

National bee gazette. Vol. 1, No. 3 July, 1892

St. Louis, Missouri: Geo. W. Penn, July, 1892

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National Bee Gazette

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

Geo. W. PENN,

St. Louis, Mo.

VOL. I.



No. 3.



EDITORIAL SPARKS.

I am truly very much pleased to make this announcement to the Bee Keepers, that I have received up to the present time, fully as much patronage as I really expected; and it is very gratifying to me to state to the many readers of THE GAZETTE that the subscription list is daily being lengthened out, and many of the best business houses have already secured valuable space in the BEE GAZ-ETTE. So I should be very much incouraged as to the future prospect of success, and I tender my hearty thanks to the bee keepers for the liberal support they have already so graciously tendered me. And I shall endeavor to give you in return the full value of your money.

The spring months this season have been the most discouraging to the bee-keepers generally that we have experienced for many years, rains and storms and from cool to cold changes, and but very few days favorable for bees to fly or leave their hives at all, but, now the weather has become favorable and nature smiles on the bee-keepers once again. Each one should try to plan the work in all branches connected with the apiary, so as to work to advantage and try to make up for lost time.

Mr. A. N. Draper Upper Alton, Ill. says my bees are in fine condition. I have about 350 colonies.

To any one sending us the small sum of 30cts we will send you for the same the NATIONAL BEE GAZ-ETTE for six months, or the first year at 75 cents. So each and every one can afford to take it. In taking this Journal you will become familiar and posted in all questions of interest pertaining to bee culture, and you will get your money back and ten fold over. Our interest should be as one, and our actions harmonious. To be united means success, you will find it pleasant to converse with one another through the journal and exchange ideas one for another, for in that way you will be enabled to advance much faster.

I am now offering the BEE GAZ-ETTE on 6 months trial so extremely low that every one can take it. Only 30cts for 6 months. Try it and help a good cause along and you will be greatly benefited thereby, tell your neighbor beekeeper to send for it with you.

Before Bee journals were introduced to the public scarcely anything was known about scientific Bee culture, comparitively very few master minds had conceived rational scientific views regarding many of the internal mysteries of the hive. Some had to a certain extent comprehended the physialogical history of the honey bee. but they were very few, and their wisdom was almost smothered out by the ignorant and superstitious ideas of the masses, who still persisted in following their grandfather's ways. The different periodicals or Bee journals published, should certainly have the credit of drawing out and bringing to light the new theories in bee culture, and much progress has been made, and bee culture stands as one of the progressive sciences.

In giving my ideas on the many vital questions that is so closely connected with the science of bee culture, 1 shall not claim or offer any rule which is infallible, or neither do I wish to array myself against the mighty march of progress, that is now constantly involving new and valuable lessons in this our favorite and chosen science, but I hope to be able to drop occassionly a single thought whereby some members of the Fratarnity may be greatly benefited thereby, and if 1 do as much as that, my labors are not in vain, but will result in doing good to alk.

A horse-shoe was nailed over his door, by a St. Louis man for good-luck. A few days later, as the man was entering his home lightning passed through the horse-shoe and knocked him senseless.



COMB FOUNDATION.

G. W. P.

Is comb foundation a necessity with all beekeepers; if we admit its use to be the means of success to the beekeeper that is far advanced in the mysteries of apiculture; then we must admit that it is necessary for the new beginner to use it also, the beginner should not be too extravigant in its use in his first experience, but ionow the auvice and experience of those that are well advanced in bee keeping. and waste but little on experiments unless you can well afford to do so. After many years of use and under almost all varying conditions the advantages of comb foundation in the apiary is generally conceded as a fixed necessity.

We Must admit that there are times when the Bees are slow to work out the foundation but if we will carefully examine we will find that some conditions exists that when changed the bees will at once

go to work and will utilize the ioundation to the great profit and advantage of the bee keeper, someumes it happens that the ioundauon is placed in a hive that contains a weak colony and in time it becomes cold, hard and brittle; and in that case the natural heat of the colony is not sufficient to temper it to such a consistancy that the pees will be able to manipulate and arawitout, and in that condition 1 arways found it payed to take it out and temper it by the sun heat or lamp or any means at nanu, the neat must be even and not enough to melt the wax too much, on ioundation that has been laying around for a year or more should be treated in like manner, it pays to use the very best foundation made from good pure wax and to know just now to use it to good auvantage, always keep it son ahu elastic and if placed in a hive well iilea with workers, weather suliicient warm, and plenty of bloom to geather honey from, is very lavorable conditions to use comb loundation to the best auvantage.

GOOD READING.

J. W. BITTENBENDER.

Friend Bee Keepers:—We have just received a copy of the NATION-AL B_{EE} GAZETTF and we are so well pleased with it after looking it over that we will write to Mr. Penn asking him to issue several thousand extra copies of his next issue and we will agree to furnish him with all of the names and addresses of Bee Keepers in our possession as we feel that it is wise for all bee keepers to take this journal from the beginning and can then refer back at any time. The GA-ZETTE is a well edited journal and is just the right thing for you all to take hold of as you will effectually receive more benefit from a journal just beginning, as you will always be posted on the subjects being published. Mr. Penn has made you a very liberal offer to induce you to begin with only about one-half the regular price, we hear the paper well spoken off everywhere and it is not necessary for us to say more for it, as bee keeping is getting back to its paying points so you will all now feel able to invest in a good journal.

We are somewhat personally acquainted with Mr. Penn as we both done service in the Iowa State Bee Keepers Association and we are able to say of him that he will do what is square and right by you all, for we know that he has always done just what he has agreed to do and we will again say subscribe for this journal and if it does not come up to your expectations just lay the blame to us but we assure you that it will meet all of your expectations and eventually do you all much good.

