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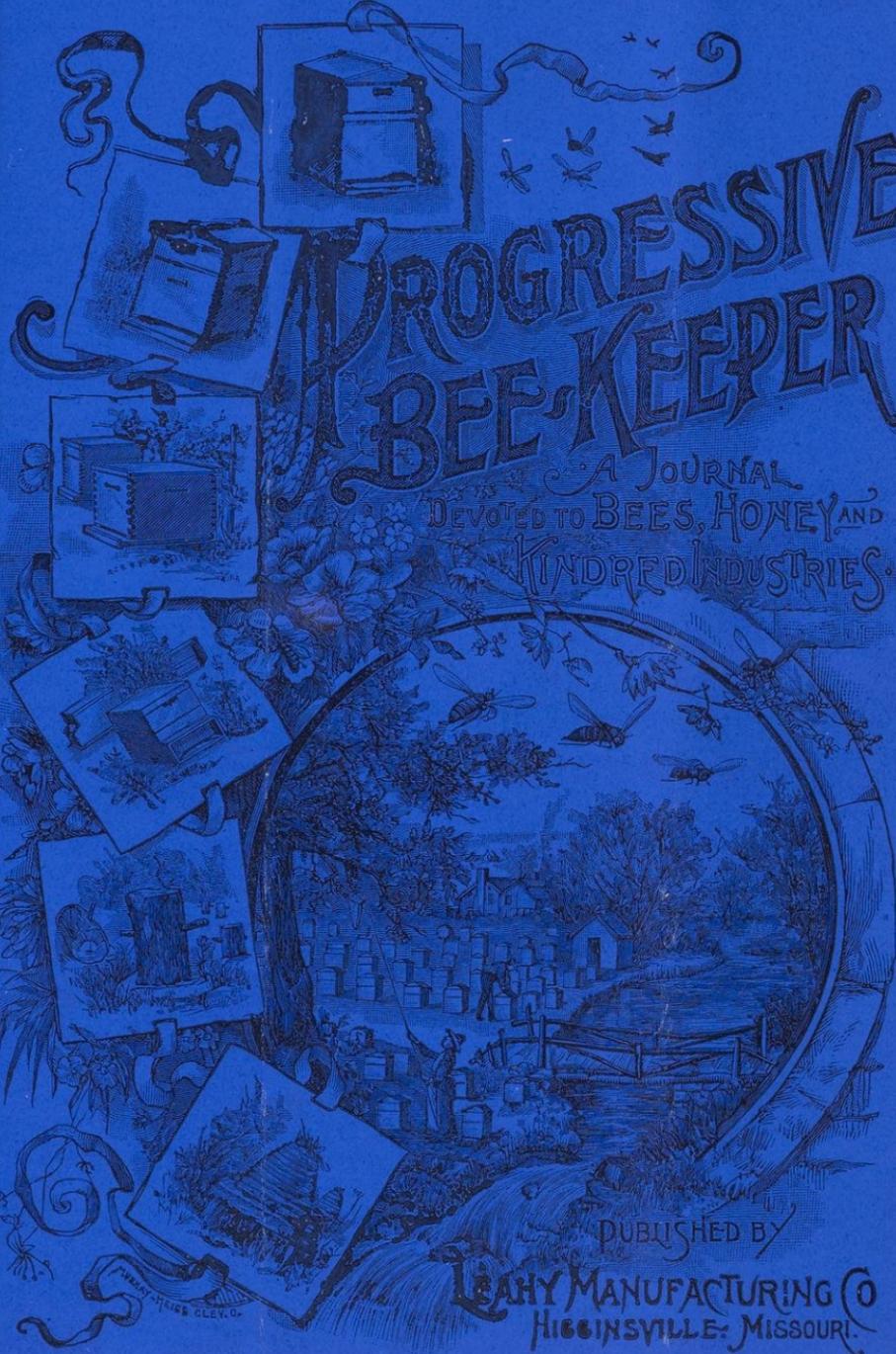
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MARCH 1, 1896.

PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER

A JOURNAL
DEVOTED TO BEES, HONEY AND
KINDRED INDUSTRIES.



PUBLISHED BY
LEAHY MANUFACTURING CO
HIGGINSVILLE, MISSOURI.

Entered at the postoffice, Higginsville, Mo., as second-class matter.

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

Address,

Leahy Mfg. Co., Higginsville. Mo.

DO NOT FAIL

to write for a circular of that

"ST. JOE HIVE."

EMERSON T. ABBOTT, ST. JOSEPH, MO.

Please mention the "Progressive" in answering this advertisement.

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Bring us Big Trade. Goods Keep it.

If you want the best supplies that can be made at a little less cost than you can buy the same goods for elsewhere, write to us for low prices. 1895 Catalogue now ready. Ask for it and a free copy of the AMERICAN BEE KEEPER (36 pages). Address,

THE W. T. FALCONER MFG. CO., JAMESTOWN, N. Y.

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RIPANS TABULES.

Disease commonly comes on with slight symptoms, which when neglected, increase in extent and gradually grow dangerous

If you SUFFER FROM HEADACHE, DYSPEPSIA or INDIGESTION, **TAKE** Ripans Tabules.

If you are BILIOUS, CONSTIPATED, or have a DISORDERED LIVER, **TAKE** Ripans Tabules.

If your COMPLEXION IS SALLOW, or you suffer DISTRESS AFTER EATING, **TAKE** Ripans Tabules.

For OFFENSIVE BREATH and ALL DISORDERS OF THE STOMACH, **TAKE** Ripans Tabules.

Ripans Tabules act gently but promptly on the liver, stomach and intestines; cleanse the system effectually; cure dyspepsia, habitual constipation, offensive breath and headache. One TABLET taken at the first indication of indigestion, biliousness, dizziness, distress after eating, or depression of spirits, will surely and quickly remove the whole difficulty.

Ripans Tabules are prepared from a prescription widely used by the best physicians, and are presented in the form most approved by modern science.

If given a fair trial, Ripans Tabules are an infallible cure; they contain nothing injurious, and are an economical remedy.

One Gives Relief.

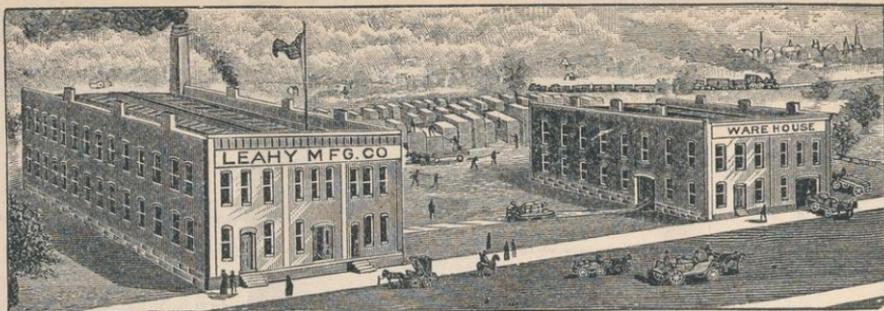
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10 SPRUCE STREET. - - NEW YORK.

Local druggists everywhere will supply the Tabules if requested to do so.

They are Easy to Take, Quick to Act, and Save many a Doctor's Bill,



Largest Factory in the West **COMPLETE STOCK.**
Good Supplies, Low Prices.—Our Motto.

READ THIS.—Mr. Keyes says: The 100 pounds of extra thin foundation you sent us is superior to anything he ever saw, and I think the same. R. L. TUCKER, Wewahitchka, Fla

Leahy M'fg. Co.:—I have received the bill of goods. I must say this is the choicest lot of hive stuff I have ever received from any place, I admire the smoothness of your work, and your close selection of lumber. Yours very truly, O. K. OLMSTEAD, Orleans, Neb.

Dear Sirs:—The sections arrived in due time, and are all O. K. so far as examined. They are simply perfection. I can't see how you can furnish such goods at such low prices. I hope you may live long and do well. Yours respectfully, Z. S. WEAVER, Courtney, Tex.

Gents:—I received the "Higginsville" Smoker all O. K. It's a dandy; please find enclosed stamps for another. Yours truly, OTTO ENDERS, Oswegatchie, N. Y.

Gentlemen:—I have bought Supplies from nearly all the large manufacturers by the car-load, and I must say yours are as good as the best. Indeed, in many lines they are the best. It is a pleasure to handle them E. T. FLANAGAN, Belleville, Illinois.

Dear Sirs:—The sections came duly to hand. Indeed they are very nice. Yes sir, they are as good as the best. CHARLES H. THIES, Steelville, Illinois.

Please send me your catalogue for 1893. The comb foundation and other goods that I ordered of you last year was fine. Yours truly, JACOB FRAME, Sutton, W. Va.

The above unsolicited testimonials are a fair sample of hundreds we receive. Our prices are reasonable and the "Higginsville" Goods are the best.

The "Higginsville" Goods are for sale by the following parties:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Chas. H. Thies, Steelville, Ill. | E. T. Flanagan, Belleville, Ill. |
| Henry L. Miller, Topeka, Kans. | E. A. Seelye, Bloomer, Arkansas. |
| J. W. Rouse & Co., Mexico, Mo. | P. J. Thomas, Fredonia, Kans. |

And by a number of others.

If you need a car load of supplies, or only a bee smoker, write to us. Remember we are here to serve you and will if you give us a chance. A Beautiful Catalogue Free.

Address, **LEAHY MANUFACTURING CO., Higginsville, Mo.**

PRICES OF

Bingham Perfect

**Direct-Draft Perfect
BINGHAM
Bee Smoker**

BEE-SMOKERS and HONEY-KNIVES

PATENTED 1878, 1882, and 1892.



	per doz.	each.
Doctor { largest smoker made. } 3½ inch stove.....	\$11.00—Mail,	\$1.50
Conqueror.....3	6.00—	1.10
Large.....2½	5.50—	1.00
Plain.....2	4.75—	.70
Little Wonder.....2	weight 10 oz	3.25— .60
Honey Knife.....	7.00—	.80

Smokers in dozen lots, 10 per cent discount.
Knives " " 5 " "

The three 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 sotty nor burnt fingers. The Plain and Little Wonder have narrow shields and wire handles. All Bingham Smokers for 1896 have all the new improvements, viz.: Direct Draft, Bent Cap, Wire Handles, Inverted Bellows, and are ABSOLUTELY PERFECT.

