over low prices when a pound of honey will buy just as much wheat, potatoes or land as ever. Well, maybe I've growled more than I ought to, and at first blush it looks as though I had no reasonable excuse for growling if relative values kept the same, the honey of this year buying just as much as the honey of other years. But right there is the trouble. In spite of the way you've put it, the honey of last year wouldn't begin to buy as much as the honey of former years. At least it wouldn't with me. Very true a pound of it might, but a crop of it wouldn't, and when a day's labor brings more wheat than formerly, and a

day's labor brings less honey than formerly, you can hardly expect me to feel satisfied with as much wheat as I used to get for a pound of honey. See? If I could get the same crop of honey now for the same labor as formerly, then I ought not to complain at swapping for the same amount of wheat as formerly, but if I can only get one pound where I used to get two, then I don't feel that the price of honey ought to keep step with wheat and other things in their downward march.

Now I'll not feel the least hurt if you'll fit a better answer to these questions, and while you're at it I'll give you another question to answer, lest you fire it at me: Why is it that there's so little difference in the price of honey whether the crop is large or small? —DR. C. C. MILLER, in *American Bee Journal*, page 291.

Skylark gets After the Doctor.

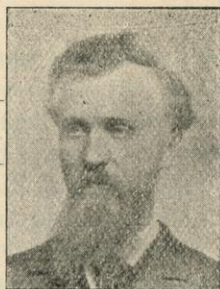
DEAR DOCTOR:—As you seem to be, at the present time, a sort of a target for "open letters," I want to put in my "jaw" and shoot at you too. But indeed and indeed, dear doctor, I will pull the trigger easy, so I will not hurt you. Do you think you will come out victorious in that tilt you are having with Rambler as to who owns Chicago? It is just as much OUR Chicago as it is yours, and more too. Haven't we built it up with



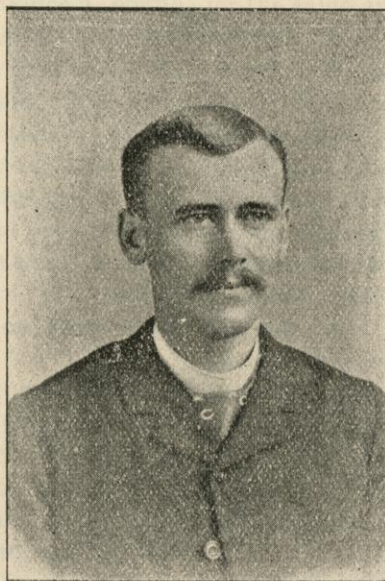
J. M. JENKINS,
Wetumpka, Ala.



Some Southern Apiarists.



O. O. POPPLETON,
Stuart, Fla.



W. H. PRIDGEN,
Creek, N. C.



W. B. GRIMSLEY,
Otto, Tenn.



JAMES E. FREE,
Demorest, Ga.

our honey? What! Give up Chicago? Not for millions. Why, I would abandon my breakfast any day, and never eat another bite again—never, never (till dinner-time), rather than give up Chicago.

It is true, as Doolittle tells you (A. B. J., 255), you have helped to build up bee-keeping in California through your articles, and by answering questions; and now, O doctor! I write this in grief and tears—just because we produce tons of honey to your hundreds of pounds, you want to kick us out of the bosom of your family—apicultural family I mean—without pity and without remorse.

Dear, dear doctor, have you no tender recollections of our childhood in apiculture, when we sat at your feet—the purity and innocence of childhood shining in our eyes—and learned the lessons of wisdom from your lips? O blessed lessons! O dreams of golden treasures, flowing down from the mountains, actually realized! What good are you, anyhow, when our master will not allow us to sell you for spot cash? Barred out of Chicago! barred out of the northern markets by the very master that taught us to handle the tools and to get the product—always assuring us there was a way to sell it. If you, dear doctor, have not yet got a mortgage on Europe we might send it there. Yours truly,

SKYLARK.

P. S.—I am very sorry to tell you, doctor, that you will have no competition to fight this year. California will not produce half a crop, and I doubt very much whether it will go above a third. You can now get out your roosters and banners, and go on a triumphal torchlight procession as soon as you please.—SKYLARK, in Gleanings, page 380.

THAT TRAMP SERMON, p. 360, is just right all through. It's kindness to feed tramps, but it's greater kindness to make them work. When brought down to the final analysis, tramping is simply stealing. Straighten your Medina laws, Bro. Root. [Better say our national laws. It ought to be as unhealthy for a professional won't-work tramp to prey upon communities as for counterfeiters.—E. D.]—STRAY STRAWS, Gleanings.

[We live right on the public highway from San Antonio to Aransas Harbor, and we feed many tramps; some of them appear unworthy of a free meal, but we have often thought that we had rather feed nine unworthy tramps than let one worthy subject go hungry, still it's pretty hard on charity to give a big, stout man his breakfast, then show him the axe and wood pile, and as soon as your back is turned he throws the axe down and disappears.—ED.]

NOW Is the time for every friend of The Queen to work.

The Southland Queen.

MONTHLY.
\$1.00 A YEAR.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY, - - EDITOR.

— Assisted by —

Willie, Charlie and Amanda Atchley.

E. J. ATCHLEY, - BUSINESS MANAGER.

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The Jennie Atchley Company,
 Beeville, Bee Co., Texas.

Entered at the Post Office at Beeville, Texas, for transmission through the mails at second class rates

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, MAY, 1896.

Our Birthday Greeting.