Knoxville, Iowa.

TRAVELS IN IOWA.

THOS. JOHNSON.

In reply to my article on page 6. Don't Iowa bee keepers rob their bees which is the main cause of their winter loss and slow to build up in the spring, etc. No and if such was the cause I should have said so, the general reason that for the last five years there has been a tremendous drauth and bees hasn't made enough to subsist on, and all bee keepers as a general rule that has got any store in the fall is the ones that have to give them extra store in the spring to stimulate them and especially those in South Guthrie Carroll and North Guthrie Co. had a good honey flow in '91 comparative with South Guthrie and elsewhere. I have written a general travel for the last 3 months for the A. B. J. weekly printed in Chicago by Thos. G. Newman and Son. I believe I will give the bee keepers the cause of spring Dwindling which has never been reached by bee men before if it had it never came in print. Tt. will be found in travels between Mo. Valley and Carroll Iowa.

COON RAPIDS, IOWA.

We did not mean to convey the idea that you were at a loss to know the real cause of the shortage in the honey crop in Iowa for the last few years for I know you are a close observer and your explanation is accepted as correct. —Ed.

WORK TO ADVANTAGE.

Many letters that I am daily receiving from all over the United States speak of the hard days work they have just done in the apiary, and how tired they are, after doing such a hard days work. Now friends I know there is times when we are compelled to do far more work in one day than our physical conditions or strength should admit of, for I have had practical experience all along that line myself; however time and experience demonstrated one important fact to me, namely that I could accomplish three times as much in one day with the same labor, by having everything systematically arranged so as to take the advantage of your work all around; I am well aware that each ones circumstance, and surroundings are somewhat different. So each one in laying out your system of plans to work on, must govern yourself according to your surroundings and circumstances. I believe this is the true rule for us to work on to accomplish more with less labor, by so doing we will last longer and enjoy life better than if we allowed many strains to be placed upon us. A piece of machinery with constant

light usage will last much longer than one that has been put to heavy strains and right here I will say and I hope you will all bear with me in speaking thus, many people are over anxious to become rich. Which has the attendency to stimulate or excite them indoing more labor than their system mentally and physically should do, and sooner or later become broken down, and so in the end they are loosers- Of course there are some that are daily drifting in a channel of labor and business that is almost impossible to extricate themselves from, until it is too late to avoid tne effects of the strain, and again on the other hand there are some that are lacking of a sufficient amount of energy, and so their labor is lacking and the machinery becomes rusty and thereby impaired. I believe in moderation or to be temperate in all things.

Advisers and teachers do not always live up to the rules and principles that they are trying to teach, I for one have partially lived up to the above principles but when I did step over the line lt was by forced circumstances and I am truly thankful that I am preserved in health and appearance as well as what I am.

So all should cultivate a habit of industry but avoid unnecessary strains and exposures. And so it becomes necessary for all that wish to avail themselves of all advantages in their life labors, to obtain knowledge, either by their own experience or by the experience of others, but the cheapest knowledge is by closely watching the experience of others.—Ed.

A STRANGE BEE-HIVE.

Who ever before thought of making a hive out of a jug? Our friend Daniher, of this city, has such a hive in his apiary. He cut, in some way, the bottom off a three gallon jug and fitted braces inside to which the bees attached the combs and he had in it one of the happiest colonies of bees you ever saw. I called in the evening at his home recently, and he went out into his yard and brought the hive (jug) into his parlor and holding it averted before me, I saw the bees clustered upon the combs they had built. They were very quiet and showed little excitement from the unwonted disturbance of their cosy nest.

Finale: Sad it is to relate. A few days ago, a crowd of Italian robbers; too fond of the jug, pounced upon the non-descriptive hive and cleaned it out. They were in the midst of their spree when the bee-master appeared on the scene, gathered up the jug and took it, robbers and all, to his cellar and imprisoned them. The moral to be considered by all is, don't be tempted by the jug.—Wisconsin Farmer.

BEE-KEEPING IN COLORADO, IOWA AND WISCONSIN.

C. W. DAYTON.

Hearing much about Colorado as a bee and honey country, about the middle of April I sold my apiary in Wisconsin and came to work in an apiary this summer in contemplation of moving my Iowa apiary here by another season.

Having been here, now, a little more than a month, and as we are nearing the honey harvest, I can begin to look back over the records of the colonies and see how they compare with those of Iowa and Wisconsin.

First, Coloradoans claim that they can winter the bees well outof-doors, in single-walled hives. That is a fact. They nearly all do But they are doing the same, too, in Iowa and Wisconsin, these easy winters. We have had so many easy winters lately, that they have the colonies on the summer stands more and more. I remember in 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, and 1881, they did just that way, too -let the bees remain on the summer stands. One bee-keeper had one colony left out of 137: another 3 out of 60; another 60 out of 170; another none out of 20, and so on. The next winter the bees all went into the cellar in hot haste, every last bee went into the cellar, or a big chaff hive.

Now it looks as if we were liable as ever to experience a winter that is no joke to the bee-man, but a big joke for old Borealis to play.

It was described in one of the March numbers of the American Bee Journal how I winter my bees in a special repository where the temperature was at 62 degrees. These colonies were put out on April 16, and were apparently as populous as when put into winter quarters. Most of them crowded every space in 8-frame Langstroth hives.

