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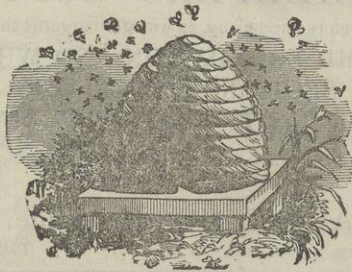
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MARCH, 1888.

THE

# BEEHIVE

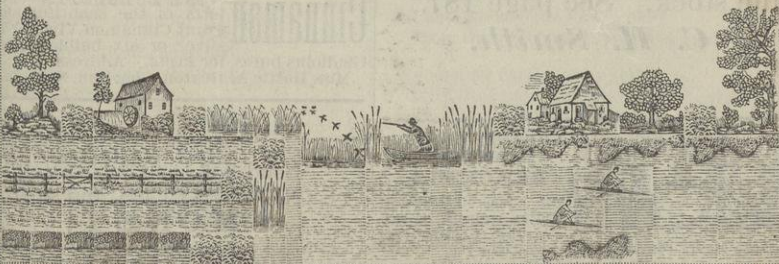


PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

— EDITED BY —

E. H. COOK,

ANDOVER, CONN.



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# THE BEE-HIVE.

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PUBLISHED FOR AND IN THE INTEREST OF BEE-KEEPERS, BY ONE OF THEM.

VOL. 2.

ANDOVER, CONN., MARCH, 1888.

NO. 12

Written for the Bee-Hive.

**A BEE'S SOLILOQUY.**

BY JOHN JAMIESON.

(CONCLUDED.)

Five shiny eyes and hairy tongue,  
To see, and gather sweets among  
The aromatic woods and dells,  
And store the honey in our cells.

I wish the spring were here again  
When I could roam the flowery plain  
And flutter here and there all over,  
To find the fragrant, luscious clover.

Our wings are oft like tatter'd rags,  
From carrying home our loaded bags;  
We labor on, from day to day,  
And never think of rest or play.

If beemen exercise no care  
In spring there won't be many there;  
This business wants some close attention,  
The things to do I need not mention.

The dysentery and foul brood,  
Put beemen in a horrid mood.  
We oft build castles in the air,  
And bees and beemen have their share.

I tried to climb Parnassus Hill,  
I took ten steps and then stood still,  
I sipp'd a pint of Poets' Mead,  
But soon began to feel more need.

A word of English I can't read,  
Close observation serves instead:  
No one can tell how we do hear,  
Yet we get news from far and near.

Many, no doubt, think me unconvil,  
But blurt it out and "shame the Devil."  
The power of organization,  
Help me to make my revelation.

I've got the Roman-Yankee grit,  
The best that's been discovered yet;  
Officious Meddler I'll be named,  
And of my talk should be ashamed.

Next spring some day, all tir'd and done  
With gathering nectar in the sun:

I'll drop right down upon the way,  
And care no more how much they say.

Poor things we all join in the race  
To store up food, prolong our race,  
And very soon we pass away,  
Make room for more awhile to stay.

Some say Italians sip more honey  
And make our masters lots of money:  
That may be so; but the last season  
For being short we've all good reason.

Nature withheld her bounteous stores,  
Now Poverty surrounds our doors.  
No money-cramming done last year,  
But live in hope and have good cheer.

The busy time will soon be here,  
The happiest months of all the year,  
When crowds of flowers the air perfume,  
And busy bees their work resume.

The hives arrang'd upon the ground,  
And din and bustle all around;  
This truly is a busy scene,  
Both bees and men now labor mean.

The maples and the willows first,  
We tease them till their stores they burst;  
Then early flowers and rich sweet clover,  
The whole long day o'er them we hover.

O! how we love the scented breeze  
That softly whispers through the trees;  
Raspberry blossoms nod and bend,  
We for the red ones quickly wend.

We like the pleasant apple-bloom,  
For days we have a constant boom.  
O! how we love the linden blow,  
From that the honey's white as snow.

We long for catnip, mint and sage,  
With bees these flowers are all the rage;  
The asters and the mignonette  
Have sweetness that we don't forget.

And now I think I'll stop my rhyme,  
And touch the chords some other time;  
Soon spread my wings and busy go it,  
'T will better pay than being poet.

West Toledo, Ohio.

**Modern Apiculture:**

OR,

*How Frank made Bee-Keeping Pay.*

## CHAPTER XIX.

## CONCLUDED.

**F**RANK'S twenty colonies of bees came through the winter without loss, and the season proving to be exceedingly favorable he increased to thirty-nine strong stocks and sold fifty dollars' worth of bees. The largest amount of honey from one colony that season was 105 pounds, and from his whole apiary 1000 lbs. of comb-honey. The sale of supplies, bees, queens and honey netted him \$350. By this time Frank had become a full-fledged and fairly well informed apiarist.

But little more need be added to our story. Harry Brown went away to school and after graduating became a merchant in a neighboring town. Dick, who was always getting into some kind of trouble, turned out to be a most expert and successful machinist, much to the surprise of all who were acquainted with him in his boyhood days.

Our bee-keeper, Frank Grant, continues to keep bees, and though Uncle Simon has gone the way of earthly people and Frank's mother is beginning to show the finger marks of old age, still Frank is happy; for he has found his "better half" and his mother sometimes playfully tells him that she is the best half, too. Frank says his wife has but one fault; she is "awfully" afraid of bees.

Frank's business has grown to such proportions that he employs a man to help him in the bee-yard during the summer and in winter they both work making supplies to sell the year following. The old shop and water-wheel have been replaced by a neat, two-story building, with modern machinery for hive-making and a ten

horse-power engine to run it. We will now bid adieu to our hero, with best wishes for his and the reader's future welfare.