With this number we begin a new year with THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN, and we wish to thank our patrons, one and all, for their kind support and words of encouragement during the past year. Not

only the people of the South, but from all parts of the United States and several foreign countries are well represented on our subscription list. We now send THE QUEEN to 33 states and territories, and to 5 foreign countries, which is evidence that our efforts are highly appreciated. We have all assurance of continued support, and having full confidence in the success of the undertaking, we have put in a new printing outfit, to which will be added new type, machinery, etc., from time to time as they are needed, and every effort will be put forth to make THE QUEEN worthy the support it is receiving. Another advantage we claim, is that our printer in charge is a practical bee man, which insures us against "bad breaks," which is often the case when the printer and proof reader do not understand the subject of the copy.

We are "At Home," no rents to pay, and for some time THE QUEEN has been self supporting, which is something unusual for a journal during its first year.

Now, if you consider THE QUEEN worthy of your support, we will be very glad, indeed, to have your renewal, and we assure you that the close of another year you will see still greater improvements.

Wishing you all a happy and prosperous year, we now introduce to you, the "MAY QUEEN."

THE EDITOR.

We are indeed glad that so many are sending in their names, who expect to be at the "bee meeting" here, on Sept. 16th and 17th, and especially, we are very glad to note that a number of our Texas lady bee-keepers are coming.

That's right, we want great and small; women, girls and all; come, and we will try to make it interesting to you.

Giving the bees a broad brood nest, and getting the supers as close to the brood as possible, without any thing in the way, will pay the apiarist larger profits than if excluders are used, not counting the expense of the excluders.

Reports come from nearly all the States that they are having an extra good honey year so far, except it seems that California is having an off year. We trust they may get more honey than they anticipate.

W. R. Graham, of North Texas, writes that the prospects are poor for honey in that part of Texas. We were beginning to think that a general good year was upon us, but this knocks North Texas out.

The American Bee Journal is on hand every week, just as regular as pig tracks. The old reliable is a welcomed exchange, and a good paper for advanced bee-keepers.

W. H. Pridgen, of Creek, N. C. has sent us what he calls a Cocoon stick. It is made just the size of the inside of a worker cell, and is counter sunk in the end, so as to fit over the larvæ to be moved, without touching it. Give the stick a little twirl and the cocoon turns loose and is placed right down in the bottom of the wax cup, and the larva never knows the transfer has been made. This is an invention calculated to be a great help to those rearing queens on the Willie Atchley plan.

We think the production of bees wax will, in the near future, be a business by itself, as the price of wax holds up so well, and it seems that the price of honey has a downward tendency. Comb foundation, too, seems to be fast coming into general use; the demand for it being beyond our expectations this season.

We note, as formerly, that at least a third more honey can be produced in sections, by using wide frames, with frames of white, sealed honey used for separators. It seems that the bees enter sections in the half supers with foundation starters, only with a protest. They go up some better when bait sections are used.

Willie Atchley has taken 70 lbs. per colony, Spring count, from his Holyland apiary this season.



W. H. PRIDGEN.

W. H. Pridgen, of Creek, N. C., whose portrait is shown in this issue, is thirty-four years old. At the age of fifteen a position was offered him as salesman in a country store, which was accepted and filled for eleven years. His mother having died when he was ten years old, he knew something of the rough side of life, took the tide at its flow, and has since applied himself to business. On account of arrangements made with his employer's older daughter, he decided in January 1888, to commence merchandising on his own hook; was married Nov. 6, 1889; formed a copartnership to continue the business at Ita, N. C. in January, 1891, which is still in successful operation under the firm name of W. H. Pridgen & Co., and he and his wife moved back to Creek, and are living happily with her mother and father as one family; our subject filling the position he did 19 years ago, playing with his three interesting children, and working among his 75 colonies of bees.

His bee-keeping experience dates back to the time he went to Creek, his leisure time from other business being spent among the bees, mak-

ing box hives, with some of them so arranged as to take the surplus without disturbing the brood department, and often securing 75 pounds per colony. In those days he was delighted when the bees swarmed, and soon learned to use the bush as a swarm catcher instead of sawing off limbs to hive the swarms.

The bee fever having run pretty high, on his return to Creek he attached a saw to the engine (used in the fall for ginning cotton), for the purpose of sawing out hives for himself and neighbors, which he did successfully, and on which he has taken the premium at his county fair, as well as on the finest bees and honey.

As soon as his bees were transferred to movable frame hives, he Italianized them; got all the information he could from books devoted to the subject, and commenced experimenting in queen rearing, which is his hobby now, and he boasts of the finest breeding queen in the world.

He is doing a great deal for the advancement of apiculture in his section, by disseminating useful information among the farmers, and we learn from his county paper that he is looked upon as being the best informed man in his county on everything pertaining to our pursuit, and we are justified in saying that his notoriety is no longer confined to his own locality—he is an apicultural bright-light.



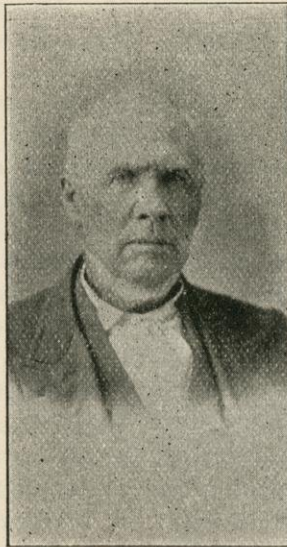
WILLIE ATCHLEY,
Beeville.



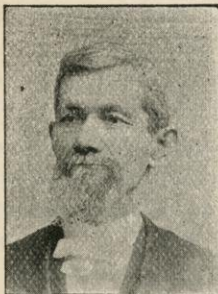
Some Texas Apiarists.



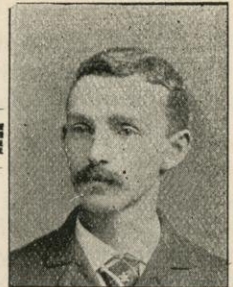
Miss Amanda Atchley,
Beeville.