The colonies which were wintered indoors were almost entirely without brood-not more than 3 square inches in any hive. Very few colonies wintered out ofdoors had a patch of brood half as large as my hand on April 15. That has been the condition of my colonies right along one winter after another in Iowa and Wisconsin. Here I give a table showing the amount in 52 colonies on the different dates in Colorado. That the amount of honey that is gathered is directly dependent upon the amount of brood the colonies have about 20 days before the harvest begins, is remembered.

No. ef Colony on Register.	No. Frame Mar 5.	es Brood. May 27.	Kind of Hive fer Winter.
104	2	4	Single Wall
105	1	4	Chaff
106	2	4	Single Wall
107	2	3	Single Wall
108	3	7	Chaff

109	3	4	Single Wall
110	2	5	Chaff
111	2	4	Chaff
112	3	4	Chaff
113	3	5	Single Wall
114	3	5	Chaff
115	2	2	Single Wall
116	2	4	Chaff
117	2	6	Chaff
118	3	5	Single Wall
119	3	4	Single Wall
120	4	5	Single Wall
121	3	4	Chaff
122	3	4	Single Wall
123	3	5	Single Wall
124	0	0	Single, dead
125	3	4	Chaff
126	3	4	Single Wall
127	2	3	Chaff
128	0	0	Single, dead

The table shows that the eleven colonies in chaff hives contain 50 combs of brood, and the 14 colonies in single-walled hives have the same number indicating that the chaff hives are rather the best for winter and spring in Colorado. The live colonies average a little over 4 combs of brood each at this date. My old rule, and a rule I have followed out in Iowa and Wisconsin for years, is to have the colonies average from 6 to 7 combs of brood from May 20 to 25. Only one season in the last ten have they failed to average 61 combs of brood on May 25, and that was pronounced a very late spring.

The honey harvest here opens on June 15 to 20, the same time as in Iowa on the 43rd parallel; and those colonies which have 6 combs of brood on May 25, are able to take good advantage of it. If a colony has more brood than that, they are reduced to help weaker colonies; and if a colony had only 5 combs of brood on May 25, then the honey harvest was a few days ahead of them. What the outcome will be I cannot say, but, if the harvest comes on time, the bees are from one to two combs of brood below what they should be.

In Colorado the honey is nearly all from alfalfa—a plant very much resembling clover, but larger in growth, and it is said to yield honey for about 40 to 60 days, white clover and basswood seldom last over 20 days. With so long a harvest even weak colonies should have time to build up to the best strength, and do good work for a month or more.

Basswood and clover often yields at the rate of 10 to 16 pounds of honey per colony per day. The harvest being so short, and there usually being several cloudy days during the harvest, prevented our getting a very large yeild, and one year there were barely seven days from spring until fall, when the bees laid up a surplus of honey. Still, in that short space of time my colonies harvested an average of nearly 70 pounds of extracted honey per colony. In order to do it the colonies had to be up and doing the first day the yield of honey came. Here, with this probable lengthy honey-flow, it seems

to me that the yeild per day must be rather light, or we would hear of some astonishing reports from the State.

Every one here says this has been an unusually cold spring. I have heard that (I was going to say) one thousand times. I have heard it so much that it has become a veritable "chestnut."

The best way to make the spring early is to make the beehives warmer, and to give the stimulating food. some bees There is very little if any honey to gather here before the alfalfa blooms; also a great scarcity of pellen to encourage brood-rearing until cottonwood blooms. I saw the bees so eager to gather pollen about April 27, that they would pay little attention to honey, and would not rob. This never happens in Iowa or Wisconsin There is not enough to assist in supporting the pollen theory. yet many colonies have diarrhoea, as I have noticed.

What is most noticeable in springing becs in Colorado, amount of the large is all through March and brood April, and which does not increase very rapidly until May 15, The cause of this is, or later. that it is very warm when thesun shines, and very cold when it does not shine, and there are many sunshiny days all through

the winter.

These warm days thoroughly arouse the bees like mid-summer, and starts them to breeding very early; then comes the cold nights and days that checks brood-rearing; then the warmth again; so that the wear and tear on the old bees is so great that strong colonies on March 1, got weaker and weaker until sometime in May, when the warmth helps them to increase again.

But unlike Iowa and Wisconsin the old bees which go into winter quarters in the fall are entirely gone by May, if not in April, and the colony then consists of few newly-reared bees not worn by labor or age, and which may live to rear brood and help gather honey. When a colony consists of these young bees it becomes very tenacious to life; and in cases of weak calonies they may become very weak and still keep up their courage, and not dwindle away like the colonies of old bees do in Iowa But the cold nights and cloudy days, (which are always cold) seem to continue so late in the spring that the colonies do not have time to build up before the alfalfa is in bloom.

This continual breeding takes large amounts of stores—probably about 50 to 60 lbs. to last from one honey harvest to the next; and with all this consumption of stores and labor by the old bees, the colonies all through February, March, and April continue to get a little weaker, showing that it costs the life of more than one old bee. besides the honey consumed, to rear a young bee; and that if the old bees can be made to live until warm weather without rearing brood. it is by far the most economical plan.

In April the colonies are the smallest, and build up like weak colonies, but the vitality of the bees being of the very best, they are able to do considerably more than the same number of the old bees would do in Iowa or Wisconsin,

When the colonies are put out in Iowa, and the weather warm, the hive being crowded with old bees, the queen will have 4 to 6 combs nearly full of eggs and brood in 10 to 20 days. When the old bees die it is by thousands; as when the brood begins to hatch that goes by thousands, and the places of the old bees are more than supplied at once.

