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The Southland queen. Vol. II, No. 12 April 1897

Beeville, Texas: The Jennie Atchley Company, April 1897

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The


SOUTHLAND

QUEEN.



BEEVILLE, TEXAS,

April, 1897



Holyland Queens and Bees

I now have a very large stock of Holyland Queens on hand ready for your orders, at the following prices: UNTESTED, \$1 each, six for \$5, or \$9 per dozen. TESTED, \$2 each, \$10.50 for six, or \$20 per dozen. The very best BREEDERS 5 each. Bees by the pound—One pound \$1, 10 or more pounds 90c. Nuclei 1 per frame or with an untested queen \$1.50, six for \$5.50, or \$10.50 per dozen. Safe arrival and perfect satisfaction guaranteed. WILLIE ATCHLEY, BEEVILLE, TEX.

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Abstracts, Loans, Real Estate.

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PRICES OF

Bingham Perfect

Direct-Draft Perfect
BINGHAM
Bee Smoker

BEE SMOKERS and HONEY KNIVES.

Patented 1878, 1882 and 1892.



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| Model | Size | Per Doz. | each |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------|------|
| Smoke engine | { largest smok- } | 13 00-Mail, | 1 50 |
| 4-inch stove | er made } | 9 00 " | 1 10 |
| Doctor, | 3 1-2 inch stove | 6 50 " | 1 00 |
| Conqueror, | 3 " | 5 00 " | 90 |
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| Little Wonder, | 2 " wt. 10 oz. | 6 00 " | 80 |
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The four larger sizes have extra wide shields and double coiled steel wire handles. These Shields and Handles are an **Amazing Comfort**—always cool and clean. No more suttly or burnt fingers. The Plain and Little Wonder have narrow shields and wire handles. All Bingham Smokers have all the new improvements, viz: Direct Draft, Moveable Bent Cap, Wire Handles, Inverted Bellows, and are in every way **Absolutly Perfect.**

Fifteen Years for a Dollar! One-half a Cent for a Month! !

DEAR SIR,—Have used the Conqueror 15 years. I was always pleased with its workings, but thinking I would need a new one this summer, I write for a circular. I do not think the 4-inch Smoke Engine too large. Yours,
January 27, 1897.

W. H. EAGERTY, Cuba, Kansas.

The Southland Queen.

Monthly. Devoted to the Exchange of Thoughts on Apiculture. \$1.00

Vol. II. BEEVILLE, TEXAS, APRIL, 1897. No. 12.

WE have just had a good rain which will refresh vegetation and insure a good honey crop.

WE are selling more foundation this year than usual. This seems to prove that bee-keepers are looking forward to a good year for honey.

WE believe, as a rule, lovers of bees love themselves and also love other people. We have never yet met a real bee-keeper but we felt at home at once.

WE have been visiting some of the new-comer bee-keepers lately, and they all seem pleased with the prospects. Now that the much needed rain has come everybody interested in the welfare of the country will be joyful.

IN the early spring our bees usually gather a large surplus of pollen, and we note that some of our northern bee brothers have to feed meal or flour to start the bees to brooding. Wonder if it would not be profitable for two parties to sell combs of pollen to those that need it at about 25 cents a frame? A profit to the seller and also to the buyer. Who wants to try it?

DON'T you think it helps us to look at the hopeful side of things? Don't you think the future blaze gives a better light if we are hopeful?

THE Cyprian and Holyland bees are far ahead of anything in our yards, and if they keep up as they are at present we will be pleased with them beyond our expectations

IF you wish to sell your queens, bees or supplies advertise in the QUEEN. Our circulation is increasing every issue and our subscribers are all over America and in several foreign countries.

DON'T forget that we are still exchanging bee-keepers' supplies for beeswax. We are allowing 25 cents, in trade, for any quantity of fair average wax delivered here. Send in what you have soon.

WE have noticed some very dark honey this spring gathered during our recent dry weather, and we suspect that it is honey dew honey. It seems as thick and quite as dark as common molasses as soon as gathered. None has been stored in supers and it is likely the bees will use it all during April brood rearing.

BEE-KEEPERS IN SESSION.

Report of the Third Semi-Annual
Convention of the Central
Texas Association.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 270.

FEB. 6, 1897.

C. B. Bankston—No bee-keeper who is up in his business will allow this condition. If your queen is in good condition and good comb everything will be equal.

Mr. Jones—Have good combs and queens, or supply the colony with a good queen.

Mr. Aten—Don't think it is reasonable to expect all alike. He had one colony produce 290 pounds last year, and if all his bees did as well he couldn't manage them.

Mr. Jones—Suppose you could succeed, what is the best remedy?

Mr. Aten—Equal queens.

Judge Terrell—Conditions are not always equal as to supply of nectar. Some bees go in one direction and others different, hence they differ in harvest. No such thing as being all alike.

Ques. No. 3—In drawing from a strong hive and giving to weaker ones, is not the damage greater than the benefit?

Judge Terrell—You take only hatching brood; no damage; others of the same opinion.

Ques. No. 4.—How do you manage swarms when no increase is desired?

Mr. Bankston—Run for extracted honey; you want to increase your colonies to as many as possible.

Mr. Jones—I want to know how to manage a colony to keep down increase?

Mr. Bankston—Kill the queen if you want to build up the colony and not increase when the swarm issues; or cage the queen, put her in a super and then set parent hive over this so that the bees will pass through the super. In four or five days take the super and put on top; then turn the queen loose, tear down the queen cells and your work is done.

Ques. No. 5—What is the best method of extracting wax?

J. Morgan—It has always been hard to get old combs rendered. I would like to have the best method.

Mr. Bankston—Have seen Mr. Atchley produce large quantities. The best method seems to be to put the old comb in a coarse sack, place in a large kettle, boil it and skim off with a ladle and put in boiling water.

Mr. Aten—Same; except placing a hoop cover over the sack. Put comb in kettle, boil and the wax will force through the sack and over the hoop, which is first pressed below the water level.

Mr. Jones—Refine twice and use wire instead of sack.

Judge Terrell—Used hot water when he didn't know any better.

Have long since abandoned it and now use the solar extractor. Can't purify wax after boiling so as to make a nice article.

Ques. No. 6—Why is it that some hives work all the time and others by their side don't seem to work but little and make more honey?

This question elicited a discussion as to the condition of the bees and how to know their condition without examining the hives.

Mr. McFarland, of Temple—Some years his bees made a lot of honey and others none at all. Has kept bees for fifty years. Had one colony swarm three times. Never did work in top story.

Ques. No. 7—Queen rearing.

C. B. Bankston described the nucleus plan of rearing queens, When your hive is queenless get a narrow strip of new comb from a good queen with eggs in it and fasten on top of frame over young brood. The cells will soon be matured and ready.

Ques. No. 8—Is there any way to tell when bees are gathering honey without looking in?

All agreed that they make a kind of sanctimonious racket.

Ques. No. 9—Is the Italian the best bee for all purposes?

Mr. Bankston—Of course it is. He had good reasons for believing the Italian to be the best.

Judge Terrell also thought the Italians superior to all others.