W. R. GRAHAM,
Greenville.



W. R. HOWARD, M. D.
Fort Worth.



J. O. GRIMSLEY,
Beeville.

How I Became a Bee-keeper.

BY JAMES E. FREE.

TO THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

Well, to begin, perhaps I am not a bee-keeper. If attending to a few colonies of bees that belong to my better half will allow me to be called a bee-keeper, then I am one.

I was born July 26, 1857, in Habersham Co., Ga. In the Summer of 1859, before I was two years old I was out playing near a "bee gum" and stepped on a bee, and was stung on the bottom of my right foot, from the effect of which I am a cripple for life, though not very bad. My right foot is a half inch shorter than my left, and a half inch broader just back of my toes. A bee sting on my finger, when a boy, would render my hand useless for several days on account of the severe pain and swelling. Now when you take these facts into consideration, you will not wonder at my growing up in terror and dread of the little honey bee. Perhaps you are interested in knowing how I overcame this fear of the honey bee, so as to become a bee-keeper. In the winter of 1882 my wife became the owner of a colony of bees, in a box hive, from her mother's estate—we have never been without bees since. When the bees would swarm my wife would hive them in a "gum," or box hive that I had prepared.

When we wanted to "rob" them, my wife would take a roll of old rags, set them on fire, pry off the head of the "gum," and cut out some of the comb next to the head, while I would stand off some distance, watching her; ready to run in the house if a bee came my way. In spite of all our losses from moth, starvation, etc.; we had increased to five colonies, in box hives, in 1891.

Up to this time I had never seen a movable comb hive. I had heard of A. I. Root of Medina, Ohio, and had seen one or two copies of Gleanings, but knew nothing in regard to modern bee-keeping. During the summer of 1891, Mr. Buckland passed by our house, and seeing bees, wanted to buy a swarm, but my wife told him that the old ones died off so fast she did not want to sell any. Mr. Buckland said he had bought a colony in a box hive the winter before and to be ready for them in the Spring he had sent to A. I. Root for supplies, consisting of one Simplicity hive, with two supers, one drone trap, one smoker, and A. I. Root's A B C of Bee Culture, but when Spring came Mr. B. had no bees. This outfit he wanted to sell if he could not buy bees to put in the hive; he said he would take less than half what the supplies cost him, so we bought them, and I think that little "trade" was the cause of my start in bee-keeping.

I became interested in looking over the furnishings of the Simplicity hive.

I read the A B C of Bee Culture, and the more I read, the more interested I became. After reading the author's instructions in regard to looking into hives, handling bees, etc. etc., I ventured to open the Simplicity hive and peep in; the more I read, the more anxious I became to look all through the hive and see what the bees were doing. As Mr. Root recommended working without a veil, I ventured to look through the hive as near according to his directions as I could, without a veil, and the bees being very quiet and getting no stings, I began to think I was getting to be quite a bee-keeper. I even went so far as to help hive one or two swarms. When winter came I had resolved to try the modern method of keeping bees. I rented machinery at a wood-working factory and got out material for six Simplicity hives. I manufactured the hives myself, sending to A. I. Root for one hundred Hoffman frames, five hundred sections in flat, separators, foundation for starters, etc.

During 1892, all swarms were hived in Simplicity hives. I called on Mr. Charlie Gibbs that summer and saw him using what he calls the "Dixie" hive; it is the Dove-tailed hive in size, differing from it only in make; the corners being

rabbetted instead of dovetailed. In the spring of 1893 I made a lot of the "Dixie" hives, buying my supplies of Mr. Gibbs, who is a small dealer in apiarian supplies. In the spring of 1894 I transferred from the old box hives to the movable frame hives. I learned to make my own brood frames, using small nails to space them, and like them much better than the Hoffman frames. During the summer of 1893 I tried artificial swarming with success, but prior to this, I had learned from sad experience that it was best to wear a veil while working with the bees. During the summer of 1894 I tried queen rearing for my own use, and stocked up with nice young queens from an Italian mother, which was raised by Mrs. Jennie Atchley of Beeville, Texas. I cannot give any account of expense or profit, up to 1895, for I had been, during all this time, trying to get the change made from box hives, to movable frame hives, getting Italian blood introduced, doing the work myself, and paying out but little money.

In the Spring of 1895 I commenced with twelve of very fine Hybrids and Italians. I sold in 1895, bees and honey enough to clear \$1.50 per colony, over expenses, and have twelve colonies to commence with this season. Last year was said to be a very poor year for honey in this section; some of my neighbors did not get

any honey, and I only know of one other bee-keeper that got any surplus honey worth mentioning. People who have kept bees in box hives, for 20 and 30 years, say we have had three years together that have been the poorest for honey they ever saw. I have, during the last four years, had not less than eight nor more than twenty-one colonies at one time. I am very fond of working among the bees, but think if we were compelled to go back to the old box hive I would lose all my interest. I keep my queens' wings clipped, and find it pays well. I have had swarms to leave me, and I would chase them until entirely exhausted when I would retrace my steps, wishing I could keep "the pesky things" from leaving. Last summer I had a swarm with a clipped queen, to swarm out of the hive the third day after they were hived, and try to leave, but the queen being clipped, they returned after going some distance from the apiary, and went to work. The more I learn about bees, the more I find there is to learn. When persons come around firing their questions at me, about the bees, I usually have to say "I don't know." I am an admirer of most of the noted bee-keepers, but would especially mention our lamented L. L. Langstroth, A. I. Root, Dr. Miller, Dr. J. P. H. Brown, and last, but by no means least, Mrs.

Jennie Atchley, for whom we named our last baby. All these, and many others not mentioned, have helped me out of many troubles since I commenced bee-keeping.

Demorest, Ga.

The Cutler Family.

