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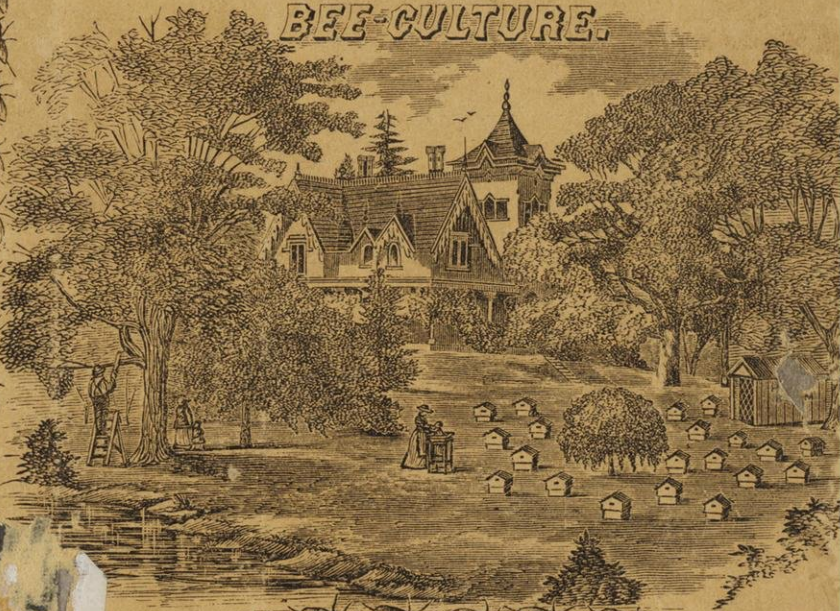
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THE
NORTH AMERICAN
BEE

JOURNAL

A MONTHLY PERIODICAL
DEVOTED TO
BEE-CULTURE.



Vol. 1. } AUGUST, { No. 1,
1872.

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NORTH AMERICAN

BEE JOURNAL

THE BEE KEEPER'S GUIDE.

VOLUME I.

AUGUST 1, 1872.

NUMBER 1.

Correspondence.

[For the North American Bee Journal.
Various Topics.

Messrs. Editors:—I was made glad to-day by the receipt of the prospectus of the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, and especially because it contained the assurance that said JOURNAL should be devoted to apiculture *alone*. If that promise is faithfully kept (and I have no doubt it will be) I can safely promise it a successful and honored future, for the great want of our bee keeping fraternity is "light, more light," and they naturally expect the bee journals to give them an insight into the mysteries of bee keeping instead of column after column of abuse of one apiarian by another.

I loaned some copies of bee journals to an intelligent farmer bee keeper a short time since. When I saw him again and asked him to subscribe he said he "thought he should wait until the journal settled the all absorbing question, which of the great apiarians should be hung."

His answer was somewhat cynical, but, nevertheless, to a certain degree excusable.

Another thing that I think must make the NORTH AMERICAN a favorite in the South is the promise that it will give the Southern bee keepers seasonable hints and directions, which we do not find in publications from the North. This same want in regard to agricultural papers in the South, gave birth to several Southern agricultural periodicals that are an honor to the South, and profitable to both their publishers and subscribers.

I hear great complaint in our section of the country this season, that new swarms are hard to save, that is they either will not cluster at all, or leave the new hive soon after hiving. One farmer had twenty swarms and saved only one. They did not settle at all, near the apiary, but "took a bee line" for the woods.

The cause, as far as I can ascertain, is the want of shade in the apiary. When this is the case the swarm leaves for a cooler retreat in the woods. The remedy is obvious. See that your bees have an abundance of natural or artificial shade. I have

entire success in keeping restless swarms by giving them a frame of brood and shading the new hive.

I have heard much objection to black bees as nurses in rearing queens, the pros and cons of which I do not propose to argue now. As I transfer the full formed cell from the Italian stocks I have no difficulty in obtaining the best results. I use black bees only because we have a number in a honey apiary, three miles distant, and it saves the Italian stocks from being weakened, and is therefore the most economical plan. In early spring I use a twelve frame hive, partitioned into three spaces, giving four frames to each nuclei. The small boxes answer every purpose in hot weather.

I had a strange case recently in forming a nuclei. Myself and assistant were stocking it with bees, and used every precaution against taking the queen from the hive. In forty-eight hours I examined it, and found that my queen cell had been violently destroyed. Further search discovered a queen and eggs. I removed the queen, and not having time then to introduce another cell, I closed the nuclei. The next day, on opening it to insert a cell, I found another beautiful Italian queen engaged in the laudible occupation of filling every brood cell with eggs. If that nuclei continues its productiveness in that ratio all summer, I shall have to start a bee journal and offer the queens as premiums, or run a lively competition with our (cheap) Bay State friend, or do something desperate to get rid of my supply of queens.