S. D. Hanna—Extracts from the minutes of Cameron meeting showing the superior qualities of the Carniolans as brood raisers, honey gatherers and as bees that go a long way for honey were read. He recalled the statements of Terrell, Bankston, Jones and Aten stating that the main object was to have a large colony of bees, plenty of room above and below, and the scientific methods of Bankston and Jones to keep down swarming, and showed conclusively that the Carniolan was as far ahead of the Italian as the Italian is ahead of the black, especially in this section of country.

Mr. Aten—Had no experience with any but Italians and thought they were the best.

Mr. Jones—I see no great discord. Mr. Aten wants bees to go in the second story and raise brood. He extracts honey. Mr. Bankston raises Italian queens and, of course, don't like Carniolans, and so on. There is no all-purpose bee. All are good in some respects.

Convention here adjourned and reconvened at 9 P.M.

Ques. No. 10—Was the bee created in the beginning or afterwards?

Mr. Bankston—Sampson was the first to discover honey in a carcass.

Mr. Taylor—The Bible stands first, and I think the bee was created in the beginning.

Judge Terrell spoke at length, giving good reasons to believe that they were created with man. They were in the Garden of Eden and Adam hived them from the limbs of the trees. Noah had seven swarms in the Ark. It was not until the Twelfth century that sugar was made from cane. They were first brought to this country (Florida) by a German in 1836.

Ques. No. 11—How many sacks and baskets does a bee carry to the field for her purposes?

Judge Terrell—As late as the Seventeenth century it was thought there were three kinds of bees—the drone, king and queen. They carry to the field two baskets and one sack.

Then came a hot debate originated by Mr. Jones asking how pollen was taken from the baskets and put in the cells?

This also brought on a close dispute as to the modus operandi of the bees in gathering pollen. No definite plan was prescribed whereby the secretary could formulate a better plan than the little bee has adopted that could be given to the "queen" for distribution to her progeny.

Ques No. 14—Do bees gather honey from flowers or honey dew?

After considerable debate as to whether bees got honey and pollen, or either, from corn tassels, it was agreed and ordered that any one present should consider himself a

committee of one to notice and be able to report at Cameron positively if the bee got any honey from the corn tassel and how they carry the pollen from the flower to the basket.

This ended the proceedings of the convention and all seemed satisfied. The secretary was instructed to draw up program and send to the organ of the Central Texas bee-keepers and have printed with the report of this convention.

The meeting adjourned to meet at Cameron July 16 and 17, 1897.

E. R. JONES, President.

S. D. HANNA, Sec'y.

We had fine rains; still cool, but bees are doing well.—J. D. Givens, Lisbon, Fla., March 16, 1897.

The new Dingley tariff imposes another 10 cents per gallon on all honey imported from foreign countries. Under the new schedule this makes the duty 20 cents per gallon.

I have just finished painting the hives you sent me. They are a first-class article. My bees are swarming fast and I have already secured a number of fine swarms—W. Williams, Fannin, Tex., March 25, 1897.

I put out the extractor you sent me to-day and at 1 P.M. the wax was running quite freely. It is an excellent machine. My bees are swarming and I will have to see about hiving them.—T. G. Morgan, Boyce, March 27, 1897.

SPRING MANAGEMENT.

Colonies in Good Working Order— Spring Feeding—Pollen and Its Substitutes.

BY L. STACHELHAUSEN. CONTINUED FROM PAGE 265.

I call these selected colonies "honey colonies." In some years I have only a few, in other years half of my colonies are managed this way.

Some recommend stimulative feeding in the spring. I never found this necessary in my locality but it is very important that all our colonies have a good supply of honey in their hive. If I can't help some poorer colonies with frames of honey from better ones I think the best plan would be to fill some empty combs with syrup or honey and give them to the colonies in need late in the evening to avoid robbing.

By melting the cappings in the solar wax extractor I get some very thick but dark honey. To utilize this I generally feed it in the open air in the spring time. In this case I set the feeders at least forty or fifty steps from the apiary and keep so many of them filled that the bees do not crowd themselves. If I wish to stop this feeding when no honey is coming in from the fields, I make the syrup or honey thinner by adding water, till the bees are getting less hasty carrying in this syrup or sweetened water.

The next day I fill the feeders with water and then quit. If the bees are fed this way there is no danger of robbing, we can even stop them from robbing when it would have commenced through carelessness.

In the spring of 1880 I bought some bees in box hives and transferred them to frame hives. I generally do this transferring in the honey house, carrying the box hive and all into it, but this year I had some reason to try it outside. But very soon I had trouble from robbers, so that I had to quit in the apiary and work hard to save my transferred colonies. Next morning I set out a few feeders with sugar syrup at first flavored with a little honey, and in the afternoon, while the bees were carrying in the syrup, I could finish my transferring business without any molestation from robbers.

Open air feeding I would recommend when in the spring the honey flow should cease for a short time, to stimulate the bees in keeping on rearing brood.

Feeding flour as a substitute for pollen is certainly useless in my locality. The bees find enough pollen and would not take the flour.

In the bee journals some other manipulations are recommended, such as keeping the bees warm by packing. This is worse than useless in our climate, even in winter time. It is recommended to give

the colonies no more combs than they can cover with bees and to contract the hive by a division board. In our climate an empty frame is just as good as a division board and I am not sure but it would do just as well in a cold climate.

I can't recommend uniting weak colonies in the spring. A fertile queen in the spring is worth a swarm, may be more. If the colony should be too weak to cover the brood, I give a comb with adhering bees. They are mostly young and will stay in the hive. We can even utilize queenless colonies or colonies having fertile workers. How they are easily cured and treated we will see in a future chapter.



ADULTERATION OF HONEY.

In a late issue you state that the American Bee Journal has been doing good work in running down honey sharks and swindlers. One of these fellows passed through this section some time back, selling a recipe for making adulterated honey, and a number of people bought it from him and are to-day stuffing themselves and their families with this so-called honey, not knowing what it may cost them in time to come. I think that the legislature of Texas should pass a law to stop all such schemes for swindling ignorant folks out of

their hard earnings. I say ignorant because it looks like ignorance to see them deal with such fellows, and so long as they continue to do so just so long will you hear the cry of hard times throughout the land. Would it not be wise, Mr. Editor, for the bee conventions of this and all other states to agitate for a law making it a criminal offense to counterfeit anything, same as it is to counterfeit money?

Since my last letter and since my experiment, my bees are doing fine and I see no sign of dysentery or paralysis. The experiment was salt with just a little sulphur mixed with it. After washing off the bottom board with the mixture, I sprinkle two tablespoonfuls over it, then put back in position and place the bees over it. In the course of two or three days all signs of disease disappears. I do not know whether the remedy was the cause, but one thing I do know and that is my bees seem all right since. I think bees need salt in their business and the mixture tends to rid them of worms and other insects, besides salt is good for anything like dysentery.

Please send James P. Smith a copy of the *QUEEN* and catalog. He has purchased three or four colonies and wishes me to transfer them for him. Wishing you much success in the enterprise in which you are engaged, I remain, yours, A. M. Barfield & Son, Stone Point, Texas, March, 1897.