We take pleasure in showing you the pleasant faces of a family of bee-keepers, residing in the suburbs of the city of Dallas. They had about thirty colonies of bees in fine condition a year ago last October, when the writer had the pleasure of making them a call over night. This is one quiet bee-family, among many who reside in Texas, that the Bee-keeping world know but little about. When the writer is in Dallas, he knows where to find a table heavily laden with good things to eat; Mrs. Cutler and these little girls know how to prepare it too. Mr. Cutler is a painter by trade, but spends many happy hours with his bees, which usually do well.

One noble feature of this family is: They are a Christian family throughout, and when the father request that one of the children return thanks at the table, there is no hesitation. We are glad to be able to show our readers the faces of "The Cutler Family;" a family of bee-keepers; a family of which Texas and the South should be very proud.

J. M. Jenkins.

The name, J. M. Jenkins, is well known to the readers of the older Bee-Papers and we will add that Bro. Jenkins is one of the bright-lights of apiculture wherever he is known, and that is most everywhere, as he sends out a catalogue brim full of good bee-matter, which is the best information for bee-keepers, North, South, East and West. He is also a supply dealer, and manufacturer of hives and bee fixtures; his P. O. is Wetumpka, Alabama.

G. M. Doolittle's Home.

We also take pleasure in presenting to our readers, the home of our New York friend, and great benefactor, G. M. Doolittle. We would be very glad indeed to make a call upon this friend, and take a look at that beautiful home and its surroundings this beautiful May day. Mrs. Doolittle sits in the chair, and her niece is near by her; we would have been truly glad to have had a look at "Grandma," Bro. Doolittle's mother, who lives with her son, and has for many years. Bro. Doolittle is too well known to call for any description of himself, as he is likely the greatest benefactor bee-keepers ever had, either in this or any other country, as the light from his practical pen has shown brighter, and

lighted up the pathway of more bee-keepers than any other writer upon the subject of bees, as well as other subjects we might name.

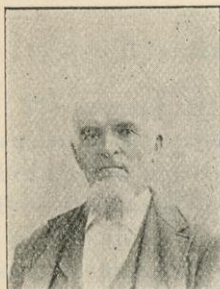
Here is what he says of his home:

That you may know a little more of us and how we look at home, (that is, at my house), I send you today, under separate cover, a photo of a little part of us. They called me from work and I hastily put on a coat and tried to hold the house up while the artist "shot it off," so I do not look as prime as does Mrs. Doolittle (Mrs. Doolittle is the one in the chair.) and Mrs. Doolittle's niece, who was here a few days of her vacation from teaching school. If you will look closely you can see some of our choice Northern Spy apples, both in the tree and on the ground, near the steps where we are; and by looking through, near the right hand stoop post, you will observe the bee hives in the bee yard, which is right back of the wood shed.

* * * * *

W. R. Graham.

The photo of W. R. Graham appeared a short time ago in connection with our little girls, Leah and Rosa, but we are glad to give him alone this time. He is one of the most prominent bee-keepers Texas has; one who imparts to others; is truly and surely practical, as he usually runs his own apiaries, and to his credit can be added the State Bee-keepers' Association, which Bro. Graham has kept up almost alone for many years, and today that Association is in a thriving condition.



DR. JOSHUA GALLUP,
Santa Ana, Calif.



Some Neighbor Apiarists.



E. TIDDER,
West Maitland,
Australia.



Home of G. M. DOOLITTLE,
Borodina, N. Y.



H. L. JONES,
Goodna, Queensland,
Australia.



JACOB MOORE,
Iona, Mich.

DR. WM. R. HOWARD.

Dr. Wm. R. Howard, of Fort Worth, Texas, whose photo appears in this issue, was at one time a prominent bee man of Texas. He is now one of the leading physicians of this State, and his time is almost wholly taken up with his large practice, and writing for the Medical press. He keeps a few bees, and is as happy as a child with a red stick of candy, when he meets a real bee man. He is one of the best posted Botanists in the South, and will name, through this paper, any honey plant sent him. Dr. Howard, is one of those men that it is a pleasure to meet. He is always pleasant and willing to impart information.

JACOB MOORE.

We present, to you our old friend and Bro. Bee-keeper, Jacob Moore, of Iona, Mich., whose name is familiar to our readers, from his many articles that have appeared in THE QUEEN. Bro. Moore is getting up in years, but is still an active bee-keeper, and he is one of the closest observers of the weather, and its effects upon the bees and flowers, of anyone we know. He can readily tell how cold it has been, and at what time the worst weather has come, for a long time back. We take pleasure in introducing to you, Jacob

Moore; just take a good look at his pleasant face. We will say, however, that the engraving does not show up as it should, and does not do him justice.

H. L. JONES.

Speaking of his career as a bee-keeper H. L. Jones says: "I began modern bee-keeping at the age of 15—thirteen years ago. Have now nearly 300 colonies of bees, in two apiaries—one Carniolan and the other Italian. During the season just past I sent out nearly 600 queens, which is very large for these colonies. I have a large saw-mill for making Dovetailed hives and all other bee supplies, and issue a large (40 page) catalogue yearly."

You will note what this young bee-keeper has done, and is still doing, in Australia. He began bee-keeping, when quite young and made the business a great success from the very start. He is now one of the most noted queen raisers and bee-keepers of Australia. We believe bee-keeping is a pursuit that can be followed by man or woman; young or old; having the requisite qualifications.

DR. JOSHUA GALLUP.

Well, it is hardly within our power to say anything regarding

this hero of apiculture, more than has been often said. He is the inventor of the Gallup hive and frame that has been, and is yet, used so extensively in New York State, and other places. We think Mr. Doolittle still uses the Gallup hive and frame. Dr. Gallup is now living in that Sunny clime, California. He still keeps bees, and appears to be happy and contented. The name, GALLUP, will likely always occupy a prominent place in our apicultural world.