P. S. An express package, containing six, weighs seven pounds.

Bingham & Hetherington Uncapping Knife



Patented May 20, 1879.

T. F. BINGHAM,
 Please mention the "Progressive."
FARWELL, MICHIGAN.

The Progressive Bee-Keeper.

A Journal Devoted to Bees, Honey, and Kindred Industries.

50 Cents a Year.

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Published monthly by Leahy Mfg. Company.

VOL. 6.

HIGGINSVILLE, MO., MARCH 1, 1896.

No. 3

THE PRESENT.

BY WILL WARD MITCHELL.

IN the glow of the magical Present
With skies smiling blue as the sea,
I stand while a light efflorescent
Gilds the shores of the distant To Be.
Gleams the sun of its wonderful splendor.
With a beauty new-born in each ray,
Yet its smile is less lovingly tender,
Than the glow of the peerless today.

To the west lies the land unforgotten,
The sunny love-shrined Used-to-be,
With a music replete, and its memories sweet
As the smile of the morning to me.
A land of a beautiful Has-Been.
A world of delight and of love,
In the dear long ago when the heart was aglow
Like the tint of the azure above.

There are dear, hallowed shrines in the olden
Love-beautified days of the past;
There are skies with a radiance golden,
Whose glitter was never surpassed;
And loves and bright hopes were attendant,
When life walked the fair Far Away.
But their glory was not so resplendent
As the loves and the hopes of today.

There are faces which smile thro' the shadows
That hide the half-idolized days
Of a radiant youth with its trust and its truth
In a misty and nebulous haze.
Sweet dreams that were never made real,
And graves in the daisy-kissed sod; [then
And women and men who were girls and boys
Now dwell on the mountains of God.

So Memory beckons us ever
To the days that have vanished away.
And Action and Hope whisper, Never,
But live in the future, they say.
The future, man's Canaan of promise,
Whose light gilds each traveler's brow,
No longer resist or flee from us,
But come unresistingly now.

But nay, in the love-lighted Present,
I shall live, and the future shall see,
A little each day, as the Now glides away
To the shores of the dear Used-to-be.
For brighter than past days or coming,
Are these when Youth glistens the brow,
Far better I ween than To-Be or Has-Been,
Is the bright and the beautiful Now.

Higginsville, Mo., March 4, 1896.

Balls of Bee Glue.

BY
S. E. MILLER.

HAVE you ever noticed the vast difference in the writings of different persons? Some writers can use a whole column, or even a page, in saying nothing, while others can clearly express their ideas and impart valuable information in a few sentences.

Again many writers frequently refer in a single article to back numbers, pages, etc., so that their article cannot be read understandingly without referring to the papers quoted. Many such articles that might otherwise be interesting are made uninteresting by such frequent references to back numbers.

But excuse me for doing myself what I have just condemned in others. Page 42, February 1 PROGRESSIVE, twentieth line from the top of column, and sixth word, should read "jar," and not "comb." Is it possible that I write so poorly, or was the devil to blame?

While writing last night I was interrupted by a discussion on bees. Several parties alluded to the king bee and his offices in relation to his inferiors. Another told of a swarm of bees settling in a lady's hair. A third told of cutting a bee tree from which they took the usual two and one-half wash tubs full of honey. For awhile I was obliged to remain a silent listener, and must say, to me the conversation was more amusing than interesting. When I offered a few words of explanation, and spoke of the king as being a queen,

the man who told of the two and a half wash tubs of honey got up and left, apparently in disgust.

Did anyone ever cut a bee tree that contained less than a wash tub full of honey? If not, I can relate a story of a bee tree that was phenomenal in the amount of honey it did not contain:

I once helped to cut a tree in which there was a moderate sized swarm, with large beautiful combs, and I do not think there was half a teaspoonful of honey all together. This was in the midst of a protracted drought in July or August. Some neighbor boys found the tree, and asked me when to cut it to get the most honey. I told them that likely the bees had little or no honey, but that probably they would fill their combs with honey from autumn flowers, if left alone, provided the season was favorable, and that about the latter part of October would be the best time to cut the tree, if they wanted only the honey and did not care to save the bees, but the boys could not wait. So the tree was cut, with the above results.

Rhineland, Mo.

'higginsville' Goods...

.....

Bee Hives, Sections, Smokers, and all kind of Bee Supplies, at Leahy's Catalogue Prices. Save freight. Also Bees and Queens very cheap. Catalogue free.

CHAS. H. THIES,
Steeleville, = Illinois.

Please mention the "Progressive."

TWO YEARS

FOR THE PRICE OF ONE.

To any one not now a subscriber to the BEE-KEEPERS' REVIEW, who sends \$1.00 for it for 1896, and says that he wants them, I will send 12 back numbers, free. This is done to induce those who are strangers to the REVIEW to become acquainted with its merits. To hold old subscribers is not difficult; and, to get the REVIEW into the hands of new men that they, too, may, in time, become old subscribers, is worth an extra effort, hence this offer. The back numbers of the REVIEW, most of them, have a value peculiarly their own: they are "special topic" numbers. That is, each number is really a little book in which may be found the views of the best bee-keepers upon some important apian subject. They are as valuable now as when published. Of some of these issues there are several hundred, of others not more than a dozen, and in filling these orders I must be allowed to make the selection, but no two copies will be alike. For 25c extra, the 50c book, ADVANCED BEE-CULTURE, will be included. The REVIEW for 1896, 12 back numbers, and the book, all for only \$1.25.

W. Z. HUTCHINSON, FLINT, MICH.

Wayside Fragments.

BY
SOMNAMBULIST.

DR. MILLER gracefully acknowledges that he has been caught napping, and admits having got himself into trouble by the announcement that five per cent was the regular commission in Chicago and begs to hear no more of it, and humbly asks of Editor York what is the rule, if rule there be. Whereupon York rejoins that the rule is to charge ten per cent on any or all consignments unless such charging is productive of *too* vigorous kicking. Alas! too true, as many can testify.

Years ago I was tempted to send to the Union papers representing a honey deal with a Chicago firm, in which I felt myself grossly treated, but fear of

being considered a chronic kicker withheld me. I now see my error. Had I then "turned on the light", hundreds which have gone to the enrichment of commission men might have been saved to needy bee-keepers, for few bee-keepers count themselves anything but poor. Even the California producers who scorn to talk of less than tons, calculate that the cost of production is $4\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound, while they are being offered 3. The contemplation of gaining wealth by such rapid strides fairly makes one's head swim. The thorough agitation of this subject seems to have just opened up. High time. One of the blessings arising out of these gloomy times for the apiarist. Too long have bee-keepers been duped and too long remained silent. But at last the awakening has come, and may it prove general and effectual. As the constant dropping of water weareth away stone, even so may we expect by constant agitation to bring about desired results. And as so much depends on individual bee-keepers, shall they be found shirking duty? Rather let them each and everyone bend their shoulder to the wheel of progress and keep it steadily moving along. Impress every bee-keeper with the idea that he personally is deeply interested, that on him depends the responsibility of success or failure, and then, and then only, may we expect a reaction. Dreamers are only tolerated in this day and age, so that of necessity we must rouse.

'Tis seldom we discover dealers dead to their interests. A glance at pages 135-6 of Gleanings will certify to this fact. Here we are met by portraits of G. B. Lewis, C. E. Parks, W. P. Falconer, D. E. Merrill, R. B. Leahy, and E. B. Gladish, all shrewd men who are capable of grasping opportunity by the hand and keeping track of the pulsations of the pocket-book. With such men as leaders, why should the rank

and file fail to be alive to their interests? Accompanying these pictures are short sketches outlining the history of each concern with which the different men are connected. He who wrote up the Leahy Mfg. Co. must have been ashamed of the PROGRESSIVE, as he most undoubtedly gave it the cold shoulder.

Doolittle advocates building worker combs in nucleus colonies instead of buying foundation. Sort of a hard times system. Davenport secures combs from moth by the use of tar paper between the hive bodies containing empty combs. E. B. Thomas, of Lynn, N. C., thinks the desertion of hives by bees may sometimes be accounted for by the odor of turpentine from the resinous parts. James Cormac, of Des Moines, Iowa, is "convinced that bees allowed to swarm can be so managed as to have section comb built out faster than would be done in a placid or normal condition, because under the excitement wax scales are secreted more abundantly." In uniting, places screen wire over colony to be preserved, and on top places the other colony. In a day or two unite. No fighting. Screen wire proves an ever ready friend in many of the manipulations connected with the apiary.

It was shown at the Illinois State Convention that more extracted honey can be produced than comb because bees can go to work younger, can extract as soon as two-thirds of the combs are capped, instead of having to wait for all to be capped. The majority used the sections over again. Unfinished sections were either extracted, sold as chunk honey, or used to feed in spring. Several practiced scattering them through the apiary.

Mr. Wheeler manipulates 300 to 400 colonies alone, and manages by having clipped queens, and when a desire to swarm is manifest, takes all combs containing brood and replaces with

frames equipped with starters. The queen is kept in the old hive, brood combs placed in an empty hive close to parent hive, sufficient bees being allowed to cling to them to care for the brood. These bees soon have a queen, and can then be treated as any other colony, or may be returned to the parent colony. This method is for comb honey. For extracted, he simply gives plenty of room, keeping ahead of the bees. Several recommended the use of a comb leveller.

The question of the desirability of a honey producer's exchange in Chicago commanded considerable attention—a good omen. No better subject with which to occupy the best brains we have. Mr. Thompson thought the right party back of it ought to be a bee-keeper. All right, if we can not find talent outside of our ranks, but I feel sure we are in need of all the ability we already have without lending it out to the neighbors. In fact, would rather borrow were it possible. So if some other class of people want to furnish the brains for the business, I can not object. All we could ask for would be superior service. By all means let's hold on to all we have. Both Mr. New man and Mr. Root advise bee-keepers to "squeal" if trampled upon, and I think, as it's quite the fashion nowadays, I should, if occasion permitted, regardless of the fact that St. Peter who sits waiting for the souls of the expiring, turns all kickers to the left. Take notice: Don't forget this when disposed to kick Tommy's articles, please.

The Illinois State Convention is one any state might well be proud of, and any person feel honored in being a member of. One's sympathies would naturally go out to the reporter of its proceedings. It's always the same—some must suffer that others may enjoy. The press is coming boldly to the front, and attacking the enemies of

honey producers. Shall they fail to come to its support?