We have had no very severe winter weather here this winter; the temperature has only touched zero on two mornings and that for but an hour or two, but owing to cloudy, cool dark weather our bees have been confined for longer periods than usual, and the atmosphere has been loaded with moisture much of the time. I think our bees are safe. The weather is warm now.

G. W. DEMAREE.

Christiansburg, Ky., Feb. 13, 1888.

Bees have not had a fly here since Nov. 28, though to-night it is almost thawing, and I am in hopes bees will fly soon. If they do not I fear for the results of the intense cold, the lowest here has been 46° below. However, when we have such intense cold, a wind or even a brisk breeze is rare.

J. H. LARRABEE.

Larrabee's Point, Vt., Feb. 14, 1888.

Written for the Bee-Hive.

**Combs in the Surplus Chamber.**

**T**HE idea of discarding the use of partly drawn out combs in the surplus chamber and in preference using foundation only, is, it seems to me, very poor practice. I believe that beginners, at least, will have better success in getting bees started to work in the sections, by the use of a few sections on each hive, filled or partly filled with comb.

I have placed colonies of equal strength and condition side by side, giving to one sections filled with foundation starters only, to the other each row of sections, at least one section full or partly filled with comb.

Those supplied with the combs have invariably gone to work earlier and have given better results at the

end. I mark all of these combs and when filled extract them and lay away for future use.

My advice would be, use your partly filled combs at the beginning of the honey-harvest as one means of inducing your workers into the sections. A delay of a week or two at the proper time, and the cream of the harvest is lost.

E. L. REYNOLDS.

Written for the Bee-Hive.

## Bee - Hives, &c.

**R. EDITOR:** — Judging from your remarks appended to my answer to Query No. 11, "What is the best hive, etc.," you did not understand the import of my answer. "The best hive is that which takes the fancy of the apiarist," was intended to be taken as ironical, as the latter part of my reply shows.

But let us see how much truth there is in the remark. It will be conceded that Mr. G. M. Doolittle has been fairly successful as an apiarist, and many believe that he has been pre-eminently successful. Well, he has published a pamphlet entitled "The hive I use," and that hive is the little square Gallup hive, the worst possible form for a hive for storing comb-honey, and yet Mr. Doolittle "fancies it," and by his ingenuity and clear application makes a success of it. Prof. Cook in his excellent work, "Manual of the Apiary," makes prominent the little square "bee-gum" known as the Gallup hive. He "fancied" it above the Langstroth, and used it on the college grounds. Well, when Heddon cut down the standard Langstroth in width to an eight frame hive, Prof. Cook concluded that the "Heddon Langstroth" suits him best! Yet hundreds of bee keepers by the use of some division-boards and a little ingenuity have all the while been making the ten frame L. hive accomplish every thing that Prof. Cook or anybody

else can do with the 8 frame hives.

Is there not a wide difference in skill here, or some fancy connected with these things? That which we call "use" has a wonderful influence on all of us. After handling the standard L. frame for years it is exceedingly awkward to handle a short, deep frame like the Gallup and American frames. They "hang down" like a "shirt-tail" when they are dragged up out of the bee-gummish looking hive. Yet there are some who "fancy" them and think that every thing else in the form of a hive is awkward. I agree with the editor that a well arranged hive and hive system, is a thing to be desired, but who is to be the judge of what is a proper "interior arrangement" for a hive?

It is very clear that each experienced apiarist must be his own judge in this day of multiplicity of hives. The beginner generally falls a prey to the "patent right man," and pays for his experience before he is prepared to receive sound insuructions, but he comes out cured of his infatuation, and his judgement will not lead him astray after that

As to my preferences. In the first place I used the old style L. hive. But when I discovered the benefits to be derived from the tiering up system, I modernized the L. hive by dispensing with the portico and the telescope features, and arranged the hive for the tiering up system. This was exactly the same as the so-called Heddon L. hive, except that I retained the full set of ten frames, as I think that is best for this climate.

After using this style of hive for a number of years, I began to discover defects in connection with its manipulation, as pertained to the brood department.

I then commenced to make my hives with a loose bottom-board, so that the brood departments, section cases and shallow frame cases were interchangeable. Thus the hive was

interchangeable in all its sectional parts, and in the tiering up system each sectional part is handled in "bulk" instead of one frame or one section box at a time. This hive is so arranged that it can be used with or without horizontal division-boards made of wood slats or whole sheets of zinc. To me this system has many advantages; when a colony needs feeding a shallow-frame case with honey in the combs is slipped under the brood department and they are fed without any disturbance.

A case of unfinished sections is frequently used to feed a colony in the same way. By this system apiary work is rapidly and pleasantly done. This duplicate tiering system is the result of many experiments an much thought on my part, and I think it has no equal for handiness of manipulation. A hive that will duplicate itself in all its parts and each part can be handled in "bulk," must commend itself to the good judgement of any bee-keeper. It is my "favorite hive" yet there are many who will be ready to say, "That's only a fancy of his."

G. W. DEMAREE.

Christiansburg, Ky.


[My remarks were intended more particularly to prevent beginners from letting their "fancy" lead them to buying patent hives, as for instance, Mrs. Cotton's twenty dollar hives, but who can say that Prof. Cook or Mr. Doolittle might not have been equally successful with some other hive, even if it did not suit their fancy at first. Many times it is the constant using of some article of merit, which we at first dislike, that eventually leads us to wonder how we could have thought it awkward or ill-shaped. The continued use of the same kind of hive for years not only makes the bee-keeper familiar with it, but by constant observation and experiment he has become familiar with its every excellence, which enables him to secure better results than one who is con-

stantly changing hives and never becomes expert with any. To be sure each apiarist must be his own guide as to the kind of hive he will use, and as your remarks show, if he is qualified for a bee-keeper he will probably be successful. Even if I did misunderstand your answer, friend D., I do not feel a mite sorry for having stirred you up to giving us such an excellent article.—Ed.]