E. TIPPER.

E. Tipper is the Editor and Proprietor of the Australian Bee Bulletin. He is a kind hearted Christian gentleman, and is doing much to aid apiculture in his country. His paper is well gotten up and always contains instructive lessons, not only for Australia, but for any country where bees are kept, and we are very glad to be able to give our readers a peep at the Editor of The Australian Bee Bulletin.

Willie and Amanda Atchley.

BY MRS. CHAS. W. WEBB.

If I was called upon to name the most practical bee-keeper of my knowledge, I would say one of "The Atchleys," Then if I was called upon for the next, I would say another one of 'The Atchleys,'

for each of them—from the oldest to the youngest—are practical bee-keepers.

Willie Atchley, one of the subjects of my notes, is 20 years old, and it is not necessary to say, has grown up in the apiary, and has been an active apiarist since a mere child. His hobby is queen rearing, and today he enjoys the reputation of being one of the leading, expert queen breeders of the world. The Atchley plan of rearing queens is now considered, by many of our best queen breeders, as equal to, if not superior to either the Doolittle or Alley plans. Willie owns and runs an extensive apiary of Holyland bees, which he has built up from a small start.

He has no prejudiced ideas, and it matters not what he is experimenting with, he gives to each subject all the showing possible, and lets his honest conviction govern him in all cases. He is an active member of the Church, is sociable, kind and last, but not least is one of the main stays at home.

Amanda, like her brother, has been raised in the apiary, and what is said of the balance of the family can be said of her; she is a bright and practical bee-keeper. She is 22 years old, has a fair education, and while she is not quite so well known as her mother, Mrs. Jennie Atchley, she is a smooth writer on most any branch of practical apiculture.

W. B. AND J. O. GRIMSLEY.

It would be hard to give our readers a true write up of either of these without giving the other, for theirs was a peculiar case of "bee-fever," which we may be able to give in full in some future number of THE QUEEN. J. O. Grimsley, together with a brother and sister, undertook to get their father, W. B. Grimsley, interested in bees, and by the time their father got a good fever, J. O. was pretty bad off himself.

W. B. Grimsley is 67 years old and has kept bees on the hap-hazard, box-hive plan all his life, up to 1893, when he and his son caught the fever from each other. At this time he has a nice apiary, kept on the modern plans. He has small machinery, with which he makes his own hives and hives for his neighbors. He makes no pretentions as a queen breeder, yet he rears queens for the bee-keepers of his vicinity.

J. O. Grimsley, after catching the fever, turned his attention to bees, exclusively, and while he has gone through the ups and downs of all beginners, he has applied himself to the practical side of apiculture and takes great interest in all branches of the pursuit. He is 30 years old; came to Beeville last October, and being a practical printer as well as a "bee-man," he took charge of the print-

ing of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN, and is very much interested in its publication; he was elected Secretary and Treasurer of the Southwest Texas Bee-keepers' Association at its last meeting; is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; is kind, and pleasant in his dealings.

O. O. POPPLETON.

O. O. Poppleton, will be readily recognized, by those that have been reading Gleanings in Bee Culture for some years. He is, we believe, the most successful migratory bee-keeper we have in this country. He has often given a synopsis of his plans, and management of his migratory apiaries, through Gleanings, and we asked him to tell us something, of it for our paper; the following is his reply: "The conditions which have allowed me to practice migratory bee-keeping were peculiar, and entirely local. So far as I know, similar conditions are not found any where else in this country. What I have done cannot, I think, be duplicated in any other section of the United States. The freeze, last winter, has stopped migratory bee-keeping here for three or four years at least. My eye trouble has been worse than usual, of late, and I am afraid that will prevent my doing any writing to speak of for several weeks to come."

* * * * *



OUR SCHOOL.

Mrs. Jennie Atchley,
INSTRUCTOR.

LESSON NUMBER 10.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY:—

As I am one of your scholars, seeking information, I come again to ask a few more questions.

I have succeeded in getting my bees all transferred into the eight frame hive. Some of the colonies were so strong, I doubled the hive by putting on another box on top of the one with the bees in.

(1.) Now right here, I want to know which is best; another box, or supers. I have only one super on one of the hives, and the bees seem to be working all right. I got my son to help me put strips of perforated zinc across the entrance of all my hives, and instead of cutting it with the solid strip at the bottom, he cut the solid strip off, and left the notches to rest on the bottom, which is an improvement, I think, as it's not so easily clogged, and the bees can go in and out just as well.

I will try to be at your "bee" convention next September, if I possibly can. I know I would enjoy myself, besides gaining much useful information.

Wishing you and the business success,
I am: Respectfully,

MRS. E. S. MCCALL.

Wells, Texas.

DEAR MRS. MCCALL:—We see now that you are going to make a bee-keeper any how. I am glad you were successful in transferring your bees, as this is one lesson away up in bee-keeping. If you

are going to run your bees for extracted honey, and you wish to get a stock of drawn combs, a full upper story, or box, as you put it, is better than half upper stories or supers for sections. You can soon find out which pays you best, extracted or comb honey, and perhaps, you will need to raise both kinds.

Yes, it is a good idea to cut the lower edge of zinc strips very narrow, or nearly up to perforations, as it is much easier for the bees to step over. Bees with heavy loads of honey or pollen cannot get through zinc very well when they have to climb up, and for this reason we prefer to have zincs cut shallow. We will have you enrolled and your "name in the soup" for our bee-meeting, and then you must be here.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY:—

Please answer the following questions through THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

(2.) What makes bees swarm so much this year? We have some colonies that have swarmed five times this season.

(3.) I was looking through a colony immediately after it had turned out a swarm, and found seven nice queen cells, almost ready to hatch. How is this? Why did not the first queen that was hatched, tear down the balance of the cells?