These warm, sunny days serve as gentle reminders that we soon must be up and doing making all arrangements for securing a crop should it come within our reach, and if the German signs are any good, it's coming. They have it that if the first three days of February are cloudy or misty, get the supers ready. Most of the month having been so, dealers may as well take warning. Since this country goes with-

out ice, it does seem as if the bees should come through in fair shape. All are anxiously awaiting a turn of the tide; anyway, whether it comes or not, we can sing with Riley:

"I'd rather lay out here among the trees,
With the singing birds and the honey bees.
A-knowin' that I can do as I please,
Than to live what folks call a life of ease.
Up thar in the city."

S. E. Miller in the last PROGRESSIVE would like to know why I never write about bees. Sorry, but I fail to make any new discoveries about them. Every time I start out on something new (to me), I work with all the energy I can command, and when just ready to cry "Eureka!" I make the humiliating discovery that Mr. So and So holds a patent on my very thoughts as it were. Now if that's not disheartening, what is? And where's the use of regaling the public with stale material? Then there's something like one hundred and one experiments I am desirous of making, but the honey boom has been lacking, and how are we to get it? A few days ago I ran across this little rhyme:

"Man wants but little here below",
So runs the good old song.
If he but advertises, though,
He doesn't want that long."

Wish it were true of honey crops. Wouldn't the advertising mediums swell their coffers?

One of the things I tried last season was the use of drone traps in out apia-

ries, but as I was not satisfied with them, I concluded there was much to learn in connection with their use. With them as with everything else, care and diligence bring luck. The very first queen entrapped by any one of them I discovered had wings. I had gone over the yard with my clippers, and was "dead sure" I had all my queens' wings mutilated, but there right before my eyes was positive evidence I had not. Thought she looked rather small and slim. Did not remember her being so small on my prior visit. No notes at hand, but to make matters doubly sure, I out with the clippers, (which, fortunately, or, rather, otherwise, I had along), and with a savage snip, off came a portion of the wing. Almost simultaneously with that snip came the thought, "It might have been." Ah, yes! "The saddest words of tongue or pen, .. it might have been." A case of supersedure. Off came the super, and into the brood nest I went in a jiffy. You can risk your last dollar my face wore a most different expression from a "wreath of smiles." as I discovered my latter conjecture had failed to be "on time." For true it was, and I had just maimed a virgin queen through my being so highly elated and enamored of success as not to take a second thought in time.

On another occasion when the heat was intense and great festoons of bees hung in front of the hives, I sought to ventilate, and concluding the traps must of a necessity cut off air, I removed one in front of an extra strong colony. As I was in the act I thought perhaps preparations for swarming were manifest. "Don't care! Let 'em swarm! Queen's clipped, and I'm right on the ground." No sooner said than done. Off came the trap, and out came the swarm. O, 'twas immense, and I kept a sharp lookout for her majesty, but she failed to materialize. On and on went the swarm. I don't want this

to sound "fishy," but the bees were so numerous as to, not exactly obscure the sun, but to darken or shade the light pretty considerably, at least until they were at quite a distance from the starting point. I considered it one of the very finest colonies I ever handled. Finally I concluded the queen must have found her way back in the hive, and went about my work. In vain I waited for the return of that swarm. I followed in the direction they had gone, and found them in the top of a tall ash which stood on the brink of a deep cut or ravine. In short, they were inaccessible, and insofar as I know, remain so until this day, as they never returned. Failure No. 2.

I must say there was more swarming and supersedures of queens in that yard than I ever chronicled before with the same number of hives—yes, more than with twice the number of hives. May be it's a sure way to secure young queens, but where's the economy if secured at the expense of a crop? Thus ends Chapter I on the Use of Drone and Queen Traps.

I feel that by this time you are all shaking your wise heads and repeating the old saw, "Told you so!" and I also feel that S. E. Miller anticipated my downfall when he suggested my writing on bees. Perhaps he's possessed of clairvoyance and knew that my experience would be one long string of blunders, the recital of which would constitute me the laughing-stock of all beedom. He most probably gloried in my impending exposure. At least my confession of these awkward stumblings will surely show I'm not wholly a fraud, and I beg of him to remember that he who hath no charity merits no mercy, and as I've learned a danger foreseen is half averted, and perhaps there are some others, like myself, who can take lessons from the mistakes of others more readily than from their successes. At least you can all have a laugh at

my expense through this little glimpse of real bee-keeping life. A long time ago I learned that he who goes to school to his mistakes, has a good schoolmaster, and is not likely to become either idle or conceited. I once attended a convention during which the president requested that each one give in his greatest blunder in bee-keeping during the preceding year. Very simple things had proved stumbling-blocks for the majority, and the rapidity with which lessons were absorbed then and there, is seldom outdone. Ah, well! he who falls today may be up again tomorrow.

Naptown, Dreamland.

SHALL WE USE SEPARATORS?

G. M. DOOLITTLE.

A LETTER lies before me asking that I give my experience with separators, and wishing to know whether, if I were starting in bee-keeping again, I would use them, or get along without them, as some advise. I know not what the opinions are of the readers of the PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER, but think it may not be amiss to say a few words on this separator subject, and if any do not agree, they can tell wherein they do not, and thus we shall get light.

I first used separators in 1872, on a small scale, to try the feasibility of them. These were cut so as to leave one-half inch at top and bottom of the sections, as I felt sure that they would retard the labor of the bees in the section boxes, inasmuch as they divided the bees into small clusters, apparently. To test the matter thoroughly, I used fully as many without separators, and with other colonies I went so far as to leave the bottom pretty much entirely off the sections, using only a thin strip to hold the sections together at

the bottom, to see how much gain there would be by the most frequent communication all throughout the whole brood chamber and surplus apartment, but at the end of the season, each part of the apiary tried was about equal as regards the surplus. One thing I found, which was that in my anxiety to get all the communication possible, I had made a blunder in cutting the tin too narrow, for the bees built the honey cells out too long at the top and bottom of the sections, thus making them so they could not well be crated, without causing the honey to leak more or less. The next year the tin was cut wider, and also many separators were slotted so as to divide the bees as little as possible, and other colonies were prepared with sections without separators. No perceivable difference, as to yield, was the result, again, while many of the sections used without separators could not be crated for market, and had to be disposed of the best way I could. I finally adopted a separator as wide as the inside of the section, less one-quarter of an inch at the top and bottom, with no perforations of any kind, and today, although I have experimented many ways since then, I see no reason for abandoning separators, or changing what I decided upon in any way, but, on the contrary, see many reasons for still continuing their use, a few of which I will give:

First: I wish to work my sections when and where I please, as in giving a wide frame or two of sections where the bees are well at work on them, to some colony which has not yet commenced in sections, so that this colony may be at work to my profit while the honey harvest is on. If I did this without separators I should get very uneven comb, as past experience has taught me, over and over again.

Second: I wish to take off sections as fast as there are enough capped over to pay for opening the hive, while

they are snow white, and not leave them on the hive till all are finished, and those first finished become travel-stained, as is the case where no separators are used. Now if we do this, taking out one-third or more, and place those partly filled, or empty except a starter in their places, unless separators are used, the bees will lengthen the cells of those farthest advanced, so as to crowd the others, thus making irregular combs, as we have in putting an empty frame between two nearly full ones in the brood chamber.

Third: By the use of wide frames with separators, we need take none of the precautions about nice adjusting of the hives, which is always necessary where no separators are used, so that all stand perpendicular, so that each comb may be built true in each section. With the separators, all we have to do is to slip our sections in the wide frames, clamp them together and use without further trouble. I should want to use the wide frames anyway, to keep the sections clean and free from propolis, if for nothing more.

One other thing: In order to get combs built in sections where separators are not used, so they can be crated at all, each section *must* be filled with comb foundation, for simply starters will not answer in this case. Thus the man with small means is compelled to pay out his hard-earned pennies year after year for that which he often feels is a luxury, for all know that where the brood chamber is full of combs the bees will fill the sections with comb from starters nearly or quite as quickly as they will draw out full sheets of foundation, as in times of a plenteous harvest the wax scales are already secreted in the wax pockets, and unless used in comb building, are wasted. Where combs are to be built in the brood chamber, then the filling of each section full of foundation is not so bad, for the bees will use all the wax secreted in building their brood combs,

but as there is quite likely to be drone comb built in the brood chamber, unless precautions are used, the majority of apiarists prefer to use full sheets of foundation in the brood frames.

To sum up, from experience and observation up to the present time, I believe it does not pay to use full sheets of comb foundation in sections at all times; that sections cannot be used to the best advantage without separators; that the cost of separators is no greater than filling the sections (which the separators will cover) once full of foundation, and that after the separators are once purchased they are good for life, while the foundation must be purchased each year. Hence I consider separators one of the greatest inventions which has been made to help the bee-keeper, and shall continue their use until I am convinced that I am wrong in the above conclusion. After using all kinds of material for separators, I prefer very light tin to anything else.

Borodino, N. Y.

UNNECESSARY QUERIES.

E. T. FLANAGAN.

FOR over sixteen years I have been receiving calls for my annual catalogue of bees, queens, and supplies generally. If I had time to go over the great mass of correspondence I have received during that time, and which I have carefully preserved, and cull out a few of the earnest pathetic, and even foolish letters I have received, what a foundation it would be for an article showing up the bright and dark sides of human nature. Why will some persons ask for and receive a catalogue, and then ask for you to write to them in regard to the very information the catalogue is designed to and does supply? Some will send for a

catalogue, and from it make out a list of articles desired, and then ask what the very lowest price will be. Such people make me tired. What is a catalogue for anyhow, if it is not for that very purpose?

Again others, and a most intelligent class they are, too, after ordering bees, or hives, or both, will ask you what to do with them when they come to hand, and how to manage them afterward, forgetting that it would take hours of valuable time and hard labor to answer them properly, forgetting also that there are text-books that clearly and fully cover every point in regard to which information is sought.

Over this last case, however, we should cast the broad mantle of charity, remembering how in the distant past we, too, did much the same; how every scrap pertaining to bees was devoured; how everyone that was thought to possess the least knowledge of bees or their habits, was button-holed and interviewed and very likely BORED. All was grist that came to our mill. We took it all, and, like Oliver Twist, 'asked for more.' So remembering the past, I do the best I can with the limited time at my disposal, to assist those so earnestly desiring information.