A PASCAGOULA LEGEND.

Mysterious Music from the Sea— Is Mountain Laurel Honey Poisonous?

I am a good deal interested in the letters of Dr. Stell, and hope he will continue to favor the readers of the SOUTHLAND QUEEN with a monthly communication telling more of that marvelous country in which he lives. I beg to dissent wholly from his conclusions on the poisonous honey question. He begs the real question by assuming that because the Mountain Laurel is poisonous, the nectar from its flowers is necessarily poisonous too. There was no need for him to risk his life, and the life of the young Mexican, to prove that the Laurel was dangerous to animal life. It is well known here that it is deadly to cattle when only a few leaves are consumed. But I know from my own observation that honey extracted during the period of the blooming of the Mountain Laurel, in immense quantities, is perfectly wholesome. Have seen my bees working on it freely, and yet no harm resulted. If the doctor had taken the pains to gather, with a small pipette, from the blossoms of the Mountain Laurel protected artificially from insects, the nectar and experimented with it, he might have had different results. We see the moth

of the tobacco worm visiting the blossoms of the stramonium with perfect impunity, but when the tobacco raiser distills a little sweetened water poisoned with arsenic, into the flowers, the moth succumbs, proving that it is susceptible to the influence of poisonous drugs. My own theory on this subject is that the nectar gathered from flowers is in the main merely sweet water provided in the scheme of nature for the purpose of attracting, not killing, insects which are indispensable for the complete fertilization of the flowers. We recognize intelligent design in all this, as well as in many other of the processes of nature. It would completely defeat this design if the nectar were poisonous and destroy the very agencies so beautifully brought into play. In addition to the function performed by the bee, it is consistent with what we know of the Divine Author of creation, to suppose that the bee was intended for the service of man also and to provide him with that food mentioned in the Book, "Butter and honey shall he eat." It is unreasonable to suppose that this food should be poisoned. Now pollen was evidently not intended to be consumed by man. If there are really and truly cases of death from the contents of the bee hive, my theory is that they must have occurred from the ingestion of pollen from some poisonous plant. I

have actually seen persons eating "bee bread" in considerable quantities. It is nauseous in the extreme to my taste, but there are people who relish it. May not the cases of poisoning have been where a small quantity of pollen was eaten? Cells filled with pollen and sealed over are not uncommon right in the midst of sealed honey, and might have been eaten unintentionally. It is to be hoped that when the next case of poisoning is reported that there will be an investigation to determine whether the honey was not comb and from the brood chamber.

It has several times occurred to me that in return for the entertainment afforded by your contributors it might not be incumbent on me to tell of a singular phenomenon that has excited boundless conjecture in this locality and which has never met an explanation that has been accepted. I refer to what is called the "mysterious music of the Pascagoula." During any calm evening in summer the sailor who may happen to be becalmed at the mouth of the Pascagoula river, will hear a sound that has many of the tones of the Æolian harp. As he floats along the sounds rise and fall, coming at one moment from the heavens swelling with much of the melody of the wind harp, and then dying away only to break out again as sweetly as before and rising apparently out of the depths

below. The effect is to the last degree weird and mysterious. Different observers give different descriptions of the sounds, some comparing it to one instrument, and others to other kinds. It is almost impossible for the uninitiated to locate the origin of the sounds, and it is only by laying the ear to the bottom of the boat that you realize that the sounds come up from below. There is, of course, a legend to account for all this.

It is said that ages ago, before the daring Spaniard set out on his search for the Fountain of Youth, there lived amid the savannahs of the southern coast a tribe of Indians known as the Pascagoulas. Generations of this sept had hunted and fished along the shores of the Gulf until finally a feud arose between the Pascagoulas and a neighboring tribe. Many battles were fought with varying fortunes as the years passed by and the Pascagoulas added to their ancient renown as warriors. But at length, by means of alliances between their enemies, the ill-starred Pascagoulas found the tide of destiny set steadily against them. Many desperate battles so thinned their ranks that at last they were driven from their territory to the westward. Pursued with all the vindictive fury of Indian hate, the few surviving warriors and women reached the

banks of the Pascagoula. Surrounded on every side and with no means of crossing the dark stream, the warriors and maidens, refusing to surrender, marched, side by side, chanting their death song, into the flood disappearing forever. Their pursuers hastening down to the shore, heard for the first time the "mysterious music" and recognized in it the melancholy chant of their luckless foes, now beyond their pursuit. Every year since then, when the anniversary of the catastrophe occurs, the music begins to be heard on summer evenings and continues until daylight returns. The legend has been told in verse and story ever since this country was settled. No one has ever offered any tenable explanation of the music. At times it is so loud as to be audible fifty yards from the shore. It is only heard at the mouth of the Pascagoula and, rarely, a few miles off in the sound. I have listened to it many times and concluded that the sound came from the water and was produced by fish or some other living creature. But all the fishermen say that there has never been taken here any fish or other specimen of marine life that is peculiar to this spot and to these waters. So the sound is still a mystery.—T. S. Ford, Scranton, Miss., March 3, 1897.

Bees—to see them—bring gain and profit.

MISSISSIPPI BEE JOTTINGS.

Our weather has been quite cool here for several weeks. The bees are very quiet, there having been only three or four flights for the past two months. Supplies seem ample judging by the state of the hives. I am now looking forward for a good honey harvest. Blooms are retarded this spring, there being no sign of peach blossoms yet. While the bees are quiet I am going ahead getting everything ready so as not to be behind at swarming time. I am making some 10-frame hives to try this coming season. I rather think I will like them. So far I have not lost any of my 25 colonies.

I shall try extracting to a limited extent this year, and right here I wish to ask the following questions: (1) When extracting honey what about ripening it before closing up the barrel for market? and (2) Will oak whisky kegs or barrels answer to store extracted honey in?

The late Dr. Marshall's story of a family ringing bells, blowing horns and beating tin pans to settle a swarm, reminds me of an esteemed neighbor, now dead, sending a lot of children and negroes to follow and settle an absconding swarm. She gave a very stout negro a new tin milk pan as his "noising" instrument. This swarm flew nearly two miles before settling. When the pursuing party returned to report the new pan was handed back

all battered and broken up. Bells are not now used in this place to settle swarms, the bee books have taught us better. Our bees are kind enough to settle within fifty feet of their mother colony as the yard is well stocked with trees of various kinds.

By the way, I see quite an improvement in the *QUEEN*, splendid reading matter there too. I distributed the few copies you sent me. I will close by asking you to send me a catalog.—R. A. Whitfield, Westville, Miss., March, '97.

(1) It is best not to extract unsealed or unripe honey. Honey is sometimes ripe when not sealed, but during a honey flow better let the bees seal the honey before extracting, or at least do not extract till two-thirds sealed. If you must harvest unripe honey leave it in open vessels or tanks in the sun to evaporate, as it will not ripen properly in barrels, even if the bung is left open. Some apiarists extract their honey and let it run into large vats made for the purpose, and let it remain so till ripe. It will not do to barrel unripe honey as it will spoil very quickly.