For the benefit of many who want an easy way to Italianize, let me give an easy and effective way. Remove the stock from which a swarm has

just issued, and set it in place of another right populous stock. In nine days it will swarm again, by means of the bees received from the colony removed. We now remove it again to the stand of another populous stock, and it will swarm again on the second or third day. Continue this removal immediately after swarming so long as queen piping after nightfall is heard.

Under favorable circumstances, ten or twelve swarms may thus be obtained, as the first swarming stock furnishes the queens and the others supply the bees. Hence, if you have one or two Italian stocks, and feed them carefully early in the spring, beginning about the first week in February, if the hives are well supplied with pollen, or can gather it plentifully, we may feel assured that those Italians will swarm first; and if then transposed, as directed, with common stocks, all the subsequent swarms obtained will have Italian queens, though the bees be of the common kind.

This is the easiest way to Italianize possible, nothing more being required than the removal and transfer of two stocks to new locations, and the work is done. We know, in following this plan, precisely when to look for a swarm after the first has issued, for the second will come on the ninth day after the hive has been transferred to the stand of a strong stock, the third on the third day after the second transfer, the fourth on the following day, and so on. If the queen is heard piping in the hive at evening, after removal, it may be carried into a dark cool cellar, and we may have it swarm next day at such hour as suits us. Feed it moderately, and a swarm will issue immediately after it is replaced on it.

stand and feels the influence of light and heat.

I do not claim this plan as being original with me, but as Kohler first gave it to the public it is as good as if I had done it.

I read in the *Rural New Yorker*, of May 11, this sentiment, by one of their regular contributors:

"Honey is not one of the necessities of life any more than whisky or tobacco."

That "reminds me of a little story." A Dutchman went into an eating house, and taking a seat near two exquisites, called for some sour krout. "Phew!" says one of the nice young men; "I would as soon eat guano." Now Hans did not know what guano was, so he answered very innocently, "Yaas, dot all depends on how a man was raised."

Some of the paid contributors of the *Rural* may have been raised to consider whisky one of the necessities of life. If so, Messrs. Editors, please put that paper on your exchange list, and show them by your "walk and conversation" that honey is better than whisky for a steady diet.

In closing let me urge all bee keepers, especially in the South, to subscribe and write for the NORTH AMERICAN. Let none say he can't write for the papers, but give us in each issue all the bee news in their part of the country, so that we in the South can compare notes. Write, if it is not more than a few lines; tell how the honey crop is, have bees swarmed much—in fact any thing concerning the bees.

W. E. LADD.

Brentwood, Williamson Co., Tenn.

[For the North American Bee Journal.

Apiculture.

Messrs. Editors:—Previous to the invention of the movable comb hive, bee keeping was in a very low condition, so far as profit was concerned.

The inside workings of the hive were comparatively unknown, and the opinions entertained respecting the habits of the bee were vague and uncertain. These erroneous opinions have already, to a great extent, been dissipated.

Although only a few years have elapsed since the introduction of the movable comb hive, the advancement has been wonderful. A more accurate knowledge has been derived from study and experiment, from the fact that it possesses all the essential elements of material wealth and pleasure.

This noble branch of rural economy has received a new impulse from bee journals and bee conventions. Through these two channels bee keeping is destined to attain that position among the industries of this nation which is eminently its due.

Many difficult problems have been solved, and the mysteries of the hive to a great extent have been unraveled. But at this day and age of the world, with all its boasted light and learning among apiarians, there are many things concerning the habits of the curious and wonderful (sweet) little insect, the Honey Bee, which is shrouded in mysterious darkness. It is the wonder and admiration of man. The wisdom and industry of the bee has been the theme of poets, from the earliest dawn of authentic history to the present day. It has been an interesting and fascinating study to the writer, and its charm has not waned the least. In my estimation,

EVERY bee keeper should subscribe for the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.

the bee was one of the greatest gifts bestowed upon man by an all wise Creator. It not only collects the delicious nectar secreted by flowers, but is an agent by which the pollen and fertilizing principle of flowers is carried from one flower to another, thereby lessening the failures in fruit crops. Although we love to handle the little fellows, still we have some objections to the way they use their javelins or spear, for they are sure of their victim.

Some of the most *original* ideas have been advanced by bee keepers. Some ludicrous in the extreme. But nevertheless, they have set the practical apiarian to thinking and experimenting. An old bee keeper at the Iowa State Fair, last year, told me that he had frequently seen the drones depositing eggs in the cells. This is a specimen of old fogyism, displayed in the present day, which goes hand in hand with the old box hive or gum.

Now, for Bro. Moon & King, and their new BEE JOURNAL. We hail with pleasure and delight this new bee journal, in as much as the desire of bee keepers in general is for a good reliable paper, one that is not published in the interests of any one hive, clique or ring; one that is devoted to the interests of every apiarian. Give us a journal devoted exclusively to apiculture, one that will disseminate pure, true and "*wholesome*" instructions on bee keeping. Such a paper will receive the support of all.