Although Colorado is a very large state, good locations for apiaries are very scarce. Fourfifths of the country would not support bees at all, because alfalfa does not grow everywhere It is not raised nearly as much as it might be, and never will spread all over the state like clover in Iowa and Wisconsin. All crops depend upon irrigation with the snow-water that comes from the mountain³, and which quantity can supply only a limited amount of land situated near by; and it is only along these irrigation ditches in certain and favored spots where bees thrive; just about like basswood ranges in Iowa; but it does not compare with the basswood of Wisconsin, nor the white any of these clover of The color and flavor of states. alfalfa honey is about the same as basswood, and Luzerne apiary took nine tons of it as last year's crop, one-half in the comb, with 30 or 40 per cent. increase of colonies.

Alfalfa is practically the only honey producer here, and this apiary as far as I can learn, is the best equipped in the state. Over 100 of the new Hodden hives are in use, and its proprietor has purchased the exclusive right of that hive for Weld county.

The average per colony is about the same as in Iowa, as some who keep bees get very little honey in any season.

There is good prospects of sweet clover becoming, in time. a help to the bee-keeper, there being small patches of it started here and there.

One great drawback in the beebusiness is the lack of market for the honey, and consequent heavy shipping expences, which amounts to about 20 pounds per colony, and would bring the colony average of 80 pounds here, to the 60 pounds which I obtained in Wisconsin last year-

Greeley, Colo., June 3, 1892.

HOW MANY COLONIES OF BEES TO KEEP IN ONE APIARY.

M. H. DE WITT.

The number of colonies of bees that can be profitably kept in one locality is limited by the amount of pasturage. Of late years, quite a number of bee-keepers have established one or more out apiaries, for the sake of keeping more bees than the home yard will support. Just how many bees can be supported in a single locality has probably never been ascertained, and it is just as probable that it never will. One field may support five times as many as another, and the same field may support five times as many this year as last. Most bee-keepers, however, think it not advisable to keep more than 75 to 100 in one apiary, whilst a few think their locations so good that 200 or more can be profitably kept together. The man who has only a few more colonies than he thinks best to keep in one apiary may find it better to have his bees just a little crowded at home before he goes to the extra expense of an out apiary. Indeed, it depends somewhat upon the man, whether, having been successful with one apiary, he will ind any profit in the second apiary. But having gone so far as to have one or more apiaries away from home, it is

not best for him to have any crowding in the least. If 100 colnies will do well in each apiary, the probability is that 75 will do a great deal better; and that while there is unoccupied territory all about him he would better keep on the safe side and have so few in each place as to feel sure of no overstocking. His own convenience would have much to do in deciding. For instance, if he has, in all 300 colonies, and thinks that 100 can find enough to do in a place, but can get through the work of only 75 in a day, then he will keep 300 in four apiaries of 75 each, rather than in 3 apiaries of one hundred each. For it will make less travel to have in each apiary just what he will do in a days work. If he can do fifty in a day, then he may just as will have one hundred in two apiaries ac in one, for in either case he must make two trips to get through with them.

RENT FOR OUT 'APIARIES.

M. H. DE WITT.

The agreement between the beekeeper and his landlord. for rent, is as varied as the cases that occur. Some pay a fixed sum, five or ten dollars per year; some agree to pay a per cent of the crop; some make a bargain to pay so much for every swarm hived by some of the landlord's family, and so on, while some can not get the landlord to agree to take any rent whatever. In this latter case it is only right to make sure that the landlord has a good supply of honey for his family to use during the coming year. In any case, make sure to do a little better than is expected of you, and you are not apt to have any bother with the landlord in regard to the rent and you will get along on friendly terms and have kindly feelings towards each other.

Sang Run, Garrett County, Md.

St. Louis has a Market Square that will well repay any one visiting this busy city to see, it is located between 5th and 6th, and Morgan and Lucas Ave., it covers an entire block, just at the present time it is a grand sight to see the Fruits and Berries. Pineapples, Apricots, Peaches, Plumbs, Apples, Cherries, Currants, Straw-Berries, Mellons and most all kind of fruit from diffierent parts of the world. It is surprising how cheap they sell at. The market is run in departments, such as cheese butter and honey are kept at one place, the next perhaps all berries and so on, and you will find many things you would never think of until you go and see them. Visitors should not fail to visit it.

Send 30 cents for 6 month trial.

WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION

Special Rules and Information Governing the Exhibit of

BEES, HONEY, BEESWAX BEE APPLIANCES.

1. Exhibits of of Honey will be classified as follows: Class 1. Clover and Basswood. Class 2. White sage. Class 3. Buckwheat. Class 4. A light honey, other than enumerated in Classes 1 and 2 Class 5. All dark honey, other than enumerated in Class 3.

2. Exhibits of Honey produced during 1892, or earlier, must be in place on or before April 20th, 1893.

3. Exhibits of Honey in classes 1. 2 and 4. produced during 1893, will be re-ceived between July 15th and August 15th; and in Classes 3 and 5 between August 15th and September 1st, 1893.

4. The following information should accompany each exhibit.

a. Kind of Honey. b. Name of Exhibitor. c place where produced. d. Character of soil in locality where produced. e. Variety of Bee. f. Name of plant from which honey was produced. g. Yield per colony. h. Average price of product at nearest home market.

5. In order to secure a uniform, handsome and economical installation of honey and beeswax, the Exposition will erect suitable glass cases, of a uniform cahracter, in which such exhibits will be made, the cost of these cases to be borne by different State Commissions, Bee Keepers' Association, or by individual exhibitors, in proportion to the number of lineal feet occupied. These cases will become the property of such exhibitors at the close of the Expositiou. The following is an illustration of the proposed cases.