(2) Yes; whisky barrels will do to put up honey in, but clean them thoroughly and wax them inside, or the honey will both smell and taste of the whisky. If you can get new cypress barrels we would recommend them in preference to whisky barrels.—ED.



Mr. Neal sold 160 acres of land to Mr. J. H. Reaves for 1,600 pounds of honey—Sabinal Sentinel.

NORTHERN NEBRASKA NOTES.

From this land of reputed ice and snow to the bee-keepers of the sunny southland I send greeting. There ought to be and surely is, a bond of union between us for are we not all interested in and lovers of the busy bee and her most delicious product—honey—wholesome, pure and unadulterated.

This paper is intended merely as an introductory talk with you all, hence I shall touch briefly several points; latter I hope to discuss at some length well defined subjects which may be of interest to you all. I do not say that I shall be able to instruct readers of the *QUEEN* in the art of managing bees for I am young in that work myself, but there are other things besides "knack" upon which success may in a great measure depend. Knack is good, excellent, it goes a long ways, but absolute knowledge is better, it is power, and when united the two become well nigh invincible. There are would-be bee-keepers, I hope not many but I know of a few, who started in the business in spring and when fall came had nothing to show for their enterprise but some empty hives bearing the placard "for sale." Why? They began with no tools to work with. They had no text books on the subject, they had no bee paper of any kind, indeed they never saw one in their lives. They knew nothing about

bees, their habits, needs or requirements, save what some old and long ago defunct bee master had told them, which, upon inquiry, seemed to consist of but two items of information (?) viz., that the ruler of the hive was a "king" bee and that if they wanted honey they must kill the bees to get it. A man might build a house with no tools but a hammer and a saw, he could hardly get along with less, though I did hear of one in the wilds of the west who constructed a log house with only an augur and a frying pan, but a skilled carpenter would demand more and better tools. Books are tools, papers are helpers. A bee keeper may get along pretty well and attain average, perhaps I had better say moderate, success with one text book and one bee journal, but most of us want more. There are to-day text books and journals published for every profession, trade or calling under the sun, but in no instance can we find any one book or one paper that covers the entire field and tells us all we want to know. It is not to be expected, progression is too rapid. I have been told that we of the north had no use for a southern bee journal, nor they of the south any use for a northern one. I do not agree with this sentiment; I believe there is mutual benefit to be derived by interchange of ideas and facts relative to climate, soil, native flora

and the different methods practiced by bee-keepers of the north and south. We kept a bee journal in the house for five years before we owned a bee and read Langstroth for six months before our bees arrived. We have four bee papers now and several books on different branches of bee-keeping. Yet we expect to add thereto rather than take therefrom as time goes on.

Lest this paper should prove too bulky and so meet the fate of many undesirable articles, I will speak briefly of the condition of our little apiary at present writing, March 25, and close. We unpacked the hives (having wintered on summer stands) and went through them, carefully noting every condition. Queens all present, bees lively, plenty of honey on hand and brood rearing in full blast. We repacked them and went away well pleased that the wintering problem for this year was for us happily solved. The winter has been wet with an abundance of ice and snow; a cold disagreeable winter which has been loth to depart and lingered long in the lap of spring. Mrs. L. E. R. Lambrigger, Knox Co., Nebr.

[You are right about our mutual benefit—North, East, South and West. A good bee paper is what all bee-keepers need, no difference where published, and the more papers we read so much more knowledge we gain.—ED.]

MR. J. D. GIVENS.

I was born December 10, 1859, in Ellis county, Texas. My father was a farmer and stock raiser, and kept a large lot of bees. The very first duty I can remember being assigned me was to watch for swarms, myself and other little ones being stationed about the yard and when a swarm came out we simply "raised the natives" with old tin pans and cow bells and, as a matter of course, we settled them, when some of the men folks would come and hive them. Father kept from 100 to 200 colonies, all in box gums, nail kegs or barrels. When he got too many he brimstoned the bees in the fall and took all the honey. He used to often catch the queens when hiving and clip their wings, and even then, when no Italian bees were heard of in this part of the country, I have heard him speak of the striped bees being the best workers. Whether this was a difference in the color of the hair or whether they had real yellow bands I do not remember.

Father sold his farm and stock in 1870 and moved with all the family to California, where he bought a farm nine miles north of Napa City which is about 60 miles north of San Francisco, but the country had changed so much since he was there in early days that he was never satisfied. I will state here that he was one of the

early forty-niners that took the gold fever and crossed the plains and mountains by wagon. He made two trips to California in this manner. Many a stirring incident have I heard him relate of their early days, but when he moved with his family then we went by wagon to Missouri and took the cars from Quincy, Ill., for California. After staying there for two years he sold out and came by rail back to Missouri and by wagon to Texas, locating five miles south of Dallas, where he lived until his death in 1888. He kept bees most of the time after moving here.

September 19, 1888, I married a girl I had known from childhood, a Miss Leona Hight, of Lisbon, and in 1889 we moved to our present home, one mile from Lisbon and seven and a half miles south of Dallas. From this time dates my bee-keeping career on modern methods. I bought books and subscribed for bee journals, and in 1890 transferred all to frame hives and began queen rearing. To this branch I have devoted a good deal of study and have tried and practiced all the different methods. I now use the Doolittle, Alley and Atchley methods, sometimes one, sometimes the other, usually a combination or compromise.

I now run about 200 colonies, mostly for queen rearing. The yard shown in the picture contains



Apiary and Residence of J. D. Givens.

120 hives; two rows on the north side are not shown nor across the west end and none that are in the orchard. The hives face the south, and the trees in the bee yard are pecans. As you will see my wife stands to my right, our youngest child Roy in her arms; he is now 14 months old. The next youngest is George standing by me on top of a hive. To my right are our two little girls—Mabel the oldest, with her back to the tree, she is 7; Sallie, by her side, is 5 years old and does not know what it is to be afraid of a bee. She will make the bee-keeper of our children, the others don't care much for them. Sallie is decidedly a papa's girl. My wife is now 28 years old and we are both members of the church of Christ. As our children are all small, wife and I have been overworked. We have been running the farm by hired help, but I have now rented my land out and will devote my time to bees and small fruit. While in California I acquired a taste for fruit growing and now we have a block of land close to the house that seems well adapted to small fruits. I aim to turn my attention to small fruits and bees exclusively; I have a natural love for both. My location is well adapted for bees and queen rearing. I usually have a fine honey flow every year, but the last two have been poor. That will be an advantage for

queen rearing, as all the one, two and three-hive folks have gone out of the bee business, leaving me an undisputed territory which I intend to use to good advantage. I have always found ready sale for all my hon'y, selling a good part in the neighborhood, Oak Cliff and Dallas.

My father was a great lover of the chase, and I have inherited my share of love for that royal sport. Although game is a thing of the past here, I take a trip to East Texas every fall for a deer hunt and usually have good luck. I have killed as many as seven deer on one hunt. A few years back I was considered a good rifle shot, either at stationary or moving objects. I have broken glass balls, cracked walnuts, even pecans, tossed in the air, shooting a 22-caliber Winchester rifle. I have broken 20 balls without missing a shot. So great is my love for pastime of this nature that I often find myself longing for some new wild country where I could have some more real good old fashioned hunting again.