SELLING HONEY ON COMMISSION.

I see some very interesting articles and contributions in the bee journals lately in regard to selling honey on commission, or rather sending honey to commission men to sell for you and sell YOU at the same time. In years past I have "been there", and know all about it. I still sell honey on commission, and at good paying prices, too, and if the readers of the PROGRESSIVE want to know how I do it, (and almost everyone can do it, too), with the editor's permission, in the next number of the PROGRESSIVE I will try and tell you about it as clearly as I can.

Belleville, Ills.

Yes, Friend F., I will be glad to have you give the readers of the PROGRESSIVE your method of disposing of honey on commission.—Ed.]

IMPROVING OUR YIELD.

DOUGLAS D. HAMMOND.

DEAR EDITOR LEAHY—I see in your last PROGRESSIVE Mr. Dibbern is wishing for a better time coming when honey flora will be more abundant. Don't worry, Brother D. What has been will be, and I honestly hope and trust all who have enjoyed attending this dear school of experience of the last few years may view the dawning and the zenith of the good time surely coming to the true and faithful of our cause. Then for a good time, brothers.

A question also arises in my mind, How many are living in or very near the land of plenty, and don't know it? One year ago this last August, when my bees were in starving condition, one day after looking them over and finding I must soon feed or lose them, it occurred to me that I would view the Mississippi river and see how the prospects were there for a fall flow. In company with a friend of mine, the following day we started by team for the river at Comanche, Iowa. On arriving there, we procured a boat and crossed the river to a place about two miles from Comanche, arriving at what is known as the Meria Docia bottoms. There we found purple ironweed in full bloom. Not thinking it any good as a honey plant, I was slow in moving my bees to an island close by. I made a boat which would carry about 1500 pounds. took my bees across some two weeks later, only to find a grand good honey flow at hand, but owing to the bees being old and no brood coming on

to speak of, four or five days found my colonies like nuclei, and many of them poor ones at that. I soon saw that there had been a honey flow for considerable time before I arrived, and regretted not being there sooner. Now the point is this: I am confident from experience in honey flows that had my bees been fed for the occasion, say 20 pounds of granulated sugar syrup, they would have given me 100 or 150 pounds per colony, for I never saw bees come in heavier loaded, but no bees to gather it.

Well then, what happened this year? Ignorance again played the bad part. I went down again in June this year to look over the bottoms, for I moved my bees all home for winter, some eleven or twelve miles. Well, when I looked over the bottoms, I saw there were many other weeds growing instead of my purple ironweed. They looked of little value to me, so thinking there would be sufficient ironweed to give a fair flow, I felt confident I would get my bees down in time. So down they went about the 12th of July, weak in bees and brood, but I felt sure they would find enough to build up in time for the flow this time. You can imagine my surprise when I arrived in Belleville some few days later at the home of E. T. Flanagan, and my brother wrote me, saying some of the upper set of extracting frames were nearly full from blue vervain, a plant I think you will find in a large portion of the United States, especially in a bluffy and rocky or sandy soil, and one which seldom yields any honey; in fact, you seldom see any bees working on it. This was growing on the bluffs to the north and east of the low land, and is of a historic nature, being some of the ancient mound builders' work. In looking over some of these mounds where parties had been digging, I found portions of the human skull, and the bluffs and mounds waving in the breeze with blue from vervain.

But I was in the same sad fix this year. My bees were not strong enough. About the same time I figured on the honey flow coming, my bees were in good condition for work, but the flow was short, and mostly all from wild cucumber, a kind which grows on the river bottoms, and has a cluster of small cucumbers together on one stem.

Thus I am confident two good honey flows have been in reach of me in the past two years, and I got little out of it. I sent some of the honey to Mr. E. T. Flanagan, and in reply he said it was some of the finest he had ever seen of fall honey, the vervain being almost if not quite as clear and light in color as basswood.

The trouble is, when our locality fails, we fail to know the nature of other fields and localities where we might move and secure a good crop at a small expense. I truly believe the last few dry years will in the end prove a blessing to all bee-keepers.

It's simply wonderful how nature provides for us and all animal and insect life, and it takes all kinds of conditions to give us an idea of our resources. I now have among my collection of samples of honey, honey that two or three years ago I would have pronounced bogus, as well as knowing many plants to yield considerable quantities of honey in this locality, which none of our old veteran bee-keepers know to be a honey plant in the least. I am like that Irishman S. E. Miller speaks of under "Balls of Bee Glue" in believing there is as good an outlook for the future as the past. His collection of statistics shows that 1882 was good enough for anyone. In a friendly, not criticising way, let me tell Brother Miller E. T. F. is not an Irishman—real *Yankee*. I've eaten many a meal from his table, and know whereof I speak.

Malone, Iowa.

BEE-KEEPING FOR A LIVELIHOOD.—CONTINUED.

LITTLE BEE.

MR. FLANAGAN soon returned from the south, and found us busy, head over heels, filling and shipping orders of supplies and bees. We were glad he had come. I was busy every day for almost the whole season in making foundation, while at times I was called on to assist Mr. Savage or Mr. Flanagan, either in the apiary or to put up orders of supplies.

The next season most of my time was spent in the apiaries, as Mr. Flanagan was running a number of out-apiaries. After the second year all my time was put to bee-keeping alone.

I stayed with Mr. F. a few seasons. Then I wished to see how other bee-men did their work, as I thought I would learn, by spending a season or two with other practical apiarists. I drifted west and south.

I must here yet remark that I was well pleased with Mr. F. as he was mostly always pleasant and entertaining. Of course there were times when he was a little bit off, but that was business you know, and he could not help it. In fact he has treated me very honorably, and, since, has assisted me in other ways. He was always sober, and I never heard him swear, or use profane language.

Mrs. Flanagan, Mr. F.'s mother, was one of the best ladies I ever knew. Really, it was a pleasure to be in her company. She was *always* kind and pleasant. I was always glad to see her about. I never heard a harsh word come from her lips. She had many friends.

Mr. F. is a practical apiarist, having had a great deal of practical experience in migratory bee-keeping, as well as with out-apiaries, which he conducted quite successfully. He is a good

queen breeder, and has raised thousands of queens in one year. He is a man of truth and energy, and I believe now favors the ten-frame hive.

When the eight-frame hives came into use, Mr. F. transferred all his bees into such hives. I was with him then, and I told him he would be sorry that he had adopted the eight-frame hive. The last time I called on him, which was in 1894, he told me that he wished he had all of his bees in the ten-frame hives again. Said I to Mr. F., "I told you so," and he agreed that I was right. He runs his apiaries mostly for extracted honey. Mr. F. has a nice home and a happy family.

Since I quit Mr. Flanagan and drifted west and south seeking more practical knowledge in apiculture, in the factory as well as in the apiary, I have stored up a good deal of practical knowledge in all departments of apiculture. But I don't know. It seems I will never know it all, as I am still learning. Guess I'll never get through. I have been looking for the best locality in order to settle down for myself and get a home. I have spent my time in Colorado—in California, with Mr. J. S. Harbison, the pioneer of California bee-keepers, who owned thousands of colonies of bees. I tried Missouri, Iowa, Arkansas, Louisiana, and North and South Texas, and here I am at Cliff, New Mexico, running an experimental apiary, so as to ascertain whether bee-keeping will pay in this section of New Mexico.

I will here say that I believe Southwest Texas will be my choice for bee-keeping, that is, to produce either comb or extracted honey. As for climate, I would prefer Southern California.

Now then, if you are a beginner, I will give you five important points to be considered in bee-keeping. First comes Locality; second, the Queen; third, a very important point, the Api-

arist; fourth, the Kind of Hive; and, fifth, the Wintering of Bees.

Locality is, it seems to me, the most important point. Should you be located in a good locality where there is plenty of forage for the bees, you will get the honey without paying any attention to amount to much to the bees. In a good locality, any strain of bees will do well. They may be blacks or Italians, Holy-Landers or five-banders, Cyprians or Carniolans, seven-banded or no band at all, you will get honey. But should you be located in a poor locality where bee-pasturage is limited, your attention at once will be drawn to the queen, the apiarist, and the kind of a hive you are to use. While in a good locality a black queen will lay just as many eggs as those queens of a finer strain, and her bees will gather just as nice honey as other bees do, still to make it more profitable, a good fertile and tested Italian queen is advisable.

Should any of the readers of the PROGRESSIVE ask me what kind of a queen to buy, I would say, get a leather-colored queen, one that produces only three-banded bees, as I have found them to be the best for all purposes.

Now then I will first finish up on locality, as this is one of the most important points in apiculture.

A good locality, where there is plenty of bee pasturage, and a little attention, are half the battle, for success is already won. A great many bee-keepers would call a locality good if it produced on an average a crop of fifty pounds of honey to the colony. Others want seventy-five pounds; others 100, and so on.

In selecting a location for an apiary, for the honey resources, it is necessary for the bee-keeper to become acquainted with the principal honey producing plants of his country, or in his vicinity, as there are different plants in differ-

ent localities. Ascertain which plants in your vicinity are the best, and which you may depend on mostly for a crop of honey. Then look up such a locality where this plant, or plants, grow most profusely. It is still better if you could locate your apiary where there are a variety of honey producing plants within reach of your bees.

A failure in the honey crop will occur in most localities now and then. Still there are localities where there has been no failure known for the last ten years, and the shortest crop no less than fifty pounds to the colony. As I have stated, failures will occur in most localities. I have seen failures in Southern Illinois, in Missouri, in California, in Texas, etc., while in other years I have gathered good crops of honey in those localities. I have seen in California, with all of its great localities where there were thousands of acres of honey producing plants within reach of the bees; and such plants upon which California depends principally for a crop of honey, such as the black sage, the white sage, the sumac, the wild buckwheat, etc.; I have seen it one season that it barely paid the expense of the labor put to the apiary.

Now then a good locality for an apiary. The best that I know of so far is in Southwest Texas; about ninety-five or 100 miles west or southwest of San Antonio. This is the best locality I have found. I would call Batesville, Texas, the center of the honey resources of Texas, and any direction, be it east or west, north or south, away from this little village, will take you away from the home of the honey bee of Texas. Failures are almost unknown in that section of Texas.