The dimensions are as follows: Height of base 18 inches, width of case 5 feet, height of case above base (inside measure) 6 feet, total height 8 feet. The case has sliding doors on both sides.

6. Individual exhibits of comb honey will be limited to 100 pounds, subject to the approval of the Chief of the Department.

7. Individual exhibits of extracted Honey must be made in glass, and must exceed 50 pounds.

8. Individual exhibits of beeswax must not exceed 50 pounds, and should be prepared in such a manner as will add to the attractiveness of the exhibit.

9. Exhibits of primitive and modern appliances used in bee culture, both in this country and abroad, will be received, subject to the approval of the Chief of the Department.

10. Special arrangements will be made by the Chief of the Department for a limited exhibit of bees.

11. Collections of honey-producing plants, suitably mounted and labeled, will be accepted if satisfactory to the Chief of the Department.

12. The right is reserved to add to, amend or interrupt the above rules.

Signed, W. I. BUCHANAN, Chief, Department of Agriculture.

Approved, GEORGE R. DAVIS, Director-General.



FLOWERS AND FRUIT.

Wisconsin will expend \$3000 upon its horticultural exhibit. Cranberry culture will be made especially prominent.

Miss F. Butler is chosen by the California commission to collect and arrange studies of the natural flowers of California, is constantly at work. She expects to furnish for exhibition at Chicago, studies of 600 wild flowers and grasses in both oil and water colors.

A California "big tree" has been selected in Tulare county to be exhibited al the exposition. A committee of the board of trade, after an extended tour of inspection, picked out a tree measuring 87 feet 9 inches in circumference at the base, and at 85 feet above ground, 65 feet. The "Wooded Island" in the exposition grounds is beginning to assume the character which in great part it will have during the fair—that of a gigantic flower garden. Already the Floricultural Department has received 27000 rose bushes and other plants, several thousand of which came from abroad, these are all being transplanted on the Island —Rural Californiaġ.

From the Royal Nursesies for Ireland, John Thorpe of the Bureau of Floriculture has received information that two cases containing 1550 plants have been shipped to the worlds fair. The announcement came through Alexander Dixon & Co., who maintain the nurseries. Mr. Thorpe believes that his Floral display will eclipse anything of the kind that the world has ever seen.

The ground surrounding the France building at the exposition, will be decorated by Vilmoran, who is the most noted florist in France and at the head of the largest seed house in the world. Vilmorin has made fine floral displays at all of the World's Fairs for twenty-five years or more, and it is reported that he is now planning to outdo all previous efforts. His floral exhibit is expected to be the grandest dispay of flowers ever seen on the globe.



In men, whom men denounce as III, I see so much of goodness still, In men, whom men pronounce divine, I see so much of Sin and Blot; I hesitate to draw the Line, Between the two, where God has not. JOAQUIN MILLER.

READY READING.

STATE FAIRS

Montreal Exposition—At Montreal, Sept. 15-23; S. C. Stevenson, Sec'y, Montreal, Can.

Canada's Industrial Fair—At Toronto, Sept. 5-17; H. J. Hill, Sec'y, Toronto.

Western Fair Ass'n—At London, Ont., Sept. 11-24; Thos. A. Browne, Sec'y, London, Ont.

Illinois State Fair—At Peoria, Sept. 26-30; W. C. Garrard, Sec'y Springfield, Ill.

Iowa State Fair—At Des Moines Aug. 26 to Sep. 2; John R. Shaffer, Sec'y, Des Moines. Kansas State Fair—At Topeka, Kas., Sept. 9-17; L. H. Pounds, Sec'y, Topeka.

Michigan State Fair—At Lansing, Sept. 12-16; I. H. Butterfield, Sec'y, Lansing, Mich.

Minnesota State Fair—At Hamline, Sept. 5-10; W. F. Cross, Sec'y, Hamline, Minn.

Missouri State Frir—At Sedalia, Aug. 15-20; A. L. Burr, Sec'y, Sedalia.

Montana State Fair—At Helena, Aug. 13-20; Francis Pope, Sec'y, Helena, Mont.

Nebraska State Fair—At Lincoln, Sept. 5-9; Robt. W. Furnas, Sec'y, Brownville.

New York State Fair—At Syracuse, Sept. 8-15; W. Judson Smith See'y, Albany, N. Y.

West Virginia Exposition—At Wheeling, W. V., Sept. 5-9; Geo. S. Otte, Sec'y, Wheeling, W. V.

Milwaukee Industrial Exposition—At Milwaukee, Aug. 31 to Oct. 15; A. Trumpff; Milwaukee.

PARSEE SUN - WORSHIPERS.

The Parsee, untrammeled by his surroundings, is seen in Bombay in all his wealth of height and dress. The men are, without exception, tall, finely formed and stately, and possess a robustness and beauty quite at contrast with their Hindoo neighbors.

Their street costume is a peculiar long white cotton gown, wide trousers of the same material and color and a tall miter-shaped hat. They have a general reputation for sobriety, frugality and sagacity, and they seem to thoroughly understand the accumulation of fortunes, in this respect resembling the Hebrews. The wealthiest residents of Bombay are Parsees.

These singular people are sunworshippers, and it is an interesting sight to see throngs of them on the shore of the bay as the sun rises, apparently from the sea, performing the simple rites of their religion, the fluttering robes showing their fine figures to the best advantage s the day begins. Their religious practices are simple in the extreme, consisting mainly in strict dietary rules and and personal cleanliness.

The rigid observance of sanitary laws produces the natural result of perfect health among the adults, large families of active, healthy children and immense numbers of old men, gray - bearded, whitehaired, but erect and princely in their gate and attitude, despite the naturally enervating character of the tropical climate.