POINTERS.

In transferring I would state that there should be a few frames with brood in the upper story where the queen is. I have seen a queen trying for two days to get to the brood below, but by giving her a comb with eggs and larva she seems to be right at home. There should always be plenty of room in the upper story so that there is no

honey stored below during the twenty-one days.

When worker combs are empty the straight ones can be used again. The top of the lower portion of the Hoffman frame is very like a V and by cutting a V in the comb you can get them well in on the top. Place the comb frame on the table, fit in the top and draw a line a little larger than the inside frame, wedge shape, and cut it. By a little pressing you can get it in the frame so that it will fit the v snugly and the comb will hold it o k on top. On the bottom of comb and on bottom bar I use some old propolis putty. If several pieces of comb are used they can be fastened together in the same manner as broken window glass, only use wax instead of putty.

Comb works best when temperature runs about 85 to 95 degrees.

Give your cloth gloves a coat of beeswax and the bees are not so apt to sting.

Tin separators painted and while wet placed on sawdust, should do as well as wood separators and not wrap.

How would a sack do for shade? Put on each corner a large rock. This would give a double roof.

Farmers, do you consider that you pay thousands of dollars every year to sugar monopolists and let the honey on your own place go to waste? If you had a few colonies of bees you could gather all the honey your families need and it can also be used the same as sugar and is a great deal healthier. V.

SOME EXPERIENCES IN IMPORTING QUEENS.

Written for the QUEEN by W. S. Pender, W. Maitland, New South Wales.

In this short article I intend to give the ups and downs of a queen importer as experienced by myself. My first attempt to bring queens across the Pacific from America to here, New South Wales, was made in April, 1892, when I ordered from Mr. G. M. Doolittle three of his best breeders. Shortly after this time, about three weeks I think, my copy of March Gleanings came to hand, in which was an article by Mr. Doolittle in which he pointed out that queens were not legally mailable to Australia and New Zealand on account of the United States postal authorities not having received any advices from the Australian postal departments admitting them through the mails. There had been no refusal to receive bees as mail matter and some had been sent through with success, but that did not satisfy me, for at any time queens may be returned or detained and as I was directly interested, having sent my order and the money to pay for them, I did what I could toward getting them made legal mail matter at parcel rates, viz., one penny per 2 ozs., or, as the U. S. postal guide has it, two cents for 1 oz. My first step was to lay the matter before our Postmaster General, and at the same time I got

a special meeting of the Hunter River Bee-keepers' Association called in order that should any objection be made to my application for consideration, the application of a representative body would be sure to receive due consideration. After a little correspondence and some delay caused through England having to be consulted, bees were made legal matter by February, 1893.

So much about the mailing regulations, but how about my queens, for time was passing. Mr. Doolittle sent them as letters, each under cover of an envelope on which about 90 cents postage was paid. The queens arrived in September but, to my intense disgust, all dead! and appeared to me to have been smothered. I expected to have had one queen alive out of the three but it was not so. The following month I designed a mailing cage and sent it to Mr. Doolittle with a queen and bees and they arrived in a very unsatisfactory condition, the candy, I think Mr. Doolittle described "as hard as jack rock," and of course every bee was dead. I have since found that in my endeavor to get a very fine sugar I got some that was mixed largely with starch for confectioners' purposes.

In July of the following year, 1893, I again ordered three breeders, only to arrive in the same

condition as the previous lot. I became a little disheartened as queens cost money, but in September tried Mr. Alley to see if he could do any better, and ordered two queens. These arrived in due course but in very bad condition, the candy had run through the cages and drowned the bees and the whole arrived a sticky mess. While waiting for the American queens to arrive I received on August 9 nine live queens and one dead from Italy. This result was very encouraging, but they did not come by mail but packed in small boxes and carried as general cargo. A description of the boxes will be given further on.

Again in March, 1894, I received a queen by mail from Mrs. Atchley, but like all others I received from America she was dead. The point I could not understand was, how was it other bee-keepers in Australia received some queens alive and I not one, for my loss was eleven queens or 100 per cent. I now began to argue if my Italy consigner can land me 90 per cent. by freight I ought to get better results from America in the same way, for from Italy the bees are confined about 42 days while from America only about 30 days. I now asked Mrs. Atchley to send me six by freight, which landed like all previous attempts from America. This brought my loss up to 17 from America and not one

alive. About the same time the last mentioned six came to hand I received a consignment from Italy of 20, and notwithstanding some of the cages were so wet with salt water as to cause the wood to expand and push the sides out, 15 were alive and in three of the cages were almost sufficient live bees to form nuclei with. The length of time on the journey was 42 days.

From this date my fortunes turned in my American importations, for in another lot of six sent by Mrs. Atchley, arriving in December, 1894, I received four queens alive. In the following year, 1895, Mr. Doolittle sent me a queen by mail which arrived in September, and to my delight on opening the cage, all were alive but one bee. This queen arrived in perfect condition.

In November Mrs. Atchley sent me a consignment of five splendid queens, and the result was "five live queens," all in good condition. The queens proved to be fine, large, prolific and long-lived queens, without that ever readiness of bees to supersede their queens as is so often noticeable with imported queens.

Until 1894 the sending of queens by mail across the Pacific seems to have been mostly experimental with very varying results, but since then excellent results have been obtained, and so very many have

reported success that it seems as if success is thoroughly established and the question to be asked is wherein lies the cause or what was the fault that caused the non success previously. Is it better cages, better candy, a better position on the steamers, or what is better now than before? If no reasons can be given for present results, are we to be sure they will continue successful. Perhaps it is a matter of drifting into success that no one can account for. I have made several attempts to send queens across and failed—gave it up, believing the nucleus plan to be better in every way though more costly. But if queens continue to be so successfully mailed my opinions will change for if success can be attained by sending queens at about 4 cents each, why there will be no necessity to pay \$1.50 to \$2.50 each. I may here mention of the four queens I received alive in a consignment of six, the bees had nearly all died and in one case the queen only was alive. The bees in the hives to which they were introduced seemed to take every opportunity to supersede their queen. This, I think, points out that the queens suffered somewhat by the voyage. In the last consignment by Mrs. A. the queens all lived through the season and I expect are alive now. This seems to point to the fact that Mrs. Atchley is improv-

ing in her method of caging, but I am not quite satisfied that they would have lived 42 days the same as the Italy bees. I will give a description of Mrs. A.'s shipping cage as well as the Italian, and a comparison of the two may lead to good results. I cannot give the method of putting up the bees adopted by the Italians, but I must say queens from Italy come to me in excellent condition and are long-lived and prolific. I have used the same queen to breed from for two seasons. Last season I had three Italy queens that were at the head of very populous colonies for two seasons. This points to the fact that the 42 days' confinement from Italy has little if any detrimental effect on the queens. A much disputed question is, should there be water in the cages? Italy cages always contain zinc bottles of water, and greater success was attained when the size of the bottles was increased. In my last consignments from America no water was used, and, considering the success of the last without water, I for a time considered that water was not necessary, but I have a fancy that it would tend to success and bees would come over in better condition with it. Another reason water may be more necessary from America than Italy, is because the whole route from America is through the tropics and I believe the overland

part of the journey to San Francisco is excessively hot.