(4.) How can we prevent bees from swarming so often? I cut out all cells, but they still swarmed on the same as

before.

(5.) Why do bees sometimes drive their queens from their hives? I had several swarms to come out, which, after remaining in the new hives four or five days, would drag their queens from the hives, tear off their wings and finally kill them, and the bees would swarm out, scatter, and disappear. I have been handling bees for about eight years, but have never seen any thing like this before.

WM. E. NASH.

Rosanky, Texas.

(2.) One cause of bees swarming so much this year, was our warm Winter and favorable Spring, when the bees gathered some honey and abundance of pollen all Winter and Spring. These conditions usually bring on what we term excessive swarming.

(3.) There was nothing strange about the queen cells ready to hatch immediately after a swarm had cast, as bad weather or some other cause had detained the swarm until the cells were almost hatching when the swarm issued. We have often noticed that some bees do not swarm until their cells are nearly ready to hatch, even if weather is favorable. If we understand you rightly, it was a "first swarm" you are speaking of. If so, there was no first queen hatched before the swarm issued, as the old, mother queen lead the swarm. If you are meaning a second swarm, we will say that as a rule, the first young queen that hatches does not tear down cells, but instead, leads off a swarm, and

when the colony is done swarming, the first queen that hatches after all swarms have issued tears down all remaining cells.

(4.) There is no sure way to prevent bees from swarming, unless you divide them out too weak to swarm. Keeping their honey taken close, and giving plenty of room, is one of the best remedies I know of for excessive swarming. If you keep all cells taken out it ought to prevent it, but some times bees will swarm without cells.

(5.) We never knew first swarms to kill their queens, as you mention, unless two or more swarms go together, then one or both queens are killed, or, if strange bees unite with swarms in the air, the queens may be balled and killed, but not often. In the case of after swarming, there may be from two to twelve or more young queens with such swarms, and when the bees are hived, and settle down to work, all queens are killed but one. When bees ball and kill all the queen they have, you may know there is a cause for it, and there are so many causes, we do not know which one occurred in your case.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY:—This is with the intention of asking you a little advice.

(6.) Since I bought from you one of the ten frame hives, I have tried to put a swarm in it four or five times without success. They remain two or three days

and then fly away, but I am sure that if I could find the queen and cut its wings they would remain. If you could tell me how I could find the queen I would be very much obliged to you; also give me some other advice about bees.

LOUIS BRULAY.

Brownsville, Texas.

FRIEND BRULAY:—If you will give each newly hived swarm a frame of unsealed larvæ and some honey, you will find they will stay. We do not clip queens' wings any more, as it is no advantage to us, whatever, and there are a dozen or more disadvantages we might name. No more clipped queens for us. You can find your queens by tacking a piece of queen-excluding zinc over the entrance, shake the bees all off the combs in front of hive, place the frames back and let the bees run in, and you will find the queen among a few remaining bees, outside at the entrance. When you become accustomed to finding queens you will not need to go to all this trouble.

We are ready and willing to offer any advice in our power, through this paper, so come on with your questions.

We are late with this number, owing to the fact that it was near the middle of the month before we were "At Home" in our new quarters, then, you see this number is nearly twice the usual size. After June we will try to be on time—from 15th to 20th.



(1.) I have tried removing cells from one apiary to another to have the young queens fertilized, and have always lost the young queens; I thought they were injured and so would not hatch. Seeing by "THE QUEEN" you are successful therein, kindly inform me if you have them carried on horseback, in a cart, buggy, or on a bicycle etc.; the distance you can safely carry them etc.

(2.) In starting cells every day how do you manage with cells falling due on Sunday; do you remove them on the Saturday or start more to fall due on Sunday; and do you find them travel as well between 14th and 15th day as between the 15th and 16th?

(3.) In distributing cells do you use queen cell protectors or keep nuclei three days queenless. I always use protectors and give a cell immediately a queen is removed.

(4.) Which bee do you find best for cell building; Goldens, Holylands, or Italians?

(5.) In grafting "Willie Atchley cell cups," do you find it sufficient if the cocoon will stay in the sink in the cell, or must it fit accurately? In old comb I find the cocoons of many sizes owing to the accumulation of cocoons in the cells.

(6.) What system do you recommend for keeping track of nuclei? Do you use queen register cards or register books? AN AUSTRALIAN SCHOLAR.

(1.) We usually carry cells in a buggy, and when we expect to keep them out long, we put the cells on a comb, with bees enough to cover, or care for them, and they hatch all right. It is best to always keep the cells, point down, so the queens will not be injured. We can carry cells ten miles or more, as above, and not injure them.

(2.) We take no note on what day of the week the cells started, will hatch, and on Saturday, move those that fall due on Sunday. We think cells carry better between the 15th and 16th days; in fact we have had them hatch on the way from one apiary to another. A just hatched virgin can be turned loose in any queenless colony almost without danger.

(3.) In distributing cells, we give the cells to nuclei, or colonies about three days queenless. We have long since quit using cell protectors; we find it best for us to place cells where bees can get to them, properly fasten and care for them. We only use cell protectors where bees persist in tearing down cells, and where laying workers have begun, and not then, if we can have a laying queen of some kind to put in instead of cell.

(4.) We find the Holylands to be the best cell builders of any race of bees tried by us, and we have tried them all, so far as we know.

(5.) We always try to place the cocoons true and firmly in bottom of cell cups, but think they will do all right if they are put in sufficient to stay.

(6.) We use no book now, but use cards, tags, or signs. We keep our largest queen rearing yard near by an old brick yard, and one brick means laying queen; two bricks, queenless; and three bricks, virgin etc., with a record on the hive to tell the balance.

I would like to know what you do with young queens after they come from the nursery until they are sold.

SALLIE WILSON.