A notice of the Parsee is not complete without a reference to his singular manner of disposing of his dead.

As soon as life is extinct a funeral sermon is delivered by a priest of Zoroaster, in which the deceased is made the subject of an exhortation to his relatives and friends to live pure, holy and righteous lives, so that they may have a strong hope, a certainty of meeting again in paradise. A dog is brought to take a last look at his dead master to drive away the spirit of evil which is at that time hovering around to get possession of the soul, while a number of priests attend and repeat prayers for the repose of the soul of the brother gone before.

Following these ceremonies the body is borne from the house, followed by a procession of men and taken to the celebrated "Towers of Silence."

These towers are erected on the rocky crest of Malabar Hill, from whence a magnificent view of the city, sea and bay is had, surrounded by a grove of fine palms and other tropical trees filled with multitudes of the sacred vulture. The towers are built of a white stone, and are about 25 feet high, with a small door in the side for the entrance of the body. The interior is divided into three circular, divided into numerous small rooms, the inner circle being for the bodies of children, the middle circle for women and the outer one for men.

When a corpse is brought to the tower by the relatives it is at once placed in one of the compartments, and the immense numbers of vultures perched in the vicinity at once began their horrible feast, and in an incredibly short space of time nothing but bones are left, which in turn are denuded of any particle of flesh and muscle by flocks of ravens, which fly to the feasts after the vultures have departed.

The bones fall through a grating into a pit beneath, whence they are, at the end of a few days, generally three, gathered into a mortuary chamber prepared for their reception. The native name for these towers is "kahkma."

Many Parsees have founded beneficial and charitable institutions and several have been knighted for services rendered the English Government.

The costumes, or at times the lack of costumes, makes a neverfailing source of interest in the native town. Hindoos form the largest portion of the inhabitants and are noticeable for their somewhat diminutive stature. delicate features and darkbrown color. Their children swarm in all directions, utterly devoid of clothing, their mahogany-brown limbs as round and as perfect as little bronze Among the Hindoos of statutes. Bombay only the wealthier class wear more than an apology for clothes, although girls not older than ten years may be seen with the simple flowing garments which are so graceful and so admirably fitted to the climate. The cries of

the venders, the strange sights and sounds go to make up one of the most picturesque and interesting experiences to be met with any where in the East.

The men among the Hindoos of Bombay are by all odds handsomer than the women, the fashion among the latter of wearing in the left nostril a huge hoop of silver adorned with precious stones not tending to enhance the modicum of beauty they already possess. This ring is often so large that the mouth and chin are covered by it. The married women also chew the leaves of the betel palm, and so their teeth and lips are stained a vivid and disagreeable yellow.

Caste, that strong divider of class, is indicated on the women by stripes, of various colors on the forehead. Their arms, which are mostly bear, are fancifully tatood, and their toes and ankles are ornamented with silver bangles and rings. This latter ornamentation is shared by both sexes. In downright ugliness many of these women approach closely an American Indian squaw.

\$150 CABBAGES.

The Hillside (Michigan) Fair will give this year for the three largest and best cabbages on exhibition there \$100 and \$50 to second. These we believe, are the largest vegetable prize ever offered in America. This fair also offers \$40 to the best five varieties of apples for dessert and also the best five varieties for cooking.

The above and other premiums offered by this popular society are open to the world for competition. Entries will close Sept. 27th. Fair Oct. 3, 4, 5 6 and 7, 1892.

NEEDLE-AND-THREAD TREE.

That there are more wonders on the earth, in the sea, "beneath the earth," and in the sky above it than ever Horatio imagined is a well-known fact which that worthy's most ardent admirers will not attempt to deny.

Take, for instance, the famous needle-and-thread tree. Imagine such a luxury and the delights of going out to your tree and plucking a needle thread for use! Odd as it may seem to us, there is, on the Mexican plains, just such a forest growth.

The "tree" may not exactly be a tree in the true sense of the word, partaking as it does more of the nature and characteristics of a gigantic special of asparagus. It has large, thick, fleshy leaves, such as would remind one of the cactus, especially of the one popularly known as the "prickly pear."

The "needles of the needle-andthread tree are set along the edges of these thick, fleshy leaves. In order to obtain one fully equipped for sewing it is only necessary to push the needle gently backward into the fleshy sheath (this to loosen it from the tough outside covering of the leaf), and then pull it gently from the socket. If this operation be properly carried out one hundred or more fine fiber adhere to the thorn like so many spider webs, says the Phila. delphia Press.

By twisting the "needle" during the drawing operation the thread can be made of any length desired. The action of the air on the fibres toughens them amazingly, a thread from it no larger than common No. 40. being capable of sustaining a weight of five pounds about three times the tensile strength of common "sixt cord" spool cotton.

POULTRY ITEMS.

Is your chicken house whitewashed.

Lookout for mites in the nests of the setting hens Many eggs are lost by the hens leaving their nests because so many mites make her nest such a place she cannot stay there.

If you feed corn meal make it part oat meal and then scald with boiling water, or better still, bake it in a nice Johnny cake.

Don't let your hens go without fresh water. Drinking out of the barn yard or from every pool causes disease.

Keep those early turkeys out of the wet grass mornings and see that they are fed; as there are few insects now to feed them on.

Let the young goslins have all the grass they want. You will be surprised at how they grow.

Hunt your eggs good boys or some day there will come in a nest of spoiled ones.

FARMER' WIFE.

THE ADVANTAGES OF CLEANLINESS.