From Italy each queen is placed in a separate cage with about 200 bees. The cages measure 7 in. long, $6\frac{3}{8}$ in. wide and $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. deep, inside measurements and nailed together, of $\frac{1}{4}$ in. pine. The 7 in. side is divided for three frames in the center, $\frac{3}{4}$ in. apart, and two zinc water bottles, one attached to each end. The frames are made of $\frac{7}{8} \times \frac{1}{4}$ in. pine, the top bar $7\frac{1}{4}$ in. long, the ends of which being let into notches cut in the sides of boxes. The bottoms of frames are $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, just long enough to go into cages without fitting tightly. The end bars are $3\frac{1}{4}$ in. long and $\frac{3}{8}$ in. thick and nailed between top and bottom bars so as to be $\frac{3}{8}$ in. from sides of cage. The water bottles are made of thin sheet zinc having one side of the top projecting $\frac{1}{4}$ in. to hang on end of cage secured with two light tacks. The only opening is a short tube on the bottom about $\frac{3}{8}$ in. diameter, over which is tied a piece of very strong calico. The bees obtain the water by sucking the moisture from the calico. This calico is strong enough to prevent any leakage. Ventilation is given through four $\frac{3}{4}$ in. holes, in each end and two holes in each side. These holes are covered with safe wire inside and out. One inch up from bottom of cage is secured a sheet of safe wire. This wire al-

lows all leakage of honey and fine dirt to pass away from around the bees. Nothing suffocates bees quicker than honey, and this wire netting keeps them perfectly clean. The frames are filled with tough old combs of sealed honey tied in with strong string. On arrival the two outside combs are more or less full of granulated honey, the center comb empty except perhaps a few cells of unsealed honey. It seems to me quite probable the center comb contained some brood. The lid being nailed down and coming on top of frames keeps them from rocking or moving in any way.

The Atchley shipping cage, or rather cages, consists of a long box divided into a number of apartments, made of $\frac{1}{4}$ in. pine. The box for five queens is 18 in. long, $6\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide and $4\frac{3}{4}$ in. deep. The divisions do not touch the bottom but are kept $\frac{1}{2}$ in. therefrom, on the edges of which are tacked a sheet of safe wire to allow dirt to pass through. In each apartment is secured two frames having top and bottom bars 6 in. long, just long enough to fit tightly between sides; the end bars kept $\frac{3}{8}$ in. from sides, gives a bee space around frames, and the bottom bar is $\frac{1}{4}$ in. above wire, the top bar is level with top of box. The frames are filled with comb honey fastened with thin slats nailed to frame and are secured in position with a light nail in top and bottom

bars of frames. The bottom of the cage is formed of slats which are kept about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. apart for ventilation. To preserve the ventilation between slats two pieces of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. pine are nailed across the bottom to form a stand which keeps the bottom of cage away from anything it may be placed on. The lid is nailed down over all. A strong strip of leather, nailed on each side, forms a handle for carrying. The weight of one of these cages to carry five queens is about the same as for one queen from Italy. I forgot to mention the Italy cages are crated together with a 2 in. strip of wood between to give free ventilation to the ventilating holes. I think the Atchley cage would be better if the bottom slats were kept only $\frac{1}{8}$ in. apart so as to give less ventilation. Many alterations may be suggested, but will they be improvements? These I will leave to others to suggest.—Drumfin Apiary, West Maitland, N. S. W.

A youth living in Breedville, Mich., is turning green from using cigarettes. Most cigarette smokers are more or less green when they begin the practice.

John Short, until recently known as a rustling sheepman, says now he is out of the sheep business he will go into the bee business. Bees, he says, don't require herders, shearers, etc., and can rustle for their food without their owner being afraid of being put out of the pasture.—San Angelo Enterprise.



LESSON 21.

(76) DEAR MADAME: You must understand that I positively know very little about bees, in fact I am a regular "blue back speller" pupil like I used to be back in Tennessee. For instance, I find more "dutch" in your lesson regarding the transferring from one gum to another than I would likely find in Holland. But I have got the bee fever and I am anxious to learn. I want to know how to transfer and to keep down natural swarming? At the same time I want to increase my flock.

Now sister—no Mother Atchley, seeing that I am an infant, if you can teach one so absolutely ignorant of "beeology" without in any way impairing your religious training and practice, why just send me the first lesson, that is, one or two colonies of the best for honey, provided there will be no interference between those I have and those you send. I don't know whether I want that "straight 5-band breeder" at \$10.00 or not. That reminds me of the hog that some parties bought a while back at \$36.00! More money than brains. That's just what I have been telling you. I have two colonies in an old-fashioned stick gum. The comb is black with age. I also have a swarm catcher. Now, I like your No. 1 hives. Send me what I need for old and young

colonies. After giving me this lesson I shall expect you to turn physician and send me a bill for prescription, and I beg that you will not give me anything that is very strong and nauseating.—Yours truly, F. G. McPeak.

(76) FRIEND MCPeak—As I see you are willing to learn I will try to make transferring plain, and if you come across a dose that is likely to make you sick don't take it. I will give you a plan we are practising most every day. Knock the tops off your old box hives, lay them on a table with the top lowest so that all drip honey will drain out and not run through the hive. Smoke the bees well before beginning and when ready to begin operations cut the nails with a cold chisel or an old hatchet, pry the box apart (of course lay box down in such a manner so the combs will be edgewise), saw off the cross sticks, keep the bees smoked back out of your way, and take out comb after comb, brushing off any adhering bees into your new hive. Now, pile your combs up, and when all is cut out, use the best combs by laying them down on an empty frame, now cut round the comb so as to fit the frame, and if one piece does not fill a frame take another piece and so on, till your frame is full. Now tack narrow strips of wood across the frame or from top to bottom bar, in such a manner as to hold the combs in place, then turn comb,

and all over and tack strips on as before and hang in new hive, and proceed the same way till all your brood combs that are straight are put in, then place the frames of comb all in new hive leaving room for the bees to pass between the combs. Put on the cover, shake the bees that are clustered to parts of old box, in front of your new hive and they will run in soon and the job is over. If your combs are straight it will make a nice fit, and if honey is coming in, which it should be to be successful, the bees will fasten combs to frames in three or four days, then you can take off the clasps or little sticks and all is done.

If you wish to make increase and do not wish any natural swarms, proceed as follows: When your bees are getting strong, say about April 1 to June 1, according to the advance of your spring, will be about the right time in your locality, take out half the brood frames from any strong colony; take those with most of the brood. Place them in a new hive with adhering bees, place new hive on new stand, fill up old hive with empty frame or frames with foundation in them and now you have two colonies instead of one. It will not matter much in which hive the old queen is in, but I would rather have her in old hive on the old stand as then they act much like a natural swarm, and I

prefer this to any plan tried, and am practising this plan every day now. The hive that you have set away on new stand will work but little, as a rule, for four or five days, but will soon be all right and when both get strong again put on some supers and all is well.