Fulton, Oregon.

We do not use queen nurseries now, as it is much better to have nuclei ready to receive the cells one day before hatching, and let the queens lay in the nuclei till sold; we manage to get the use of all queens until sold, by giving room for them to lay, and we are always glad to keep queens until their brood is sealed. This assures us that the queens are all right; it also keeps up the strength of the nuclei. To rear queens, you take the brood all away from a prosperous colony, give frames of honey instead, and in two days—or one day will do—give that colony 20 cell cups with larvæ from your breeder, according to my plan of rearing queens, which you have likely read, and fine cells will be the result.

What does it take to constitute a queen breeder?

I will answer this question as best I can, from my present and personal knowledge of the queen rearing business.

It is often said in print—and viva voce—from the lips of speakers, that they can't raise queens, as their bees are doing so badly they won't build cells or do any good. Some say they do not want queens reared in late Fall or Winter, etc. etc. Now, in my estimation none of these people are queen breeders. Raising a few queens at swarming time, or when every thing is prosperous, does not constitute a queen breeder; the bees themselves are the queen breeders in such cases, and any bee-keeper, large or small, beginner or veteran, can get queens under such conditions. Our best, and most valuable queens were raised during December and January last. The part that makes a queen breeder, is to raise queens right along whether it is favorable for it or not, and if conditions are not right to be a queen breeder, you must make them right; go right along as though there was a honey flow on. This is what I often have to do, and I cannot, and do not stop raising queens, in this warm country at all; cells are being built, queens fertilized, and the whole plan of queen rearing going on the same one time as another. Of

course we do not raise queens as extensively in Winter as in Summer. But when you hear a queen breeder say he can't raise queens any day in the year, and good queens too, in a country where bees fly, and gather pollen and some honey every day the year 'round, then you may mark him down as no queen breeder. Those who raise queens during swarming time, and when every thing is favorable, are not queen breeders, but simply bee-keepers, and the bees raise the queens, just as do the bees of any bee-keeper. I have queens, reared last winter, that produce bees that have given me over 200 pounds of honey per colony this season, and these queens are good for two more seasons, at least. To be a queen breeder, you must raise queens and drones out of season just the same as in season, otherwise you are simply a bee-keeper, and not a queen breeder.

Those Samples From J. H. Wing.

MRS. EDITOR:—

I, by this mail, send you those samples of "domphinowatis" that is selling in our market in competition with our pure honey.

No. 1, or the very dark sample, is sold as "California Honey," to one of our leading merchants, and at a fancy price—15 cents per pound, delivered.

No. 2 is sold as "California Strained honey," and is laid down here at prices lower than similar packages of pure ex-

tracted honey could have been purchased in California, or less than 5 cents per pound.

No. 3 is sold by the barrel, and as "White Clover Drips," and I take it to be Glucose, bought in Iowa at $1\frac{1}{2}$ cent per pound, and brightened with Chloride of Zinc.

Each of these samples is put on our market by parties in St. Joseph, Mo.

No. 1 was purchased several years ago, and grows darker as it grows older. No. 2 is warranted not to granulate. No. 3 is warranted to keep several months.

Would like you to give your opinion of No. 1 and No. 2, in the columns of THE QUEEN. As to No. 3, it is left for you to do as you like.

JAMES H. WING.

Syracuse, Kansas.

[The honey (?) received and examined. If No. 1 could be palmed off on a consuming public for honey, at all, we are surprised. It is as dark as common sorghum molasses, and I would just about as soon "sop my biscuit" in North Carolina pine tar. Surely it is a combination of some sweets and chemicals, and it appears to us would be dangerous to eat it. No. 3 seems to be only a fair article of Glucose, or "Corn Syrup," with, possibly $\frac{1}{8}$ pure honey to make it a little sweet. No. 2 is surely the purest of the lot, and has some California, White Sage honey in its make up, without doubt, as we are too well acquainted with California honey to be mistaken. How much, or what per cent is pure

honey, we are not able to tell.

All honest, and well meaning bee-keepers ought to join Mr. Wing, in his efforts to put a stop to this nefarious, dangerous, and health destroying, medicated stuff. It is a shame that such things as this will be tolerated in this enlightened age. THE QUEEN stands ready to play her part, and is willing to go her whole length against such frauds.—E.D.]

CENTRAL TEXAS REPORT.

The Central Texas Bee-keepers' Association met at Milano, on the 1st and 2nd of May, by call of the President. The attendance was small, on account of it not being norated among the bee-keepers throughout the country, and owing to the fact that it was at a bee-keeper's busiest season. There were various subjects discussed, and there were a number of enthusiastic beginners in attendance, who, we believe will make successful bee-keepers, if however, some of their wives, who oppose bee-keeping on the grounds that "daddy had a swarm under the chicken roost for 10 years and never sold a pound of honey," don't discourage them.

The first day of the convention was taken up in vssiting the various apiaries in and around Milano.

The second day was taken up in discussing various subjects connected with apiculture, and the following is a summary of that which most interested us.

Regarding the date of bloom of

the various honey producing plants of our section, it was concluded that Ratan blooms April 1; Horse-mint and Cow-itch, May 20 to June 1, generally about May 20.

To have everything ready for the flow is of paramount importance. For example: Bro. Cairns had one case of sections for each hive when the Ratan flow came on. He soon saw the mistake, and rustled up a few extra supers which he placed under the super which was nearly full; these hives turned off 48 lbs. of nice comb honey, while those that had only one super turned off 24. Mr. Cairns had supplies ordered but they did not arrive in time. All agreed that supplies should be ordered in winter.