What so rare as a thoroughly clean human being? And yet could all the advantages arising from cleanliness be fully understood there would no doubt be greater efforts made to keep clean. Many persons boast of their cleanly habits, when in fact they are filthy. Place a magnifying glass near the skin and in ninety nine cases out of a hundred masses of filth will be seen blocking up the pores and occupying the folds and depressions. And this, too, when there is supposed cleanliess. Many people pride themselves because they take a bath once a week. This is a miserable inadequacy. No person is clean who does not bathe oftener than once a week. And millions of human beings content them-

selves with a more or less imperfect washing of the face and hands once a day. Other millions rarely touch soap and water. It would require a volume to properly tell the gospel of cleanliness. Increased beauty, health, vigor, selfrespect and peculiar feeling of delight which a spirit must feel when it has cast off a foul, diseased body are caused by perfect cleanliness. Surgeons have half learned the lesson of cleanliness. In this they are in advance of physicians. Surgery has during the last 15 years made immense progress, and the cause may be summed up in one word-cleanliness. Still the surgeon keeps only the wound and its immediate neighborhood clean. When the whole body is subject to the cleansing process the progress will be proportionately greater. The command, "To wash in the Jordan," showed a more profound knowledge of disease and a keener appreciation of the therapeutic value of cleanliness than is exhibted by many a learned physician . of to-day .- St. Louis Magazine.

\$1,200.000 hotel will soon be built at St. Louis, Mo.

Resolutions were recently introduced in the Detroit City Council to tax Canadian laborers who come into the city to work, \$10 annually, and doctors, lawyers and business men \$50 annually.



DIAMOND PICKUPS.

An ounce of slander requires a ton of cure.

Unhappy poverty is not so bad as unhappy wealth.

No one was ever an angle by simply wanting to be one.

Any sin is disgusting when you hear of another man committing it.

Life isn't worth the living if you are living only for the money you can make.

Money is a good thing to have if you have character and purpose to use it rightly.

Don't forget to put a handful of oat meal in your drinking water during warm weather.

If you want to assist the weather in keeping your blood up to boiling heat, eat plenty of fat pork.

If people are not aware that you are a good man don't tell them you are. I am afraid it wouldn't be the truth. The queen of England never goes to bed before midnight.

The greatest achievement possible to man is the building of a character that will stand the test of an omniscient searching.

Every country merchant will agree that the hardest customers to please are the women who bring bad eggs to the store.

The man who pays his debts simply because he is forced to, is not worthy to be trusted, because he is not an honest man.

A man who consumes his very life-blood in a grasping desire to get more than he needs usually gets what he earns—an unhappy life and an unmourned death.

Eastern window-glass manufacturers have approved the action of the Western Manufacturers' Association which decided to shut down all factories June 31.

Assistant Secretary Wharton has denied a report that it was the purpose of the United States Government gradually to cease the diplomatic relations with the government of Chili,

If you can make some unfortunate one happy without getting happ yover it yourself, I should like for you to send me your address for you are a phenomenon.



ITEMS OF INTEREST.

If you want the best tomatoes keep the vines off the ground.

It is never advisable to disturb strawberry roots by giving late cultivation.

The soil around the plants should not be allowed to become baked.

For bark lice scrape the trees and then carefully whitwash them.

Generally the red raspberry sells better than the black, and at better prices.

Over-feeding is just as bad for a horse that works hard as underfeeding.

There is a "happy medium" which should be sought and care-fully followed.

Corn is too heating for a horse that has to work hard in the warm days of spring.

A good chop is better still if fed once or twice a day. — National Stockman.

It is always best to be well prepared to handle the fruit crop as fast as it ripens, in order to avoid waste.

One pound of evaporated fruit represents about one gallon of apples before they are pared or sliced.

Put yourself in a horse's place in your imagination for a while and you will readily see why you should treat him better.

If you want to know how a horse feels without bedding in his stall try sleeping on the hard floor in the corner of the room.

There must be a healthy, thrifty growth of the tree and a good bearing and good keeping to make apple growing profitable.

Where a branch is removed the cutting should be close, leaving no stub; and be as nearly perpendicular as possible.

If not already nearly done in all cases it will pay to thin the fruit in all pair trees and especially those that are heavily loaded. The fruit will grow to a larger size and be of a better quality.

If the tent caterpiller makes its appearance in any of the trees in the orchard it will pay to cut off all of the infested limbs and leaves. Thorough work is necessary if the pest is gotten rid of.

A very good plan of management with raspberries and blackberries is to cut out all of the old canes as soon as they are done fruiting, as in this way a better opportudity is afforded for the new canes to grow.

As Others See Us.

Editor National Bee Gazette.

The initial number of National Bee Gazette is on my desk. It is the largest and brightest baby I have seen. The old adage runs that we must crawl before we walk. But I think N.-B.-G. starts out walking. It is bright, spicy and well gotton up, and speaks well for the editor. Success to you and N. B. G. is the wishes of a friend. Jennie Atchley.

Editor National Bee Gazette.

Like the appearance of National Bee Gazette and wish you much success. G. M. Doolittle.

Editor National Bee Gazette.

We have received the first number of the National Bee Gazette. We find it a very readable paper and like its appearance very much.

J. W. Rouse & Co.

Mexico, Mo.

Editor National Bee Gazette.

Dear Sir—I received a copy of the National Bee Gazette. You certainly come out with a welledited clean sheet to begin with, and I wish you success.

Geo. E. Hilton.

Fremont, Mich.

Editor National Bee Gazette.