Written for the Bee-Hive.

## Spring Management.

PRIZE ESSAY, NUMBER TWO.

 HAVING had some experience in apiculture, and having managed bees successfully after both out and in-door wintering, I thought I would make an effort to capture the prize offered in the Dec. No. of BEE-HIVE for the best article on "Spring Management" of bees.

Spring management should commence in the fall. Put your bees into winter quarters with good queens, populous, and with plenty of sealed stores. If you winter in a cellar don't set them out until they can gather natural pollen, which in this locality is from April 10th to 15th. The first thing here to yield pollen is alder, next willow. In localities where skunk cabbage abounds pollen from that comes a few days first.

On a warm day when the bees are busy examine your swarms and if the bees are plenty in the hive, uncap a comb of honey and put it in between two frames of brood. The bees will move the queen to fill the comb with eggs. Care must be taken not to spread the brood too fast as some of it might chill on a cold night. Keep each swarm well covered with cushions and papers to retain the heat, close the entrance to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  or 2 inches and let them work until May 10th (after uniting weak and queenless swarms.)

About May 10th overhaul your bees again, for the purpose of building a

part of them up strong for the coming honey-harvest.

As there is or should be lots of young bees hatched in all the hives, you can take nearly all the sealed brood from some swarms to build up others. The sealed brood from one colony will usually build up two weak ones. Exchange the frames of larvae and eggs in the stocks you build up, for frames of sealed brood taken from your strong colonies. By treating stocks in this way you will have a part of your hives crowded with bees, ready for the June honey-harvest.

Put on your surplus arrangement when the hives begin to show new comb between the top-bars. The next will be summer management.

C. L. FISHER.

Patten's Mills, N. Y.

## Sweets From Every Field.

Gathered for BEE-HIVE by one of the Workers.



WINTER! ruler of the inverted year.

I crown the king of intimate delights;  
Fire-side enjoyments, home-born happiness.

And all the comforts that the lowly roof  
Of undisturbed retirement, and the hours  
Of long uninterrupted evening, know."

—(—

Are you sure there are no mice in your hives? Like all workmen, they can be told by their "chips."

—(—

The weather has been very severe during January. Through the most of the West the storms have been the worst known for years. In the Central States and even to Maine, these fearful storms or blizzards have extended, blocking travel and closing the railroads. Bees here have not had a flight since the middle of Nov. The weather in England, on the contrary, has been quite favorable to the bees, as will be seen by the fact re-

corded in the B. B. J. that, "Sat. the 7th of Jan. and the three following days, were days of brilliant sunshine, while the thermometer at midday in the open air stood at 60°."

—(—

Rev. L. L. Langstroth has written one more article upon bees, and like every thing from him, it is interesting and scientific. It is in line with the experiments of Mr. N. W. McLain to determine the age at which drones are valuable.

—(—

We like the style and typography of the "Western Bee-Keeper" very well. The editor is evidently a fluent writer.

—(—

Use brine for soaking dipping-boards and as a lubricant for the foundation mill, and credit Mr. E. A. Morgan, of Columbus, Wis., with the honor of the discovery.

—(—

"Have heard a great deal said about which way a hive should stand, or which side the bees should come out. Now after using the the Quadruple hives for 25 years, the bees using each of the four side for an entrance, I can not see as there is any difference in winter or summer, and I have studied the matter a great deal." — E. France in B. K. Advance.

—(—

If your bees in the cellar become uneasy and you cannot assign a cause, give each colony a little sprinkle of lukewarm, salty water, and watch the effect.

—(—

"Our English Cousins" use the term *stock* to designate the old colony, and as our apicultural nomenclature is defective in a proper short name for the colony which has survived the winter and from which the *swarm* issues, we would suggest that we "Americans" adopt the word.



Foul brood is a bee-disease curable by means of various antiseptics, as phenol, salicylic acid, camphor, and even common salt. Nature provides a preventative. Bees at the time of brood-rearing visit places where antiseptics as salt, benzoic acid, etc., exist. In this we should assist nature.

—0—


Dr. G. L. Tinker, a prominent Ohio apiarist, after a most thorough trial of "sectional brood-chambers," condemns them in an essay read before the Ohio bee-keepers, giving as his reasons: 1st. Size; one section being too small, and in two sections the bees build up slowly in the spring, and when honey comes they fill up the space between the sections with brace combs. 2d. The shake-out function is a failure. 3d. Expense of so much "rigging."

[We supposed the doctor was a sensible man, and the above shows we are not mistaken.—Ed.]

Written for the Bee-Hive.

## Spring Management.

PRIZE ESSAY, NUMBER ONE.

 THE proper management of an apiary in the spring is so modified by circumstances, that it will be impossible to give the best method in all cases, without entering into details more than this article will permit. On the management or mismanagement of our bees in the spring, depends our success or failure in securing a good crop of honey later in the season.

In all our work we should bear in mind that, unless we have our hives well stocked with bees at the beginning of the honey-flow, we can not expect to obtain the best results. I will give some of the methods that I have found to be the most successful, during an experience of several years, and let each one so modify the different operations as to suit his own circum-

stances. I winter part of my bees in the cellar, and part in chaff hives.

Early in the spring, or as soon as the weather is warm enough to permit the bees to fly occasionally, I look through the hives and put them all in as good condition as possible, by crowding them up with division-boards on as many combs as they can cover well, being sure to fix them snug and warm. The combs that are removed should be placed in the honey-house or some place secure from the bees, and returned as the bees increase in numbers, by placing one at a time in center of the cluster, thus spreading the brood-nest. By retaining the heat in the hive, the life of the bees is prolonged, and more brood can be reared and cared for by a less number of bees, thus permitting more bees to go out in search of food.