Locality being the first point, the Queen is the next, as the strength of the colony and the results of a crop depend to a great extent on the queen.

Cliff, New Mexico.

(To be continued).

STRAWBERRY-GROWERS VER-
SUS ABBOTT AND JOLLEY.
A REJOINER.

EMERSON T ABBOTT.

AT the December meeting of the Northern Illinois Horticultural Society the question was asked, "Suppose I plant a bed of Crescents with no staminate varieties within forty rods, how much of a crop will I secure in a series of years?" All were asked to arise to their feet who believed a half a crop could be obtained, but not a man arose. The same result was obtained when a quarter of a crop was named. An eighth of a crop was named, but not a man believed that could be obtained. Then all were asked to arise who believed less than an eighth of a crop would be got. Promptly they arose as one man. Secretary Hartwell, himself a specialist in strawberry culture, remarked that to say that a crop of berries could be obtained from a bed of Crescents, was one of those half-truths that were mischievous in their tendency, and were sometimes used by those who had a smattering of theoretical without practical knowledge. Especially the Crescent among those classed as pistillate might sometimes produce quite a quantity of fruit without other varieties near, there being sufficient stamens present for that result, but that would warrant no intelligent, practical fruit grower in saying he could raise crops of Crescent strawberries without the aid of staminate varieties."—Dr. Miller in *American Bee Journal*.

They stood up, did they? Well! I suppose that settled the matter for all time. This standing up method is one of Dr. Miller's favorite ways of settling things by wholesale. Did Bro. Miller ever stop to think that this standing up business does not prove or settle anything? The masses have been standing up against the truth all down the ages. They stood up against Luther, Servetus, Galileo, Harvey, Darwin, and even Jesus of Nazareth, but that did not prove that any of these were in the wrong. A short time ago I delivered an address before the meeting of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture at Topeka. I happened to mention sweet clover; and the way they were

all ready to sit down on it, metaphorically speaking, was quite amusing. I think if they had been asked to stand up against it that there would not have been ten out of the seven or eight hundred people present who would not have been on their feet in a moment. Ex-Governor Glick was very strong in his condemnation of it and pronounced it a pernicious weed. He said to me privately that he would get out of his carriage any time to pull up a plant of it. Now does this prove that sweet clover is not a profitable crop to raise because this crowd of as intelligent farmers as ever the sun shone on were ready to stand up in condemnation of it? Not by any means! If I live and keep a fair degree of health, I hope to help them to see some merit on the other side of the question before the year ends. What a splendid piece of pettifoggery this standing up business is anyway!

Then, the secretary said it was those who had a "smattering of knowledge" who promulgated these "mischievous" doctrines. Well, I am glad I never said you could raise a crop of Crescents with no other berries near, but I do really feel sorry for those people with a "smattering of knowledge" who have been so unwise as to utter these things, and thereby force the entire Northern Illinois Horticultural Society, Dr. Miller included, to stand up against them.

It was Prof. W. M. Munson, late of Cornell, now Professor of Horticulture at the Maine Experiment Station, who said that "Certain so-called pistillate varieties—notably the Crescent—at times mature fruit and apparently perfect seeds in the absence of any perfect flowering variety." Prof. Munson may have a mere "smattering of knowledge", but one would think he knew what he was talking about, or he would not occupy the position he does. But Prof. Munson is not the only man with a "smattering of knowledge" who has

set forth the idea of parthenogenetic production of plants. The late Prof. Gray said: "Cases of *parthenogenesis* have been noted in several dioecious plants. More than half a century ago, Spallanzani found that the pistillate blossoms of hemp may produce fertile seed without the concurrence of pollen, and recently Naudin and Decasine have confirmed the fact by experiment, and from seeds produced without fertilization have raised a second generation of plants, the pistillate individuals of which, kept from all access of pollen, have themselves ripened seed with perfect embryos. Two or three dioecious euphorbiaceous plants are known to produce good seed under the same circumstances, and Naudin has shown it freely to occur in Bryony." Something similar to this occurs in some ferns, club mosses, and other vascular cryptogamous plants, according to Gray.

This question of the fertilization of flowers will be found to have more than one side to it. The ultra-Darwinians have dwelt upon the hurtful effects of what is called in-and-in-breeding so long that we have come to take too many things for established truths that are only theories. My position is this: Cross fertilization is important, but not absolutely necessary in all cases. In some cases it has been demonstrated that no fruit will set unless it takes place. In other cases fruit, but not seed, may be produced without any pollination at all. Whether the Crescent strawberry is a case of this kind, or not, I am not prepared to say. Many plants are in a transition state, and those which are generally spoken of as "pistillate" sometimes produce stamen. This may be the explanation of how the crop of Crescents were raised without the aid of any other variety. We have Prof. Munson's word for it that they were raised, and there is no getting around the fact.

I want to say in conclusion that there would be no trouble in producing staminate flowers, or perfect flowers, having both stamen and pistils, from any Crescent plant. A Japanese botanist has produced pistillate and perfect flowers in *pinus densiflora*, which would otherwise have been staminate, by cutting away the shoots so as to force most of the store of nourishment into the flowers. It is a theory, amounting almost to a demonstration, of some prominent English scientists that females are the result of a super-abundance of nourishment. This being true, all that is necessary is to stunt the growth of a Crescent plant, and it will soon produce male flowers. (Not very flattering to our male egotism, is it?) Many pistillate varieties at times produce stamen, either perfect or partly developed, and this is not "contrary to nature" by any means, as Rev. Mahin suggests on same page of American Bee Journal.

St. Joseph, Mo.

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PREPARING SECTIONS.—COMBINATION FOUNDATION FASTER AND SECTION FOLDER.

R. C. AIKIN.

IN APPLIANCES, two things are to be always kept in view. We want first, quality in workmanship; and second, rapidity or labor and time saving. I have used foundation fasteners that pressed the wax to the wood, but I find them faulty. They flatten and partially cut off the wax, so that it is an impossibility to get the full strength of the foundation at the point of adherence. This is a serious fault, for at best there are times when the whole strength of the wax is needed.

To see this fault you only have to press some foundation on a bit of board, and when the foundation is in the right position look closely at the thickness of the wax at the point of contact. The best work with the pressing machines can only be accomplished when considerable heat is used too.

In the spring of 1892 I used my first hot plate machine. The plate stood perpendicular, with the section and foundation applied at the top. When in operation the wax was always running down and dropping off at the bottom. After putting up a few supers with it, I decided the work was by no means good enough, and set about devising a better machine. I constructed a rude one with the plate at an angle of about 45 degrees, the work to be done at the lower end, and while the section was yet in the flat. With proper stops or guides to regulate it, the section was laid on its back on the top of the table, the plate arranged above all, and the lamp to heat it, beneath. With a pressure of the foot the plate comes down with the end on the section just where the foundation is to go. The starters are kept so cold that they are quite stiff, so as to handle easily. Now with the starter between the forefingers and thumbs, it is set on edge on the hot plate till the edge is melted, when the plate is allowed to pass rapidly back by a spring, and the starter at once set right where the end of the plate rested on the section. When the plate is released and passes back over the lamp it carries with it some of the wax that was melted from the starter. This wax will gather on the end of the plate while you pick up the next section, and as soon as the section is in place, the foot sends the plate down while the starter is coming to position, and the wax on the end of the plate is fried into the section, and the starter set into the melted wax. The section being yet in the flat, the next thing is

to fold it. The folder is right in the same table with the fastener, and when the starter is on, the section is at once placed in the folder and closed, and from there set right into the super. The plate is operated by the left and the folder by the right foot.

It is my custom to use a bottom starter about $\frac{3}{4}$ inches wide. These bottom starters are more difficult to handle than the larger ones; but with the section in the flat, there is plenty of room for the whole hand if necessary. I take a crate of 500 sections, take off the cleats so as to expose the little holes made by the grooves; then pour a very small stream of water down through these holes. I then turn the crate over, and pour from the other side. Before pouring the water I see that the sections are all even on the ends so that the grooves will match to facilitate the passage of the water. By thus dampening, the section is dampened only in the groove, which is important when the starter is to be put on at once. As soon as the water is applied, I pull out three or four sections from each row, for in a very few minutes the sections would be so tight that the crate would have to be torn to pieces to get them out. I now sit down to the machine with the crate at my right, the starters on the table in front or as convenient as possible, and an empty super at the left. The right hand brings a section to position, and the left gets a starter. The right foot shoves the plate down and both hands place the starter. Both hands pick up the section and bring the ends together with the starter hanging down, and the left foot presses it together; then the left hand puts it into the super while the right is going toward the crate of sections again.

In operating this machine the wax and sections should be quite cool, and the plate quite hot, then the work done rapidly. If the section and wax be

cold, the work can be done much more rapidly, for the plate is not long enough on the section to heat it, so the instant the starter is in place the wax begins to harden, and you at once proceed to fold while it is neither too hot nor too cold. If folded with the wax too warm the weight of the starter will break it loose, and if too cold the folding is liable to crack it.

I must say for this machine that when the conditions are all right for operating the foundation will break some other place before it will let loose from the wood. It is also rapid when you count all the work from the crate to the super. A nimble operator can put in both top and bottom starters at the rate of 2000 to 3000 sections per day, or almost double that if top starters only. For quality I have never seen anything that equals the work done by this machine. The correct principle is to set the starter in melted wax, for then the starter has its whole strength at the point of contact, and the melted wax goes into the pores of the wood to stay.

Loveland, Colo.

PACKAGES FOR HONEY.

S. T. FISH & CO.

WE note in the January number of the PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER an article by R. C. Aikin on the subject, "Liquifying Honey." For the benefit of the readers we wish to state that we have handled honey for the past six years in very large quantities. We do not take honey from its original package to sell it to the trade, but sell it in the package shipped by the apiarist.

About a year ago Mr. Aikin wrote us in reference to putting up honey in 2-lb cans, the same as is used in placing canned goods on the market. At that

time we did not want to encourage the package, nor are we anxious to assume the responsibility now of advising bee-keepers to put their honey up in this style. Some of our manufacturing trade want the honey in 5-gallon cans. If a large bee-keeper wants to put up his honey, and will guarantee it pure, placing a small label on the can, packing say 12 or 24 cans in a box, we would be willing to endeavor an introduction amongst the wholesale grocers, in the hope that they would sell it to the retail grocers. If someone wants to give it a test, let them write to Messrs. Norton Bros., Chicago, and ask them for their catalogue as to prices of cans. The pure honey that is at the present time sold to the retail trade in our city is put up in glass tumblers, but there is not an extensive demand on account of the public having for a number of years bought adulterated honey. This adulterated honey consisted of all glucose and a small piece of comb honey placed in the tumbler so as to give it the appearance of being pure. If the public could get educated to use the pure article, there would be an unlimited demand, and when state laws can be framed to prevent the selling of adulterated honey, we would be willing to invest capital and form a company that would put pure honey on the market.