The Wisconsin Farmer wishes well to this new candidate for Apiacultural honors and trusts that the sparks that sparkle from the pen of Editor Penn may enlighten the world in general and the Bee-Keepers of Missouri in particular and hopes too that the Gazette may produce much honey which its readers is expected will duly extract. It is printed on good white paper, with large elear type.

Editor National Bee Gazette.

Dear Sir — The National Bee Gazette is to hand and we like it very much and think all Bee-Keepers should take it.

J. W. Bittenbender. Knoxville, Iowa.

Editor National Bee Gazette.

Your first invoice of your National Bee Gazette is at hand and we must say that it is a good production.

Levering Bros.

Wiota, Iowa.

Editor National Bee Gazette.

Dear Sir — Your sample copy of the National Bee Gazette is to hand, and we must compliment you on the good appearance of your first issue, we wish the paper success, and we will be pleased to keep it on file in our office.

Respectfully,

F. T. Fish,

General Commission Merchant. Chicago, Ill. Editor National Bee Gazette.

We judge from the appearance and get-up of the National Bee Gazette that you are on the right road to success.

John Nebel & Son. High Hill, Mo.

Editor National Bee Gazette.

Dear Sir—I am in receipt of your initial number of the National Bee Gazette. Its form and style both typographically and artistically are par excellence. Bee journals as a rule have not been patronized as they should be. Yours ought to succeed if the first number is a fair sample (and no doubt it will be) of what is to follow. Respectfully,

Joseph Pond.

Attleboro, Mass.

Agriculture College, Mich., May 26. Editor National Bee Gazette.

My Dear Sir—I wish to congratulate you on your bold venture. Your Gazette is really a fine paper. I predict success. A. J. Cook.

Editor National Bee Gazette.

The first number of the National Bee Gazette, published at St. Louis, Mo., by Geo. W. Penn, comes out neatly printed and very nicely bound in magazine form with a tinted cover. *Gleanings* extends its right hand of welcome. From Colfax Motor.

George W. Penn, formerly of this place, has blossomed out at St. Louis, Mo., as a full fledged editor and publisher. "The National Bee Gazette" is his graft. As its name indicates it is "devoted to bee culture, home and farm interests," and is issued once a month. Mr. Penn has good ideas and is a ready and forcible writer. but his publication shows that his copy needs revising before going to the printer. The Gazette is a twenty-eight page pamphlet, and the subscription price is \$1 per year. Address G. W. Penn, 915 Locust street, St. Louis, Mo. .

CATALOGUES RECEIVED.

I have received and have now in my office on file, circulars, catalogues and price lists as follows:

Mrs. Jennie Atchley, Floyd, Tex., catalogues and price list of 1892.

J. W. Bittenbender, Knoxville, Iowa, finely illustrated catalogue of Bee-Keepers Supplies in the West. Wholesale and retail.

Walter S. Ponder, Indianapolis, Ind., Bee Keepers Supplies, dealer in bees and queens.

Chas. Duvall, Spencerville, Md., Golden Italian Bees and queens.

Levering Bros., Wiota, Iowa, Bee Keepers Supplies. F. C. Morrow, Wallerburg, Ark., Italian Golden Bees and Queens.

Chas. Dadant & Son, Hamilton, Ill., Foundation Factory, Bee Keepers Supplies of all kinds.

W. H. Laws, Lavaca, Ark., Italian Queens, Bees, full Colonies, &c.

J. Van Deusen & Son, Sprout Brook, N. Y., Circular and price list Comb Foundatiou, Patent Wired, and thin flat bottom, wholesale and retail.

Geo. E. Hilton, Fremont, Mich., Catalogue and price list of Apiarian Supplies.

Leininger, Bros., Fort Jennings, O., Improved Italian Queens.

BEE-KEEPERS CONVENTION.

North American Bee-Keepers Association — President, Eugene Secor, Forest City, Iowa; Secretary, W. Z. Hutchinson, Flint, Mich.

National Bee Keepers Union— President, James Heddon Dowrgac, Mich; Secretary and Manager, T. G. Newman, Chicago.

Nebraska Bee-Keepers Association — President, E. Whitcomb, Friend, Neb.; Secretary, L. D. Stilson, York, Neb. Next meeting at Lincoln, Neb. Sept. 7 and 8 1892.

August 17—Wabash Valley at Vincennes, Ind ; Secretary, Frank Vawter, Vincennes. Ind. August 27—At South Cayuga, Ont.; Secretary, E. C. Campbell, Cayuga, Ont.

Oct. 7—Utah, at Salt Lake City, Utah; Secretary, John C. Swarner, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Jan. 13-14, 1893. S. W. Wisconsin, at Boscobel, Wis.

Secretaries of all Bee-Keepers Associations and Conventions please forward to this office the name of place and date of your meetings. [Ed.

We acknowledge the receipt of the following books :

- Amateur Bee Keeping by J. W. Rouse, Mexico, Mo
- The Busy Bees & How to Manage Them by Walter S. Pouder, Indianapolis, Ind.
- How I Produce Comb Honey by Geo. E. Hilton, Fremont, Mich.

When yon answer any of the advertisements, do not fail to mention that you saw it in the NA-TIONAL BEEGAZETTE.

Notice. PLEASE SEND FOR Estimates on Printing, as we have first-class facilities for doing JobPrinting, Cards, Dodgers, Letter-heads, Envelopes, Journals, and Books Printed and neatly bound. Cards neatly gotten up with your name, address and business.

GEO. W. PENN, Lock Box Office 915 Locust St, 558. St. Louis, Mo

J. Van Deusen & Sons,

SPROUT BROOK, Mont. Co., New York.

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