Be sure that they all have plenty of honey in their combs. I always save plenty of combs of sealed honey to feed during the spring. If you do not have the extra combs of honey, you had better take from those colonies that have honey to spare, and give to those in need. I have fed bees in a great many ways, and I think there is no better or cheaper way than to use combs of sealed honey. If I did not have combs of sealed honey to spare and feeding was necessary, I should feed sugar syrup from some feeder that could be placed near the cluster inside the hive.

I do not think it is advisable to feed outside the hive, except in rare cases, as those colonies that need it the least generally get most of the feed. Feeding flour or rye meal, by placing it in shallow boxes or hive covers, in some sunny place protected from the winds, is quite a stimulous to early brood-rearing; but I am not fully decided in my own mind that it is best to induce them to rear too much brood until the weather becomes warm.

If the bees in the cellar are in fair condition I do not think it is best to

remove them from their winter quarters until they can obtain natural pollen and then I set out fifteen or twenty every pleasant afternoon that it is suitable for them to fly, cleaning out the hives and putting them in good condition the same evening.

A piece of board or several thicknesses of paper laid on the cloth or honey-board over the cluster is quite a protection during cool nights. In all our operations we must be on our guard against robbers, never leaving any honey exposed where the bees can find it, and as much as possible doing all our opening of hives in the evening or when the bees are not on the wing. If once they get to robbing in earnest you may expect trouble until the robbers die of old age or accident as they will never forget it. Remember that the saying, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" is more than true in this case.

My plan is to go through the apiary once every week or ten days and turning back the cloth note the condition of each colony. Do not use any more smoke or disturb the bees more than is necessary. If at first glance you see that they are all right do not bother them further. Many beginners do more harm than good by disturbing their bees too much. If you have weak colonies you can not succeed in uniting or building them up until the weather becomes warm and settled. Better crowd them on two or three combs or put them back in the cellar until the weather becomes warm and settled, when you can take a frame of sealed brood about ready to hatch from one of your strongest colonies and place in the center of the weak one.

By this method all the colonies in the apiary can be so equalized that by the time the surplus honey-flow commences the surplus arrangements can all be put on at once. Be careful that the comb of brood which you give the weak colony does not contain much

larva or unsealed brood, as the weak colony, if they have a good queen, will have all the larva they can care for. By not being careful in this respect you may cause the bees to become discouraged and swarm out.

G. D. BLACK.

Brandon, Iowa, 12, 21, 1887.

Written for the Bee-Hive.

## How you can make it pay

IF you embark in apiculture with a large capital and no knowledge of the art, you are almost sure to fail; but if, on the other hand, you commence with a light capital and are willing to work, for perhaps years, to accomplish your desires, you may then be able to realize a good annual income. I can not see how a man is to begin keeping bees and secure a living therefrom the first season, and yet nearly all seem to expect marvelous results from their early efforts. I think I am safe in asserting that our prominent bee-men of to-day are those who depend upon the profits of some other branch of industry for a livelihood during their first season or seasons of bee-keeping, showing that as careful business men they would not dare risk all in a business new to them; yet despite this fact we see men by the dozen rushing into the bee-business with a firm belief in their powers to rake in money by the hundreds the *first season*.

It was remarked to me not long since, that it was really surprising to note the quantity of new "full-fledged" bee-keepers each year, the great splurge they made, and the rapidity with which they fell out of notice or mention. We can not help but pity the man who has taken a strong liking to the honey-bee; enters into the work ambitiously and tries hard to support himself and perhaps a family from the profits, and then utterly fails, and probably all within a twelve month.

Look at it in any light that I may,

I can see only one safe line to follow in this or any other business, viz.: Unless you actually *know* just what you can do, never invest that amount of either time or capital, the loss of which would make you poor; and again, never try to build up this business in a locality where you could not dispose of a good crop of honey, should you have it, or perhaps a few hundred dollars' worth of bees, for I can assure you that you cannot produce honey at a good profit and be obliged to dispose of it in any of our large markets at from three to eight cents per pound.

If I were obliged to sell all the honey that I produce at even 7c. per lb. right through, I could not make my bees much more than pay expenses. I depend on my *local* honey trade for a profit on my bees, and have sold over three tons at retail and at prices ranging from fifteen to twenty-five cents per pound. Had I been compelled to sell this same honey in New York city it would not have netted me eight cents per pound.

These facts may be worth your consideration if you contemplate the bee-business for a life work. The safest way to get initiated into this work is not by the outlay of your whole means but rather by apprenticing yourself to some progressive apiarian and then stick by him for a whole year at least. You will then have discovered as to whether or no you are suited to the work and will have learned a little of the outlay to be required.

When you have mastered the apiary so that it is paying you a fair profit, you will find that you are doing one of the most pleasant kinds of work imaginable. Not only have you a good business but you will command as much respect as if you were the proprietor of a large mercantile house, as it is the man and not altogether the work that makes him be looked up to.


C. H. SMITH.

Pittsfield, Mass.

Written for the Bee-Hive.

## Bee-Hunting.

### CHAPTER 3.

NRIPENED honey is the best feed to use when hunting. It should be taken fresh from the hive each day. The thinner it is the better, but care must be taken that when left in the combs on stands it does not sour. When this cannot be had I give my preference to *thin* syrup made from *granulated* sugar. Thick honey may be used but it should be diluted. The only place that I use thick honey is when leaving a stand over night or for a day or two. As thick ripe honey will not sour and will give the bees more work it is best for that purpose.