PACKAGES FOR RETAIL TRADE.

We do not want extracted honey in a smaller can than the 5-gallon can, as we sell at the present time to manufacturers. If the PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER wishes to agitate placing of extracted honey in 2-lb cans, packed in cases, we would advise its being done in the following manner:

Let a company be formed, calling it the Colorado Bee-Keepers' association. Let them figure with some large manufacture to furnish them the proper can. Let them have a label made and have it registered in Washington so that it could not be infringed upon. Then it would be necessary to advertise to a

limited extent in some trade journals this label, appointing some firm as distributing agent, to see if the honey could not be placed in the retailer's hands to be sold at such a price as would leave a good margin for the producer and a margin for the middle-man. Without advertising, it would not be easy to acquaint the public with the fact that honey can be bought in these packages.

We shall be pleased to give you our views on this subject, and shall promptly answer all questions put to us.

Chicago, Ills.

SELLING HONEY.

J. W. ROUSE.

NOTICE in the bee journals that I get, the difficulty some are having in disposing of their honey crop.

While I have never produced a very large crop at a time, I have always been able to dispose of what I produced at a fair price, and if I had a very large crop I should try what I could do around home before sending off to the large cities placing my capital at another person's disposal.

I have never sold honey for less than ten cents per pound, (extracted) except 100 pounds to one party at 9 cents.

I do not feel disposed to sell honey at a less price than some of our grocers are selling a mixed and made up mess as they do for ten cents per pound. I never saw any of this stuff until about a year ago, when being at a neighbor's for dinner, they had a mixture they had bought for honey. It was of an amber color and had pieces of comb in it, but had very little honey in it, even that in the comb being but very little better than the liquid. This stuff I learned came from St. Joseph, Mo.

Being at another neighbor's at another time, they had me sample a mess they had bought for honey, which was certainly the worst mess in the shape of sweets I ever put into my mouth. It had no honey flavor about it at all. This stuff sold for ten cents per pound, and came from Chicago as I was informed. I saw the grocer selling this stuff, and asked him if he had a good trade on it, and if parties buying it ever called for it again. He admitted that trade in it was very poor, and only in a very instances did he ever sell the second time to a customer. This stuff has injured the sale of extracted honey here, as many persons are afraid to buy extracted honey, for fear of getting some of this stuff.

Where honey is liked at all, I usually succeed in selling some in my rounds. I often approach a party and ask them if they want any honey, and show sample of extracted honey. Some say no, until they hear my name, when many say they have heard of me as the bee-man, and they buy some honey. Others are even afraid to buy honey of me after hearing my name, until they try the honey, when they buy and call for more.

I never have any difficulty selling honey where wanted, after the first time, many even refusing to buy honey at a store at all, who will buy freely of me. I feel a modesty in thus writing, but do so to encourage anyone having honey to sell. Get up a good article, and get the confidence of the public, and I believe most of the honey can be disposed of near home, except in districts where there are a large number of bee-keepers. These of course are compelled to seek other markets. I do not now think I will ever ship honey to be sold on commission, and would not recommend this way unless the parties are well known, and even then it is very likely to prove unsatisfactory, not but what there are plenty of honest commission men, but there are

too many leaks and loop-holes for complaints. If honey is sold outright, each party knows just what they are doing.

Mexico, Mo.

BREEDING FOR IMPROVEMENT.

DR. C. C. MILLER.

EVERY now and then someone talks about making improvements in bees by properly breeding them, and pretty generally that is understood as referring to scientific breeders that are away beyond us every-day bee-keepers. What I want to do just now is to make clear as I can the belief that every bee-keeper who has three colonies of bees in movable comb hives, can do something toward improving his stock. I'm not sure but he might do so with only two colonies in box hives.

Indeed I don't believe it needs any great amount of skill to develop strains noted for excellence in some one given direction. To be sure, there is the difficulty that we cannot control the fecundation of our queens, and that's a bad drawback, but then we have as an offset that queens can be bred very rapidly, allowing us to reach many generations in a very few years. Besides, even if we can't control fecundation, and can't control the drones that are about us, we can gradually change the character of all. Everyone knows this who has perseveringly bred Italians with blacks all around him. At first most of his queens would meet black drones, but by and by his neighbors' bees would be so changed in character that blacks would no longer be in consideration.

Look at what has been done by constant selection of the yellowest bees to breed from. The three bands have been increased in numbers until a solid

yellow has been obtained. Then there are Dr. Murdock's bees bred for size. I had some natural comb of their building, no foundation being used, and the worker cells instead of measuring five to the inch, were four and a half, and some of them nearly as large as ordinary drone cells. J. McArthur has secured a strain of bees that do not sting under ordinary, or even extraordinary, provocation, such a thing as kicking over their hive not serving to irritate them.

Now what are the things to observe in rearing bees? I don't think the matter is too complicated for the very inexperienced. Select your best queens to breed from. That's one thing, and that's about the only thing generally looked after. But you'll get on twice as fast if you'll pay attention to the males as well as to the females. In some cases a good deal more than twice as fast, for only through the drones can you make any impression on the bees surrounding you, unless indeed you can get your neighbors to introduce the right kind of queens.

I suppose any man would be called foolish who should pay no attention to what colonies he raised queens from, but should be careful to suppress all drones except those from the best working colonies. But he might get on full better than he who takes the greatest pains as to his queens without looking after his drones.

In selecting colonies to breed from, it isn't best to depend entirely on those which produce the most bees. A queen may be very prolific, but if her bees do so little at gathering that the immense amount of brood prevents the accumulation of surplus, what good is she?

But it's pretty safe to go by the actual work accomplished by a colony. If queens are raised from colonies that have given best results in the matter of surplus, and if the queens thus raised meet drones from other colonies

equally good, there is likely to be improvement, at the same time not forgetting an occasional infusion of new blood.

Two or three writers have lately urged the importance of attention to the matter of longevity in bees. It is claimed that some strains of bees live longer than others. If this be true, it is quite important. A colony of bees whose workers should live a week longer than the average ought to do a fourth more work. For if the life of a worker be 42 days, and if it commences gathering when 16 days old, that leaves 26 days for field work, and a week would be more than a fourth of that. But I confess it may not be the easiest thing in the world to find out what your longest lived bees are.

Much easier will it be to determine another thing that in some localities at least might be of very great importance. I refer to the length of bees' tongues. Glossometers have been invented by which the length of bees' tongues can be accurately measured. A Frenchman, M. Legros, has invented perhaps the best, and he finds the average length of a bee's tongue is a shade more than a fourth of an inch, and by careful selection he has succeeded in having a strain with tongues about a sixth longer. At first thought it may appear a difficult thing to measure a bee's tongue, but the matter is very simple. The arrangement is such that you can easily see how far down the honey is emptied in a dish covered with gratings through which the bees reach their tongues.

I have nothing to say against yellow bees—there may be good ones among them, and there may be bad ones—but I believe if as much attention had been given to some of the points I have mentioned, leaving color to take care of itself, we might have more valuable bees today. And I believe that any bee-

keeper can do something to establish improvement.

Marengo, Ills

OPEN LETTER TO THE BEE-KEEPERS OF THE UNITED STATES.

FELLOW BEE-KEEPERS:

We have prepared for circulation a petition asking the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States to take steps to secure and introduce *apis dorsata*, the giant bee of India, into this country. It is a duty that the government owes and is willing to render our industry. (See Report of Secretary of Agriculture, 1893, page 25).

Owing to the rapid disappearance of the bumble-bee, the introduction of these bees will soon be a necessity in the successful growing of red clover for seed, if for no other purpose.

That these are a distinct and large race of bees, there is no doubt, but of their practical value we know nothing and never will know until we have thoroughly tested them. As progressive bee-keepers and honey producers, we should not rest until every spot on this earth has been searched and every race of honey bees has been tested. We should do it for the advancement of scientific and progressive apiculture, for ourselves and for posterity. Our association has taken hold of this with sincerity, and expects the united support of the bee-keepers of the United States, and with their support, the end of the nineteenth century will witness a new era in apiculture, in which the bee-keepers of the United States will take a leading part.

Yours fraternally,

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

Ontario Co. (N. Y.) Bee-Keepers' Association.

Copies of these petitions may be obtained by anyone who will circulate them, by addressing W. F. Marks, Chapinville, N. Y.

LITTLE WALTER PASSED AWAY TO REST

Kiss your darling, kiss me, mother;
 Kiss me, papa, I must go;
 Kiss me, sisters, kiss me, brother;
 I am sick, and suffer so.
 Darker now the world is growing,
 Yet the other seems more bright;
 I am going, quickly going,
 To that Eden of delight.
 There I will await to greet thee,
 Robed in white forevermore;
 There with angels you shall meet me,
 Meet where partings are no more.
 Scenes of present life are flying,
 Brighter shines the other shore;
 I am dying, gently dying,
 Yet shall live forevermore.
 Hark, I hear my Saviour calling,
 He is holding now my hand;
 Goodbye, loved ones, I am dying,
 Come, My lamb, is God's command.
 Youth in tender beauty lying
 In his cot so sweet and blest;
 While life's hours were swiftly flying,
 Walter passed away to rest.

F. S. Thorington, Chillicothe, Mo.

(He was my nephew, and a son of H. L. Bancroft, then of Chillicothe, but now of Coeur d'Alene City, Idaho.—F. S. T.)

My Gold

en Italian Queens are bred for business and beauty. Before June 1, untested, \$1; tested, \$1.50; after, untested, 75c; tested, \$1; Selected tested, for breeder, \$3; very best, \$5. Remit by P. O. order, express money order, or registered letter. Special prices on large orders. Price list free. 2tf

W. H. WHITE, Blossom, Lamar Co., Tex
 Please mention the "Progressive."

25 CTS.

Send 25c and get a copy of the
AMATEUR BEE KEEPER,

A book especially for beginners. Address

LEAHY M'F'G. CO., Higginsville, Mo.