C. B. Bankston was asked to give his views on the SUPPLEMENT to the April issue of THE QUEEN, to which he replied as follows:

"This is a thing which does not concern me, but as I am thoroughly acquainted with the circumstances I will not withhold my opinion. I will explain the situation in a few words. If I should come to your house, penniless, and ask your assistance, and you took me in, staked me up, gave me work, treated me as one of your family, showed me all the country you could, then when I got ready to leave your premises I should proceed to talk about and slander you in return for your kindness, you would call me a bruit wouldn't

you? Well, that's just what I'd be, and that explains this case."

The association petitioned Congress to take steps toward securing the Giant bees of India. Also applied to Agricultural Department for a copy of Bulletin No. 1, for each member of the association.

Several subscribers to THE QUEEN were present, and expressed their appreciation of the great work the Atchley Co. is doing for the South.

Convention adjourned, to meet at Cameron, Texas, first Friday and Saturday in August, giving a free invitation to all.

PROGRAM FOR NEXT MEETING.

Essay, by Willie Atchley.

Address, by Judge Terrell.

The importance of the queen bee, by C. B. Bankston.

Comb honey, by E. R. Jones.

The races of bees, by John Cairns.

Question box.

Election of officers.

South Texas and North Texas Associations are cordially invited to meet with us.

E. R. JONES, PRES.

C. B. BANKSTON, COR. SECY.

All who wish to become members, and attend the meetings of the Central Texas Association, will send their names to C. B. Bankston, Chriesman, Texas, and you will receive a copy of the bulletin when it comes. Send stamps to pay postage. Every bee-keeper in Central Texas should join.

JOURNALS REVIEWED.

BY JOHN ORVAL.

Today, about the first I see when I pick up my "Bee-Papers" in search of more light, is "An open letter to the doctor," from Mr. Doolittle.

Stings or no stings, honey or no honey, Doolittle asks some pointed questions. Say, doc, you had all of this year's papers before you, why didn't you turn to page 211 and see what you had said, then you could say to Doolittle "I did or I didn't," or, excuse me please I didn't mean to make that impression, but I've got started and hain't even a rub-lock, but really it is not a very pleasant task to answer that question, is it doc?

Say, Skylark, you everlasting old booger, what do you mean by "jumpin on the pig in the crack?" Doc's got enough to toat just now, without a bird of your caliber gittin onto him too. By the way, Lark, doc. did kind er git his foot into it, didn't he?

Next.

Another Miller bobs up in the Progressive, and gives that Tar Heel feller a lick. Better look out, old North Cairliner is a whizzer when she tries.

Mr. Skaggs' article in the April QUEEN shows him to be a thoroughly theoretical bee man. Bro. Skaggs, did you ever try, well, any thing you mention there? If so, did it prove a success? Then, if you did try it, and it proved O. K., let me ask you: Did you ever try any other plan? It strikes me that the queen you are introducing

wouldn't very much like to be walloped around in so small a vessel as that cup. Why not go out to a barrel of honey and use a spade?

Then comes T. S. Ford, well, no, he didn't mean it—I'll not say what—but, Bro. Ford, you keep on watching, and by and by you will see that bees "sometimes" build combs (without foundation or startes) with two of the sides perpendicular—did I say that kor-rect and spell it korrekctly?

But, gee whiz, I ain't no time to be foolin' away on these old bee-papers no how—the bees won't givs me time. That glorious toone; that sweet tewin; that business tune. Ah! but that means honey. Bee-fever? Who wouldn't have the bee-fever now—I mean honey-fever.

Say, doc., you and Skaggs and Ford and that Progressive Miller kum around and we'll eat honey together, and I won't say narry word to you about what I've writ about.

Convention Meetings for 1896.

Central Texas Bee-keepers' Association.

Meets at Cameron, August 4 and 5 1896. No hotel bills to pay.

C. B. BANKSTON, COR. SECY.
Chriesman, Texas.

S. W. Texas Bee-keepers' Association.

Meets at Beeville, Sept. 16 and 17, 1896. No hotel bills to pay.

J. O. GRIMSLEY, SECY.
Beeville, Texas.

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I can now supply Holyland queens, untested, at \$1.50 each, or 6 for \$8.00. Tested, \$3.00 each, or 6 for \$16.00. Breeders, the very best, \$10.00 each.

Willie Atchley, Beeville, Texas.

DEW DROPS.

THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN comes out with a spick and span new dress (of type). There isn't one of the bee journals has a handsomer "dress" now than has the QUEEN.—Bee-Keepers' Review.

[Thanks, Bro. Hutch.—ED.]

I read your bee notes quite studiously, and take more interest in your present action of bee matters than any other author that I have as yet read after, and have read a great deal. I shall look to you and THE QUEEN as an adviser.

MRS. M. CAMP.

Waitsburg. Wash.

I have learned a great many things from reading THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN all ready; am well pleased with it. We have just heard of a terrible storm in Texas, and we anxiously wait to learn if it reached your place.

E. A. LUNDY.

Pine Orchard, Ontario.

[We are happy to inform you that we were over 400 miles South of the terrible storm spoken of.]

Will say, your QUEEN is a valuable bee paper, and we wish you much success.

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I would not exchange

for any in the world. Am well equipped for the business; give it my personal attention; rear all the queens I sell, and do not intentionally send out any except the best. Those who prefer buying untested queens will find it to their interest to write for descriptive circular and prices, as I have Italianized my neighbors' bees, free of cost, for my own protection, and seldom have a queen mismatch. Diseases among bees are unknown in this section. Try a **Tar Heel Queen**, and if I fail to treat you right, report me. My Money Order office is Warrenton.

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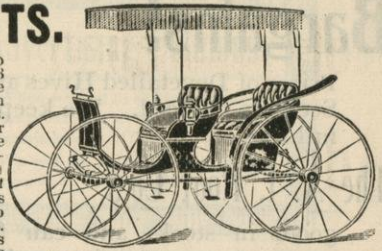
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