When you start out bee-hunting, always take plenty of feed. A pint bottle with a beer-bottle rubber cork arrangement is about the neatest thing in which to carry feed. You had better also take with you a bottle of bee-scent. The scent I use is 12 parts oil of anise, 2 parts oil of rhodium, and 1 part oil of fireweed. I use a bottle with a glass stopple as the scent will soon eat up a common cork. Never carry scented feathers, nor the bottle of scent in the bee-box. The combs should never be scented, for at times we should not use scent.

Where running near an apiary, scent would surely defeat our object, by drawing a beluge of tame bees. An amateur hunter had better go two or three miles away from tame bees, but an expert may have good success near large apiaries. Hunting near apiaries requires a different method from that commonly used, but more of that at another time. It will be best to start early in the day, as soon as bees are at work, especially during buckwheat bloom.

WILLIAM E. GOULD.

Fremont, Mich.

[Continued next month.]



Under this heading we solicit articles from our lady friends pertaining to bee-culture.

Written for the Bee-Hive.

## Wintering Bees in a Cellar

MRS. OLIVER COLE.

It is amusing to read the different ideas on the wintering problem; so many have the best plan and nearly all differing. The majority of bee-keepers, I think, say that the only proper method of wintering bees is on the summer stands and they never have many losses, so I came to that decision some nine years ago, and was one of those summer stand advocates. I spared neither money nor trouble to purchase the best kinds of chaff hives for out-door wintering; also had some made to order as I thought they should be, with eight inches of chaff around the brood-frames and covered with a ten inch cushion of chaff, and those colonies that I thought had not stores enough I would feed a thick syrup made from granulated sugar. My method is to see that my bees have more stores than they need, so that they will be carried through a late spring without disturbing them by too early feeding, as I have learned by experience it is not the best way; but last winter I lost very heavily, seeing no difference in my chaff hives—the four-inch packing or eight-inch; so I came to the conclusion it was the long confinement and extreme cold weather. Neither did I see any difference with those fed with syrup and those with natural stores, they all seemed to share the same sad fate.

I was not discouraged although I

did feel blue, after all my work and trouble to put my bees up for winter in such good shape. If I were not a woman I think I should have given up bee-keeping; but you know how persevering we women are, so I cleaned up my combs partly filled with honey and bought bees and brood to strengthen my weak colonies and bees to put on to my frames of honey, saving them from entire loss. I succeeded in saving and building up eighty colonies to put into winter quarters, besides rearing a good many queens to sell. I make queen-rearing a specialty because I do not like to ask any one to buy honey, and never had very good prices when shipped away to commission houses.

This fall I took from chaff hives fourteen colonies, putting them into Langstroth single wall hives, and put them in the cellar for an experiment. I have a dry cellar with a plank floor, separate from the vegetable cellar. I keep the temperature at 40° by making a wood fire in the rear of the same cellar when it is any below. If it is much above that the bees come out. At this date they are all in perfect condition and when I visit them and listen they greet me with their joyful hum.

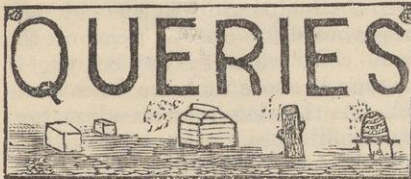
I think I shall test this wintering problem pretty well in this way. I took the first row of bees for the cellar, the next being equal in every respect in chaff hives. In the late spring I will know which way proved the best for me and my locality, and will have another chat with you then, telling you of my success.

I feel very much interested in the Ladies' Department and would like to have a visit with every lady bee-keeper so that we might learn from each other. I can truly say that I like bee-keeping and am anxious for spring to come that I may visit my bees again. At present my chaff hives are nearly covered with snow. I never disturb them to remove the snow, un-

less it is in a general break up, then I have the entrance cleaned out from dead bees. The last work I do in my apiary is to put up in front of the hives a board slanting, so as to give air and keep the snow from filling the entrances.

Ladies can keep bees as well as men by hiring a very little help when there is lifting of hives, or changes to be made in the apiary, or extracting to be done. As a usual thing women have more care and will look after their household more perfectly than the men, have more patience, and we all know how necessary that is in bee-keeping. I find it a healthful and remunerative occupation, and there is nothing about the business but what is perfectly proper for a lady to attend to or engage in.

Sherburne, Chenango Co., N. Y.  
Chenango Valley Apiary.



### Black or Brown Bee,—Which ?

**Query No. 15.**—Is there any difference between the bees known as "*Black*" and the "*Brown German*?" What is that difference? L.—Vt.

DR. C. C. MILLER.

I don't know.

J. H. LARRABEE.

I have never been able to discover any.

J. L. HYDE.

I don't know of any difference. Perhaps in Germany the bees are different from our blacks.

W. M. BARNUM.

Not enough to be of any practical value. They are simply two varieties of our common native bee.

S. P. YODER.

The common variety known as the "*black bee*" is the *German bee*. There may be different "*strains*" varying from gray-black to brown-black.

PROF. A. J. COOK.

If any difference, it is simply varietal. Every apiarist knows that color in Italian bees is quite variable. That the same would be true with the German race need not surprise us.

G. W. DEMAREE.

There is really more humbug about the "*brown German*" than anything else. The so called German race of bees vary somewhat in appearance. I noticed this before the importation of the Italian bees, but there is no such thing as a distinct type of "*brown German*" bees. The term "*black*" is a sort of descriptive name applied to the native bees to distinguish them from the yellow race. The general color of our native (German) bees, before the introduction of the yellow race into this country, was a grayish-brown. I never saw any black specimens till I saw *run out hybrids*.