Cherry Grove Apiary.

I have 300 stands of 3-banded Italian bees for sale, and can give you satisfaction in prices and bees. Write for prices on full colonies in eight-frame dovetailed hive. One, two, and three-frame nucleus Italian queens. In answering this advertisement, mention "Progressive."

E. W. MOORE,

GRIFFIN, POSEY CO., IND.

Please mention the "Progressive."



OUR LETTER BOX.

AT THE GILA FARM APIARY.

LITTLE BEE.

FROM Christmas till New Year's day our bees were kept in their hives by the coldest weather known in this section of New Mexico for many years. Since the 2d of January they are out every day. I was glad to know that they were well cared for, and had a good dry cushion to keep them warm; also plenty of honey.

A new bee-hive factory at Greenville, Texas, W. R. Graham & Son, proprietors. Mr. W. R. Graham is one of the pioneers of Texas bee-keepers.

If you are looking for good honey resources, and an unoccupied field, go to South or Southwest Texas, Bro. Flanagan. Lots of room there yet, and you will or can see some of those good old-fashioned seasons again.

The PROGRESSIVE is not only a western bee journal—its new dress is seen and its pages read by a great many bee-keepers in the south.

Now is the time for the bee-keeper to prepare for the coming season. Buy your supplies from the Leahy Mfg. Co., and you will be pleased. They send out good material and accurate workmanship.

\$1. PER POUND FOR COMB HONEY.

Dr. W. M. Stell, of Jesus Maria, Mexico, writes thus: "I began bee raising with one colony of black bees, which produced their first swarm on the 20th of April. In the later September I received an extra fine tested queen. I run my apiary mostly for bees and section honey. I now have nine colonies, and gathered 200 one-pound sections of comb honey, of which I sold 100 at \$1.00 each, reserving the balance for my own use. I have adopt-

ed the 8-frame Dovetailed hive. The honey is obtained from the peach, cactus, bush honeysuckle, wild horsemint, and a great abundance of mountain flowers." \$1.00 per pound for comb honey. Let's go to Mexico.

A cowboy visiting the apiary and seeing the bee smoker the other day remarked, "That's the bee tamer, Mr., isn't it?"

Another brave lad came to see the queen while I was manipulating a hive, when one of the little fellows left a sting at the very tip of his nose. He walked away sneezing, and did not care to see the queen.

A little girl, 7 years of age, came to the apiary the other day with her mother, and noticed a bee on the seat of the apiarist's pants. She remarked:

"Say, Mr. Bee Man, there is a bee on the seat of your pants. Better brush it off;" which the apiarist did with a smile.

Mother to child: "My dear child, you ought not to have told the gentleman about that bee."

Child: "Why, Mamma, he might sit down on it, and kill it."

A colored boy who owned a colony of bees, came to the apiarist last summer to get him to hive a swarm which had issued. Said he, "Mr. Bee Man, my bees hab swahmed out and run up a tree. Will you be kind enough to come and hibe dem fob me?"

Apiarist: "Yes, I can; but why do you not hive them yourself?"

Colored Boy: "Well, sah, you see dem bees an' I don't get along well wid one anoder."

Cliff, N. M.

AN ENTHUSIASTIC BEGINNER.

Please send me another of your catalogues, as I wish to place a small order soon. The goods received last season were more than satisfactory. Last year was my first experience with bees,

and my fever did not die at the first sting either. I transferred my bees into the new hive from an old home-made eight-frame, and such bees for architectural genius you never saw. The comb was criss-cross, sideways, and two tiers at that, as the old hive was twice too high for the frames. I read Mr. Rouse's little book thoroughly, and followed his advice, and with the help of a woman friend and innumerable advice from my husband, and what help he could give us evenings, we at last got them transferred; that is, the brood transferred, but as the bees by this time had little faith in us, they absolutely refused to go in, and had it not been for the advent of a friendly thunder storm, they would have been hanging on the outside yet. I obtained only twelve pounds of surplus honey last season, but raised a fine queen only to let her starve to death late in the fall. But experience is everything. If ever I raise another, I shall take better care of her. My highest ambition is to be a successful bee-keeper, even though experience has been the only result so far. Enjoy the PROGRESSIVE very much.

Respectfully,

MRS. M. THOMPSON.

Kansas City, Mo.

B. T. Canterbury,

Breeder of _____

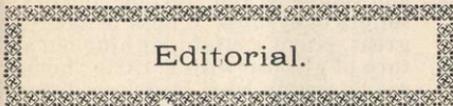
Partridge Cochins, Dark Brahmas, Black Minorcas, and Golden Wyandottes. Fifty fine young males for sale. Eggs in season \$1.50 per fifteen. A few Silver Wyandottes and black-breasted Red Games and fifteen hens and three males, at a bargain.

Higginsville, Mo.

Please mention the "Progressive."

WANTED!

10,000 pounds of BEESWAX, for Cash.
Address,
LEAHY MFG. CO., HIGGINSVILLE, MO.



Editorial.

THE PROGRESSIVE BEE KEEPER.

A journal devoted to Bees, Honey and Kindred Industries.

TERMS: Fifty cents per year in advance.

R. B. LEAHY, - - - - - Editor.

Four extra pages this month.

How do you like THE PROGRESSIVE?

OUR subscription list has nearly doubled the past winter. Nothing blue about the PROGRESSIVE but the cover.

WE are sending out a large number of sample copies this month. If you receive one and are not already a subscriber, remember it is an invitation from the shoulder to subscribe at once. Only fifty cents a year. Two subscriptions, 80c.

928 patents on bee hives have been issued from the United States Patent Office. All this it would seem would be an assistance to the tiny bee to improve the shining hours, yet all of the honey, or nearly all, is stored in unpatented bee hives, as thus far the best hives have not been patented. Thus this \$90,000 spent for patents on bee hives has been of no benefit to beekeepers.

WE feel much elated over the large amount of business done by us the past fall and winter. We have now shipped

eleven carloads of goods, three of which went to Illinois, four to Texas, one to Tennessee, two to Kansas, and one to Colorado; also a large amount of goods over the United States generally. We have also had a big run with the "Higginsville" Smoker, and our *beautifully polished sections*. We are under many obligations to our friends who have spoken so kindly of the "Higginsville" supplies; also for their very liberal patronage.

DISHONEST ADVERTISERS.

ONE Horrie & Co., of Chicago, Ills., has caused quite a ripple on the sea of apiculture. Indeed, it has almost been a storm. It seems this firm opposed on the American Bee Journal and the Bee-Keepers Review to the extent of using their advertising columns. Thus many poor honorable beekeepers have been swindled to a great extent out of their hard-earned honey. I always make a practice now of making a thorough investigation of all who apply for advertising space in this journal, and I am pleased to say that since I dropped the advertisement of E. F. Quigley, Unionville, Md. I have had no complaints from our readers about those who advertise with us.

WILL NOT AMALGAMATE.

One of the editors in speaking of the amalgamation of the North American Bee-Keepers Association with the Bee-Keepers Union, has kindly remarked that all the "leading" bee journals were in favor of it. By this we are to understand that the "leading" bee journals are the American Bee Journal, Gleanings in Bee Culture, and the Bee-Keepers' Review.

The Canadian Bee Journal and the PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER, not being "leading" journals, according to this editor's mind, would perhaps as well keep still, but as this is a free country, a country of free speech and

free press. the editor of this journal proposes to express himself on this matter, even though the PROGRESSIVE be not a "leading" journal.

In my opinion, the most foolish, empty, ridiculous proposition that has been offered the bee-keepers of the present day, is the amalgamation of an organization that is financially embarrassed and has a smaller membership and accomplishes less good, than many state and even county conventions have, with the old reliable, battle-scarred, but victorious, Union. It looks to me that these organizations are working in two distinctly different fields.

The Union, for instance, is a blanket to protect the bee-keepers against imposition and malice, while the other is only a "social" affair, moving about over the country, has only a small membership, made up mostly from year to year in the locality in which the convention is held. Some have suggested that if these two organizations be united, the expenses would be less. I fail to see the point. If the North American Bee-Keepers' Association can't raise sufficient funds to carry them along, I say let them suspend business. I am not in favor of the well filled purses of the Union being squandered in this "social" way, which they surely will be if the by-laws of the Union are so changed. If the sinews of war is money, the Union, if wedded to this flirt, will soon have an empty purse, be able to command no respect from anyone, and will be a Union without strength. I do not write this for fear of any amalgamation of the North American and the Bee-Keepers' Union, because that proposition will never carry. The members of the Union are not asleep, and you will see when the vote is polled that this proposition will be buried beyond resurrection.

LATER.

"The amalgamation of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association and the National Bee-Keepers' Union seems to be "hanging fire." So far, about all the communications we have received concerning it have been against the amalgamation idea."—American Bee Journal.

WE quote the following from a letter from S. T. Fish & Co., Chicago:

"White comb honey selling at 13c; light amber, 12c; dark amber not wanted extracted honey, white, 6c; light amber, 5½c; dark amber, 5c. In barrels, 4 to 5c. Beeswax 28 to 2½c."

RETAILING EXTRACTED HONEY IN ORIGINAL PACKAGES

Has not met with much success. We refer to pure honey put up by bee-keepers. There has been and is an endless variety of glass jars, bottles and tumblers put up by buyers and sellers of syrups. These packages to a great extent contain nothing but a mixture of glucose with a little honey. I see no reason why large producers of honey, or a number of large producers, could not put up their honey in two and four-pound cans, crate them about two dozen cans in a crate, shipped to the commercial centers, and from there they could be distributed among the retail grocerymen. I would recommend a can as herewith shown. Glass



packages are too expensive, and too frail for transportation. A small can of honey to be sold to the consumer need not have an expensive screw cap, just a cork waxed down or shoved down in the neck of a can about a quarter of an inch, with a little plaster of paris over the top of it, will be sufficient. I believe that hundreds of tons of extracted honey could be sold in the homes of the American people if it were put up in the right size packages, properly labelled, all of which if done in a wholesale way would reduce the cost of packages to the minimum, say

about 1½ c to to the pound. After reading Mr. R. C. Aikin's article, (see January PROGRESSIVE), I wrote to S. T. Fish & Co., of Chicago, for their opinion, and their reply will be found on page 81.