(77) As I have just commenced in the bee business I would like you to tell me which hive is best in the south for comb and extracted honey?—W. C. Roberts, James, Ga., April 4, 1897.

(77) I would use eight or ten-frame hives taking the Langstroth frame, and if you have a good locality for bees better use ten-frame hives, if poor use eight-framed. Locality has so much to do with size of frames that it is hard to answer such questions unless more particulars are given. I would use two full stories for extracted and one and a half for comb honey.

(78) I am confused as to Holyland, Cyprian and Syrian bees. Are they all the same variety or different? Please explain these points.—E. J. Milbe, Jenny Lind, Ark., March 29, 1897.

(78) The Holylands and Syrians are one and the same and are likely the same bees Sampson found in the carcass and he made them mad by taking their honey away. The riddle about them could not be

solved until Delilah betrayed him to find it out and this brought about great tribulation and death. These bees have seemingly kept all this in mind as they fight like warriors. The Cyprians are evidently the same race of bees, but a little different from locality as they come from Cypress.

(79) I am thinking of starting a colony of bees and write for information. 1. Could I keep a hive in the suburbs of the city as I have a large back lot and garden? 2. Could I start by buying a queen or would I need a colony of bees? —G. H. Burnett, St. John, N. B., Canada, March 26, 1897.

(79) FRIEND BURNETT: I think you can keep a few bees in a city all right, as others do, and sometimes they do well. You could not start a colony with a queen alone as you would need to have enough bees with her to carry on the work and some to spare to go to the field, say two quarts of bees with queen will build up and make a good colony.

Texas Conventions for 1897.

South Texas Bee-keepers' Association.

Meets at Beeville, first Wednesday and Thursday in Nov., 1897. No hotel bills to pay. J. O. GRIMSLEY, SECY.
Beeville, Texas.

Central Texas Bee-keepers' Association.

Meets at Cameron, Texas, July 16 and 17, 1897. No hotel bills to pay. S. D. HANNA, SECY.,
Temple, Texas.

NEW UNION NOW READY FOR BUSINESS.

Over a month ago (as soon as convenient after amalgamation was defeated), the executive committee of the United States Bee-Keepers' Union decided to carry out the provisions of the new constitution, and, as it authorized them so to do, appoint a board of directors, so that the new union might be ready to take up the work intended to be accomplished by it. But thinking it would be more satisfactory to the members if they were consulted as to their preferences for general manager and those composing the board of directors, a circular and voting card were mailed to each present member, the latter to be used in indicating those whom each member would prefer that the executive committee should appoint, in order that the official part of the organization should be complete. After allowing sufficient time for the ballots to be returned to Mr. M. Best, of Toledo, Ohio, (the member selected to receive and count the ballots, assisted by Secretary Mason), the executive committee can now issue the following notice, based upon the result as indicated by the returned ballots, there being 61 returned out of a total of 81:

To the Members of the United States Bee-Keepers' Union:—

We, the executive committee, according to the power vested in us by the new constitution, do hereby appoint the following as general manager and board of directors of the United States Bee-Keepers' Union, to hold their offices during the balance of the year 1887, or until their successors are elected and qualified:

GENERAL MANAGER,—Hon. Eugene Secor, Forest City, Iowa.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS,—Ernest R. Root, Medina, Ohio; Rev. E. T. Abbott, St. Joseph, Mo.; Dr. C. C. Miller, Marenco, Ill.; W. Z. Hutchinson, Flint, Mich.; E. Whitcomb, Friend, Nebr.; and C. P. Dadant, Hamilton, Ill.

GEO. W. YORK, Pres.,
E. WHITCOMB, Vice-Pres.,
A. B. MASON, Sec.,

Executive Committee.

Chicago, Ill., April 1, 1897.

Now as the United States Bee-Keepers' Union is fully equipped as to its officers, we trust that bee-keepers everywhere will at once send in their dollar membership fees to the general manager, Hon. Eugene Secor, Forest City, Iowa, or to the secretary, Dr. A. B. Mason, Sta. B., Toledo, Ohio, so that there may be ample funds to begin to carry out the objects of the Union, which are expressed in the following paragraph taken from the new constitution:

ARTICLE II.—OBJECTS.

Its objects shall be to promote and protect the interests of its members; to defend them in their lawful rights; to enforce laws against the adulteration of honey; to prosecute dishonest honey-commission men; and to advance the pursuit of bee culture in general.

The above concerning the new United States Bee-Keepers' Union was sent us by the editor of the American Bee Journal with the appointments made by the executive committee marked, but we give the whole circular in full, as we are sure our readers will appreciate it. When such names appear as a board of directors, we feel that success is sure. Then the selection for president, vice-president and secretary is o k, and the new union marches off with bright prospects. 'Rah for the new union.

THE Southland QUEEN.

Published Monthly.

E. J. Atchley, Editor and Business Mgr.
— Assisted by —
Willie, Charlie and Amanda Atchley.
Mrs. Jennie Atchley, Ed. and Manager
of School for Beginners.

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Send money by Registered Mail, P.O. Money Order, Express Money Order, or Bank Draft. Do not send private check under any circumstances. One and two cent postage stamps will be accepted for amounts under \$1.00; must be in good order. Our International Money Order office is Victoria, Texas, and all remittances from foreign countries must be made through that office.

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**The Jennie Atchley Company,
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Entered at the Post Office at Beeville, Texas, for transmission through the mails at second class rates.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, APRIL, 1897.

WE contemplate getting out an extra large issue next month as the QUEEN will enter its third year when the May number is out. This will be a splendid number to have an advertisement in as copies will be sent far and near. See our advertising rates.

OUR usual April honey flow began about the 6th, but a cool snap on the 9th cut it off for the time being.

THE Cowan extractors, as made by the A. I. Root Co., have two adjustable stay rods to hold the cans steady while moving or when stationary. A little thing but a grand invention.

WE take pleasure in showing the apiary and home of J. D. Givens, together with himself and family. Read his biography and then send him an order for a

queen. He is a good queen breeder and will treat you right. See his adv. in this issue.

WE are too busy this month to think of anything to say or do, except to get hives ready and put on supers. The bee-keepers all over the country are like fish in hot water—don't know which way to flounce. Everybody wants hives at the same time it appears. Friends, be as patient as you can, for we are doing all we can to get your hives, etc., ready, and we are running day and night. We hope to be up with you soon.

Advertising Columns.

When writing to any of our advertisers please say where you saw their advertisement.

We will not advertise for parties known to be irresponsible.

If you wish to make a Paying Investment, send for my catalog **QUEENS.** and try my

J. D. GIVENS, LISBON, Dallas Co., Texas.

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Sections, smokers, queen cages, and everything needed in the Apiary. Warranted Italian Queens 75c each. Two-frame Nuclei with Queen \$2.60.

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DEANES & MINER, - Ronda, N.C.

T. J. SKAGGS, REAL ESTATE Co.,

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Wish to call especial attention to their cheap ranche lands in this issue of the SOUTHLAND QUEEN. Well improved ranches of 3,500 acres and over \$2.00 per acre.