### Southern Queens.

**Query No. 16.**—A certain queen-breeder says "if you want spring dwindling buy your queens in the South." If this is so what is the cause? H. B.—N. J.

S. P. YODER.

I have not found it so.

PROF. A. J. COOK.

I do not believe it is so.

DR. C. C. MILLER.

I don't know that it is so.

J. H. LARRABEE.

I never purchased queens "*south*" but would not hesitate to do so to save a colony in spring when northern queens could not be obtained.

J. L. HYDE.

If this is so the theory would be this: That queens acquiring the habit of breeding early, or by instinct have adopted the ways of their ances-

tors, will continue the same after being brought north, which would cause the bees to scatter in order to cover the brood, when a sudden cold spell would kill them.

W. M. BARNUM.

I should n't be surprised, friend B., if this was another case of the "dog in the manger." I think by a little discreet inquiry you will discover that your friend's trade is being injured by the southern queen-breeders. If (as I feel quite certain you will) you find my surmises correct, I think it will satisfactorily account for this new "scientific pleasantry." At least, I never heard of such a theory.

G. W. DEMAREE.

That "certain queen-breeder" is willing to falsify facts in order to obtain patronage from the credulous. It is not so. To buy queens from the south very early in the spring, when they are full of eggs, and exposing them to a colder climate when shipping and introducing, may injure the usefulness of the queens; but that is all. We all know that a warm climate is the home of insects, and all things else being equal, queens ought to be the better by being reared in the south.

Written for the Bee-Hive.

## His First Swarm.

Hives for 25 cts. each.—How to Make Straw Hives.—The Kind of Smokers used in Germany.

(Continued from Jan. number.)

**W**E left the swarm in that shirt you remember. I tell you I was glad when I came to my destination. My father met me with a young hickory, but when he found out that I had bees in my shirt, he dropped the stick and went to our neighbor bee-keeper for a hive. He bought a complete hive for a quarter of a dollar, and a bran-new one at

that. It was not a Langstroth, Quinby, Heddon, Armstrong, or any other great, new-fangled hive, but it was like the one on the front page of this journal, and made of straw.

Some one will ask how any one can make a complete hive for 25 cents. I will tell you how it is done for I have made many of them, and made money at it too. All the tools you need are a piece of cow's horn and a pointed stick, and an armful of straw; then go to a willow tree and get twigs—one year's growth—split and shave them, and you are ready for business. Put your straw through the horn, twisting it as you pull it through, and begin making your hive at the top or you will never be able to finish it.

Tie the rounds together with the willow twigs. I can make a hive in twenty minutes. I notice some writers for the bee-journals say bees winter better in straw hives than in any other. But they have great losses too; that was my experience in Germany. But they can raise honey there cheaper than we can, for one man will take care of 300 colonies.

All he has to do is to make his hives in winter, hive the swarms as they come out during the summer, and brimstone the heavy stands in the fall. The Jews come and buy these honey-hives, paying ten cents a pound for the honey. The main honey-producing flowers are buckwheat, white clover and willow. But to return to the bees in that shirt. My father set the hive bottom up and shook the bees into it, then turning it back again those on the outside and in the air rushed in pell-mell. Then I felt bigger than the Apiculturistical Bee-Keepin Sigh-entist—P. Benson.

The next thing was a bee-veil and a clay pipe, for they had no smokers then. That pipe almost killed me, but I was a bee-keeper and smoking belonged to business. In October I weighed the hive—18 pounds—and fed the bees five pounds of loaf sugar,

that made them ready for winter. I then left them alone, except lifting the hive up twice to brush the dead bees from under it. In April they commenced gathering pollen, and on the 27th of May they cast a rousing big swarm, then there was another wooden shoe dance.

W. G. HAYEN.

[Continued next month.]

THE

# Bee Hive

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

E. H. COOK,  
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER,  
ANDOVER, CONN.

Subscription Price, 30 cents Per Year  
in Advance.

## Editorial Ink Drops.

Subscribers, Please Notice.

When you find a slip of Red paper in your copy of the BEE-HIVE saying, "Your Subscription Expires With This Number," please consider it an invitation to renew.

The harbingers of spring, blue-birds, are here.

If your subscription expires with this number you will find a renewal blank herewith.

Say, small boy, get off the track! When that engine-bell rings maybe you won't have time to "scoot."

As several letters containing money have been lost recently, be very careful to direct them plainly, and be sure of Town and STATE.

Owing to an extra number of advertisements we have to cut the reading matter short one page, but the excellence of articles given will partially cover the loss.

On opening a hive the 24th of February where signs of dysentery was visible, we found the queen had commenced laying. If that old saw about the early bird getting the worm is applicable to the early bees getting the honey, then we shall look for great results, *if*—


With this number closes the second volume of the BEE-HIVE. What success we may have attained in addition to more than doubling our list of subscribers is, in part, due to the friends who have sent subscriptions and articles, and kind words of encouragement. We shall try to improve the practical value of the BEE-HIVE for 1888, by the introduction of a few changes. Those who intend to renew their subscription should do so at once as no back numbers are kept in stock.

Oh! for a P. T. Barnum bee-keeper to introduce novelty and variety into bee conventions. One would suppose they were all run through the same machine—all but the names. One great reason why bee-keepers do not turn out *en masse*, is because of this lack of originality; they can foretell what the proceedings will be, hence feel no curiosity in regard to the meeting and do not go. "How shall we excite the curiosity of bee-keepers so they will attend conventions?" would be a good subject for discussion.

The *Advance* offers attractions in this number worthy of your attention. The seedsman, A. T. Cook, does not send out a mammoth catalogue with lithographed covers; but if you want seeds that will *come up* when you plant them, then he is the man to order your seeds of. By a special arrangement we are able to send you his special "Introduction Box of Seeds for the Family Garden," (consisting of 25 choice packets) post-paid, together with the BEE-HIVE one year, for only

50 cents. To any one not satisfied with the seeds we will refund the money. Send at once.