EARLY QUEENS.

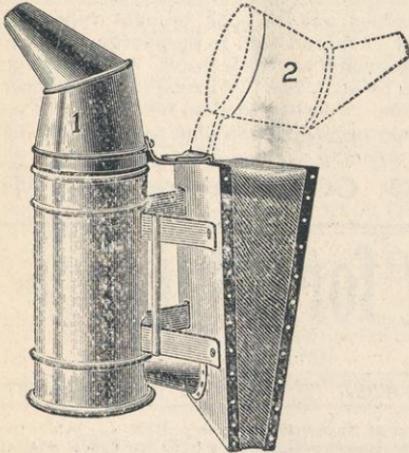
Beautiful Golden Italian Queens will be ready to ship by April 1. Price 75c each; 6 or more, 60c each. A beautiful warranted Queen and the PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER one year for \$1.00.

LEAHY MFG. Co., Higginsville, Mo.

SECTIONS FOR LESS THAN COST.

We have an overstock of Number 2 4¼x4¾ 7-to-foot Sections. We will sell them at the following low price to clean up this lot: 75,000 7-to-foot No. 2 at \$1.00 per 1000. These are a choice lot, and will not last long at these prices. Order at once, and say special offer. Address, LEAHY MFG. Co., Higginsville, Mo.

‘HIGGINSVILLE’ GOODS for sale by Henry L. Miller, 355 Shawnee Ave., Topeka, Kans. Beautiful Catalogue Free.



THE "HIGGINSVILLE SMOKER."

A Good Smoker for a Little Money. THE HIGGINSVILLE SMOKER A DANDY.

I received the Higginville Smoker all O. K. It's a dandy; please find enclosed stamps for another. Yours truly, OTTO ENDERS, Oswegathie, N. Y.

Price 75c; by mail, \$1.00. Address, LEAHY MFG. Co., Higginsville, Mo.

Golden Queens! From Texas!

My bees are bred for business, beauty and gentleness. Safe arrival and reasonable satisfaction guaranteed. G. W. Barge writes from Union Center, Wis.: "I have one queen you sent me last season that gave me 112 lbs of fine comb honey and 25 lbs extracted this season '93." Untested queens, \$1. J. D. Givens Lisben, Tex

Please mention the "Progressive."

2 POPULAR MAGAZINES FOR THE HOME.



FRANK LESLIE'S POPULAR MONTHLY

Contains each Month: Original Water Color Frontispiece; 128 Quarto Pages of Reading Matter; 100 New and High-class Illustrations; More Literary Matter and Illustrations than any other Magazine in America. 25 cts.; \$3 a Year.

Frank Leslie's Pleasant Hours FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

A Bright, Wholesome, Juvenile Monthly. Fully illustrated. The best writers for young people contribute to it. 10 cts.; \$1 a year.

SEND ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS TO

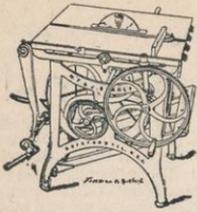
The PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER, Higginsville, Mo.

Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly and the PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER both for one year, for \$3.25.

Frank Leslie's Pleasant Hours for Boys and Girls, and the PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER, both for one year for \$1.35.

Undoubtedly the Best Club Offers

Send to Frank Leslie's Publishing House, N. Y., for New Illustrated Premium List, Free.



MAKE YOUR OWN HIVES

Bee-Keepers will save money by using our Foot Power Circular Saw in making their Hives, Sections and Boxes. Machines sent on trial if desired. Catalogue free.

W. F. & JOHN BARNES CO.,
 914 Ruby St. **ROCKFORD, ILLS**
 Please mention the "Progressive."

PATENTS

Promptly secured. Trade-Marks, Copyrights and Labels registered. Twenty-five years experience. We report whether patent can be secured or not, free of charge. Our fee not due until patent is allowed. **32 page Book Free.**
H. B. WILLSON & CO., Attorneys at Law,
 Opp. U. S. Pat. Office. **WASHINGTON, D. C.**

Please mention the "Progressive."

The Amateur Bee Keeper....

A 70-Page Book for Beginners.

—BY—



J. W. ROUSE.



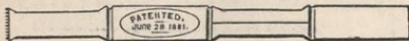
SECOND EDITION JUST OUT.

Many new features added, and the book brought fully up to the times. The first thousand sold in the short space of two years. All beginners should have this book. Price of Amateur Bee Keeper, 25c; by mail, 28c; "Progressive Bee Keeper," monthly, one year, 50c. We will club both for 65c. If not convenient to get a money order, you can send one and two-cent stamps. Address orders to

LEAHY MFG. CO., Higginsville, Mo.

Make a Note of this.

All Ready for 1896.



"A WORD TO THE WISE IS SUFFICIENT."

We are located in the great Basswood Timber Belt of Wisconsin, where we have the finest Basswood in the world for **ONE PIECE SECTIONS.** We have a saw-mill in connection with our factory, enabling us to take our lumber right from the log. We have all the up-to-date machinery for manufacturing the One-Piece

Sections, and can therefore guarantee you a first-class section in every respect. Our shipping facilities are unsurpassed, having three through lines of railroads to Chicago. Write us for prices. We will give bottom figures on sections.....

The Marshfield Mfg. Co.

Marshfield, Wisconsin, (Wood Co.), Dec. 1, 1895.

Please mention the "Progressive" in answering this advertisement.

S. T. FISH & CO.,
 189 SOUTH WATER ST..
CHICAGO.

We handle HONEY every day in the year. Correspondence solicited. We have been twenty years at above location, and refer to

- First National Bank, Chicago,
- First National Bank, Los Angeles, Cal..
- First National Bank, San Jose, Cal..
- Gleanings in Bee Culture, Medina, O.

Your banker can see our rating.

Also dealers in Butter, Cheese, Eggs Apples, Potatoes.

Our facilities for selling unsurpassed. Reserve our address for future reference.

Bargains! Bargains!

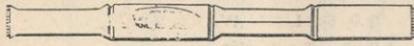
Have made a great reduction in Dovetailed Hives, and Sections. State what you want, and how much. Will give you a bargain in Apian Supplies. Our stock is all of A. I. Root Co.'s make. Thirty-six page catalogue free.

John Nebel & Son,

HIGH, HILL, MO.

Please mention the "Progressive."

DO NOT ORDER YOUR SECTIONS
until you get our prices on



The "Boss" One-Piece Section

—ALSO—

Dovetailed Hives, Foundation

AND OTHER SUPPLIES.

We are in better shape than ever to fill order.
on short notice. Write for Price-List,

J. FORNCROOK,

WATERTOWN Jeff. Co. Wis., January 1896

Please mention the "Progressive."

The publisher of the Kansas Bee
Journal has decided to change the
name of his paper, and call it

**RURAL
KANSAN**



It will contain enough about Bees for the
average bee keeper, and will also interest him
in other subjects, as Poultry, Horticulture,
Agriculture, Live Stock, The
Home, Etc. 30c a year, monthly. Sample
copy free. And you will also want his cata-
logue of Bee Keepers's Supplies. Ad-
dress

HENRY L. MILLER,

TOPEKA, KAS.

Please mention the "Progressive."

FOR SALE.



2500 pounds A No. 1 Amber
Fall Honey for sale in 60-
pound cans. Two cans in
a case. Price, eight cents
per pound for less than
120 pounds. Seven cents
per pound on all over 120
pounds. Send 2c stamp
for sample. Address,

E. T. FLANAGAN,

BELLEVILLE, ILLS.

Postoffice Box 783.

Please mention the "Progressive."

OUR SPECIALTY.

The **NEBRASKA
BEE-
KEEPER...**

A monthly journal devoted to scientific care
of bees, the rearing of queens, and the pro-
duction of honey. We have no pet hobbies
to ride, and try to teach as we practice in
our own apiary. Subscription price, 50c per
year. Sample copies free.

Stilson & Sons, York, Neb.

Please mention the "Progressive."

WANTED!

10,000 pounds of BEESWAX, for
Cash. Address,

LEAHY MFG. CO., HIGGINSVILLE, MO.

Ho! For Kansas!

I WILL handle a complete line of the Higginsville goods the coming season
at the Leahy M'fg. Co.'s prices. Parties residing in Southeast Kansas
or Southwest Missouri can save freight by purchasing these goods of
me. I will also continue to breed Queens from the best 5-banded stock. Send
for my catalogue at once. Address,

P. J. THOMAS, Fredonia, Kas.

Cedar Vale, Kas., February 18, 1895—Gentlemen: I just received a bill from Mr. P. J.
Thomas a few days ago, and am well pleased with the same. The hives are dandies. I have
been talking your goods up with bee keepers. What is the best you can do on twenty No. 1
"Higginsville Hives," to start with. Respectfully, B. F. THOMPSON.

Please mention the "Progressive" in answering this advertisement

Four Months' Trial Trip—Jan'y—Feb'y—March—April—Only 25c

If you have never seen
a copy of the **weekly
AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL**
send your address for a
Free Sample; or better,
for 25c. a "good taste,"
-17 numbers, 4 months-
will be sent you. Why
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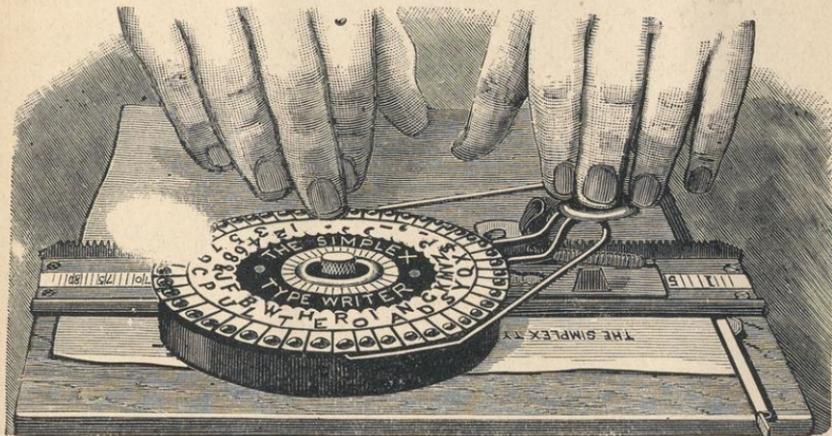


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