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If you have \$800 to \$4,000 to invest in an improved home in town we can fit you up at 50 per cent discount. Always hunt us up if you come to South-west Texas.

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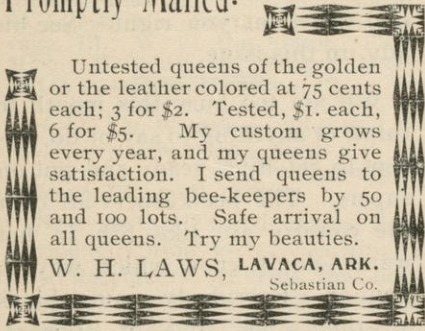
I SAY, did you know that

Jennie Atchley had queens for sale? If you didn't know it before, you have no reason to doubt it now.

Write to THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN for her P. O. Address.



Promptly Mailed.



Untested queens of the golden or the leather colored at 75 cents each; 3 for \$2. Tested, \$1. each, 6 for \$5. My custom grows every year, and my queens give satisfaction. I send queens to the leading bee-keepers by 50 and 100 lots. Safe arrival on all queens. Try my beauties.

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We make a specialty of a choice strain of ITALIAN BEES. If in need of good Italian Queens it will be well to consider our prices and strain of Bees.

JOHN NEBEL & SON,

High Hill, Mo.

The Bee-Keepers' Review

for December, 1896, contains a double page illustration of four out-apiaries located near Flint, and managed by one man for comb honey, with almost no help. A portrait of the owner, and a description of his methods are also given. There is also a fine picture of bees secreting wax and building comb made from a photograph taken by the editor. Mr. Taylor has a long article on hives. There is the review of foreign journals by F. L. Thompson; Hasty's three-page review of the American journals; the usual extracts and editorial comments, etc.

The Review is \$1.00 a year, or \$1.25 for the Review and the book, "Advanced Bee Culture;" \$1.75 for Review and a fine tested queen—the queen to be sent early in 1897. New subscribers get the December issue free.

W. Z. HUTCHINSON, Flint, Mich.

STATE BEE-KEEPERS.

Minutes of Their Session at Greenville—An Interesting Meeting.

The 19th annual session of the Texas Bee-Keepers' Association met at the apiary of W. R. Graham yesterday (April 7). Owing to the death of Rev. W. K. Marshall, president of the association, and feeble health of Vice-President W. R. Graham, W. R. Howard, M.D., of Fort Worth, was elected temporary chairman. The following bee men answered roll call:

W. R. Graham, W. R. Howard, P. G. Carter, A. M. Tuttle, M. M. James, M. Kimbrough, C. W. Simpson, J. N. Hunter, P. D. Farmer, A. D. Morgan, A. A. Gardner, W. M. Stopliton, and several visitors.

The association were invited to inspect the large supply factory and apiary of Bro. Graham. In the bee yard were nucleus and special hives for queen rearing. In the factory the process of manufacturing everything used by bee-keepers was in full blast.

At 2 P.M. the meeting was called to order by W. R. Howard, president pro tem. Prayer was offered by J. N. Hunter.

A committee was appointed to draft suitable resolutions on the demise of Rev. W. K. Marshall who died January 6, 1897.

The discussion of honey producing flora especially cotton bloom, was taken up. It was generally conceded that the best honey was gathered from the black land cotton bloom. Honey dew figured largely in the discussion. Next the diseases of bees were discussed, Dr. Howard taking a leading part. Queens, hives, feeding and feeders, honey plants and sowing alfalfa for bees all came up for discussion.

An adjournment was then had until 9:30 A.M.

When the association was called to order by the president pro tem, W. R. Howard, the committee on resolutions reported the following, which was adopted.

WHEREAS, Our beloved president, W. K. Marshall, has been called from his post of duty amongst us, and has been removed to a higher and a holier plane beyond this life;

WHEREAS, The Texas Bee-Keepers Association has lost one of its most ardent members, the state and community a faithful citizen and a worthy Christian gentleman;

Therefore, be it resolved, that in this, our unanimous expression of sorrow and grief, we tender our sincere sympathy to the bereaved family and friends, and that a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the convention and also a copy be sent to the bereaved family.

| | |
|---------------|-------------|
| W. R. HOWARD, | } Committee |
| J. N. HUNTER, | |
| P. G. CARTER, | |
| A. M. TUTTLE, | |

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: W. R. Graham, President; W. R. Howard, vice-president; J. N. Hunter, secretary-treasurer.

The discussion on diseases of bees was resumed.

A resolution of thanks to Bro. W. R. Graham and his family for their kind hospitality and a tender of sympathy to Bro. Graham in his affliction was unanimously adopted.

The session then closed to meet again the first Wednesday and Thursday in April, 1898, at Greenville.

W. R. HOWARD, Pres.,
Fort Worth.
J. N. HUNTER, Sec'y.,
Leonard.

A RAMBLER'S NOTES.

DEAR SIR,—I have just come from Polk county overland, and have watched carefully for signs of apicultural rise or fall, and I am not sure but all I have seen has been fall. The first bad sign was a big log gum occupied by two setting hens in Walker county. In Austin county I saw six box gums made into a horse block. In Colorado county I saw several gums upside down and great quantities of wormy comb piled on a bench. Upon inquiry I was told web worms had killed the bees out. I passed through Wharton, near the Victor bee ranche, but as I was in company with a medical chap who had no time to spare, I missed a much coveted visit. In Austin county I saw the first movable frames; they contained Italians and belonged to a progressive Bohemian.

I went north-west across the Golden Rod prairie, so called from

the quantity of golden rod found there. Settlers told me that the wind blew so hard that bees did no good unless it might be a few in the belts of bushy timber along their boggy streams. Wherever I inquired the people complained of dead bees. I saw a few hives of Italians near Falls City. I expect to spend the year here and will try my luck again with a few wild bees of the mesquite woods.

GEO. MOTT.

Campbellton, Texas.

SCRANTON DOINGS.

DEAR FRIENDS,—Last week I was at my old home in Columbia and found that bees had been swarming up there considerably; but here, out of over 80 colonies, there are only about five that show any symptoms of getting ready to swarm, and it is very doubtful whether they do as they are killing their drones and I see a good many young bees dragged out. I suppose they are suffering from wet weather. Am about satisfied that this is no place for bees, and if I live shall send my bees a few miles up in the interior this fall. Perhaps the gallberry flow may surprise me, however. I do not think my bees have gathered a pound of surplus so far, and I see beekeepers from the interior bringing in nice new section honey for sale.

T. S. FORD.

Scranton, Miss., April 4, 1897.

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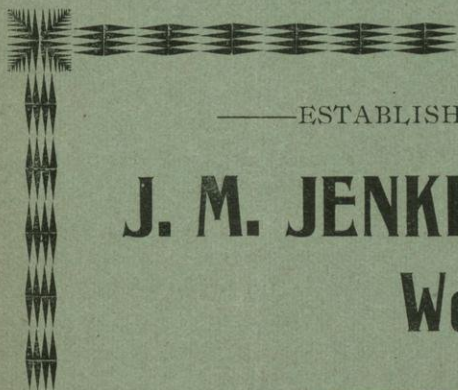
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