## ADVERTISING RATES.

As we are constantly receiving inquiries in regard to our rates for inserting advertisements, we give prices below.  Terms, cash.

### PRICES:

Space.	1 mo.	3 mo.	6 mo.	12 mo.
One inch.....	\$ .25	\$ .60	\$1.00	\$1.50
Two inches.....	.50	1.10	1.90	2.50
Four inches.....	.90	2.05	3.60	4.50
One column.....	1.50	2.80	5.40	8.00

E. H. COOK, Andover, Conn.

## Exchange Notices.

Exchanges will be inserted for Subscribers free. Any thing savoring of an advertisement will find place in the waste-basket.

WANTED.—Old bee-books, and bee-journals. The older the books the better. Will give new histories and scientific books in exchange.  
G. G. GROFF, Lewisburg, Penn.

WANTED.—To exchange a first-class sewing machine, good as new, for white fancy cob, or extracted clover or basswood honey to the value of \$20. C. E. ANDREWS, JR.,  
No. 5 Richardson St., Providence, R. I.

WANTED.—To exchange chaff hives for a small engine and boiler. If you have either one, write. W. B. Baker, Canton, Marion Co., W. Va.

WANTED.—Reports of the Mass. State Board of Agriculture for the years of 1856 and 1858, for reports of other years, cutlery, or other values.  
Geo. D. Howe, North Hadley, Mass.

WANTED.—To exchange the Bee-Keepers' Advertiser, for your name and P. O. address. State the number of colonies of bees you keep.  
Wm. Hoyt, Ripley, Maine.

WANTED.—To exchange several Langshan cockerels; also 2 pair of same, for sections, beeswax, fdn., or honey, or offers. These birds are all full blood prize-taking stock.  
F. H. Chapin, Hinsdale, N. Y.

WANTED.—To exchange instructions in electro-silver plating, with and without battery, for instructions in rubber stamp work. Would exchange for other useful articles. Write.  
Chas. Everts, Gould, O.

WANTED.—To exchange bees and queens for printing-press and outfit, or offers.  
G. D. Black, Brandon, Iowa.

WANTED.—To exchange a double barrel, muzzle-loading shot-gun in good order, price \$8, for Wyandotte or Partridge Cochin fowls. Write.  
Harker Bros., Hornertown, N. J.

WANTED.—To exchange a Lamb Knitting Machine, nearly as good as new, for aparian supplies; sections, shipping cases, hives, etc.  
A. Jennie Wilson, Macedon, N. Y.

WANTED.—To exchange printed bill-heads, letter-heads, envelopes, price lists, etc., for S. hives, fdn., and bee-supplies.  
Grant Schofield, Ridgeway, N. Y.

WANTED.—To exchange a single-barrel breach loading shot-gun, 12 bore, (value \$5) for three lbs. Italian bees and tested queen, good violin, or pair pure blood Wyandottes or Langshans.  
Clarence W. Bond, box 1338, Jackson, Mich.


WANTED.—To exchange a 100 egg White Mountain incubator, a good one, for any thing outside the hen business.  
D. S. Hall, Lower Cabot, Vt.

To exchange.—A 100 egg Craig incubator, cost \$12, also a pair club skates, No. 11, cost \$5, for bee-supplies or a White Leghorn rooster.  
Glenn Clarke, Pipestone, Mich.

## Advertisements.

### CHOICE ITALIAN

Queens and Nuclei from Imported Mothers; also from the Noted **Unolittle Strain.**

 Send for circular.

Simon P. Roddy,

12t Mechanicstown, Fred'k Co., Md.

## Your NAME is Wanted!

to appear in the Bee-Keepers' Reference Book. The Reference Book will be a neat hand-book containing the names and addresses of Bee-Keepers in the United States and Foreign countries. Send us 10 cts. and have your name appear in this book, and by so doing you will receive circulars from dealers, and thereby become posted as to where you can do the best. You can not invest ten cents better than by having your name printed in this book. Those who send their name to be published in this book must enclose ten cents.

Write your name, post office directions, county and State. Write how many colonies of bees you have and your average yield of honey, that we may properly rate you. Also state the variety of bees you prefer: whether Italian, Carniolan, or other breeds. This work is intended to fill a long felt want among bee-keepers, and by the co-operation of all a good work can be accomplished.

A department will be reserved in this hand-book for the names of aparian Supply Dealers and Queen-Breeders, and two lines will be allowed them, giving room for their name, address and business, and will be inserted for 25 cents.

A limited amount of advertisements will be inserted in this book at the following rates:

1 page.....	60 lines.....	\$12.00
$\frac{1}{2}$ ".....	30 ".....	9.00
$\frac{3}{4}$ ".....	15 ".....	5.25
$\frac{1}{8}$ ".....	7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".....	3.00

Space may be ordered now and it will be reserved. No pay asked until proof is sent.

The size of the book will be 5 x 7 Inches, neatly printed and bound. The name will be printed in alphabetical order. Besides being an accurate index to bee-keepers, giving their names and addresses, and almost a report of their business, the book will also contain a dictionary of bee-keepers' implements, and descriptions of the various races of bees. You can not afford to miss having your name in this book. Address at once,

J. B. Mason & Sons, Mechanic Falls, Me.



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**Christmas Stories,** by CHARLES DICKENS. Contains a number of the most charming Christmas stories ever written by the greatest writer who ever lived. Each one incomplete.

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— We will send you *four* of the above books by mail post-paid upon receipt of only **12 Cents**; any *ten* for **25 Cents**; any *twenty-five* for **50 Cents**; the entire list (40 books) for **75 Cents**; the entire list bound in boards with cloth back, for **\$1.10**. This is the greatest bargain in books ever offered. Do not fail to take advantage of it. *Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.* Postage stamps taken for fractions of a dollar. As to our reliability, we refer to any newspaper published in New York, likewise to the Commercial Agencies. All orders filled by return mail. Address all letters: **F. M. LUPTON, Publisher, No. 63 Murray Street, New York**

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F R E E



F R E E

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Uses any kind of ink; filled by automatic action of India Rubber reservoir; carries in the pocket safely; will not leak; finely made and finished in hard rubber; will last a lifetime. Original price, \$1. We will present to every Subscriber or Renewal to our journal, sending 10c. extra to pay postage, one of above pens, **free of charge**. Our paper is a 16-p. 48 col. handsomely illus. journal, advocating the interests of Poultry, Bee and Pet Stock Fanciers, and only **50 c. a year**. Remember you get both pen and paper for 60c. The pen ALONE, 40c.—we are giving away the paper, not the Pen. See? Address.

3 THE POULTER, Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

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Our Cartons for enclosing Section Honey are the **best and lowest priced** in the market. Made in 1 piece. With **Tape Handles** or without. With **Mica Fronts** or without. In the **Flat** or set up. **Printed** or plain. Any way to suit. We are bound to please. We have put in special Machinery for their manufacture, and are prepared to fill Orders promptly. **Circulars Free. Samples 5c.**

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Box 228. South Weymouth, Mass.

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If you wish to purchase  
BEES, QUEENS, NUCLEI,  
CHAFF HIVES  
or Apiarian Supplies, write  
for my price list.

Satisfaction Guaranteed.

**William E. Gould,**  
FREMONT,  
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Mention the BEE-HIVE when you write to advertisers, please.

CHAS. H. SMITH, Box 1087, Pittsfield, Mass.

Try a sample hive and you will want a hundred.  
 10 to 100 " " " " " " " "  
 5 to 10 Hives in the flat, no frames, rack, or sections, each .60  
 50 or more " " " " " " " "  
 25 Hives, as above, but in the flat, " " " "  
 25 Hives, " " " " " " " "  
 1 Hive, mated, painted and complete with rack & sects \$1.25  
 are 1 L. size.

**CERTAINLY**

You read my "ad." in the Oct. No. of the Bee-Hive, and are now prepared to take advantage of the real bargains presented below. I would say that these hives are all made to well-seasoned 3/4-in. pine stock, and are made with the "half-joint" instead of being mitered, a point worth considering. Hives

For a club of six subscribers at 30 cts. each, I will send an Italian Queen (warranted pure) next July. Queen is worth \$1.

**Headquarters in the West**

for the manufacture and sale of

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CHAFF AND SIMPLICITY HIVES, SECTIONS, FDN., SMOKERS, ETC.

furnished at a great reduction in price. A full line of Supplies always on hand. I also have on hand for sale at all times, Pure Italian Queens, Bees by the pound, Nuclei and Full Colonies, at very low prices.

Send for Catalogue.

**A. F. STAUFFER,**  
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Mention the Bee-Hive.

**A GREAT SCHEME!!**

Can we sell honey to the millions? Investigate our new peculiar 5-cent package for extracted honey. Eaten from the hand without knife, spoon, or stick—as cleanly as to bite an apple. The first and only cheap successful package ever invented. We also have the first **CHROMO CARD** designed especially for bee-keepers; bees, implements, etc., elegantly printed in eight colors; a big move to extend reputation. Italian Queens, splendid Foundation, Bees in Heddon Hives for sale and all represented on our card.

Circulars and card, giving full information, free. Package of Cards, 10 cts. Sample Honey Package, filled with honey, 12 cts. Now is the time to look these things up for the coming season.

Address, **J. H. MARTIN,**

Hartford, N. Y.

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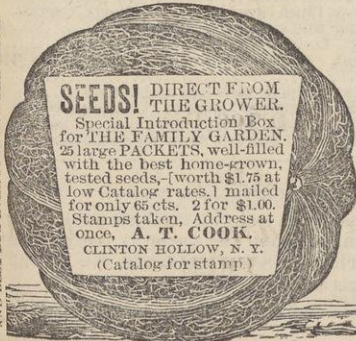
A large 16-page literary Journal, sample copy of which and application form for membership will be mailed to any address on receipt of 10 cts. in postage stamps. Address,

**The Reading Circle Association,**  
 147 Throop Street, Chicago, Ill.

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## The Bee-Keepers' Advance.

A. T. COOK'S,

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— OF —

## Seeds For the Family Garden.

— LIST OF SEEDS CONTAINED IN EACH BOX. —

1. **BEE-T.** Early Egyptian Turnip. Extra early; fine form and bright color; very tender and sweet..... 5
2. **CABBAGE.** Fottler's Imp'd Brunswick. Earliest and best of the large, hard-heading Drumheads, often weighs from 20 to 30 lbs. each; quality very fine; a good keeper... 5
3. **CARROT.** Best Varieties Mixed, viz.: New Oxheart, Ear, Short-horn, Danvers, L. Orange 5
4. **SWEET CORN.** Mammoth Sugar. Largest Variety; 12 to 16 rowed. Very sweet; luscious 5
5. **CELERY.** Finest Varieties Mixed: Boston Market, Golden Dwarf, Crawford's and Self-Blanching..... 5
6. **CUCUMBER.** Early Green Cluster. One of the very best for pickling and table use..... 5
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9. **WATER-MELON.** Cuban Queen. One of the largest, sweetest, and most productive varieties. Has been grown to weigh 110 lbs. Early; thin rind, luscious and sugary..... 5
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