But we must close, as we fear we may weary your patience with our scribbling.

Wishing Bros. Moon & King the best of success in their new enterprise, and may their shadows never grow less. Yours, truly,

GEO. W. BARCLAY.

Tipton, Iowa.

[For the North American Bee Journal.

A Letter from Tennessee.

Messrs. Editors:—As you request all those interested in bee keeping to write for the JOURNAL, I thought I would drop you a few desultory lines.

A great many bees died in this part of the country the past winter. We have had but few swarms this season, but generally plenty of honey. We have had the heaviest honey-dews this spring that was ever known in this part of the State. Now here is a query: What produces the honey-dew? Some writers think that the little aphides produce it. Now that theory, to me, does not look reasonable, for the amount that has fallen in one night, this season, far exceeded the quantity possible for the little creatures to produce, according to their numbers, in that length of time, for I have failed to discover more of them this season than common.

Another query is, why do the bees not gather the honey-dew? I have noticed particular, but never a bee did I see gathering it, and I have talked with numbers of old bee keepers and have failed to find any one who has ever seen the sight, or seeing anyone else that had seen it. But they all agree that when there is plenty of honey-dew that it is a good honey season.

Again: What produces the honey in the flower? Does it grow there, or is it deposited there by the dew? And, why do the bees prefer that in the flower to that on the leaves? Is it because the flower gives it a better flavor, or is it because it is of a different kind? Let us have some facts concerning the matter published in

the JOURNAL. Let those, who can, give some light on the subject.

Wishing the new JOURNAL great success, I remain yours, truly,

R. H. ANTHONY.

Bell Buckle, Bedford Co., Tenn.

[For the North American Bee Journal.

More Light Needed.

Messrs. Editors :—Some weeks ago, when I first heard you were going to start another bee journal, I thought it useless, thinking bee keepers had bee books and journals enough for all purposes, but since I come to consider the want of bee knowledge, I have changed my mind.

I will give you a few cases of mistakes made by bee keepers. Passing up street I met a prominent man who I knew had been starting an apiary for one year, had some twenty colonies. I said to him :

"Judge, I am trying to get up a club for a bee journal; will you take it?"

"Oh, no! I have no use for a bee journal; I have read Langstroth, Quinby, and two or three copies of the *American Bee Journal*. I know it all."

"You think you know all about bees, do you, Judge?" He was elected our County Judge.

"I know as much about bees as any of them."

"Glad to hear it, Judge. I will call on you for instructions when I get 'stalled.'"

Some ten days after I found a note in the postoffice from the Judge, requesting me to call at his apiary and set his bees right. The next corner I turned I met a "darkie" with a message from Judge "Know it All" to hurry up; at the second corner was a second messenger. I concluded the

case was urgent, and hurried my steps. I found Judge "Know it All" out under a shade tree fanning himself, apparently under great excitement.

"What's the matter, Judge?"

"O these develish bees are swarming themselves to death. A *first* swarm came out of No. 10, Sunday. Monday they swarmed again, and today (Tuesday) a third swarm came out of the same gum, and I am expecting every minute when another swarm will come out. The books say a *second* swarm never comes out for *ten* days after the first, and here mine are swarming *every day*. How shall I stop them?"

"I guess you have not read the books very carefully, Judge, or you have forgotten you clipped your queen's wings early in the spring to prevent your swarms 'absconding.' Some twelve days ago, while you were holding court, your bees swarmed, and your queen got down in the grass, and as the stand is so high she could not get back, and the bees returned to wait till a young queen would hatch, and soon after the first queen hatched, a second and third hatched also. Now we will cut out all remaining queen cells, and return the last swarm to the mother hive, as it must be very weak in bees after *three* swarms have come out."

"Well, here is two dollars; I 'recon' I had better join your club for the JOURNAL, and post up."

Mr. *Go Too Fast* has kept a few stands of bees for one year—has read the journals and one or two books—thinks he is perfect—sent for me to overhaul his bees, and tell him why they were not building comb.

On examination I found his hives to contain about two quarts of bees each, and the combs spread apart and

empty frames alternating. I asked him why he did this. He said he had read in the journals that to spread the combs and put in a *frame* it would make them increase faster.

"You have ruined your bees for this season; you are going *too fast*. You should have put in only *one* empty *comb* in centre of hive at a time, and as soon as that was filled with brood and bees increased sufficient to keep all brood well covered these cool nights, put in another, and so on as they increased, but never put in an *empty frame* in centre of brood when you have so few bees. Cool nights and only two or three pounds of honey in the hive—bees can't build comb without honey and bees enough to keep up a summer temperature."

"Well, I 'recon' I had better go *slow* after this."

A *Professor Theory* (of bees) read Langstroth, bought one cheap stand of *Italian* bees for ten dollars (queen black as ace of spades, and workers, one in ten, showed *one* yellow band) got me to divide them for fear they would go off when they swarmed and he would lose his *Italian* queen. A few days after I called to see how they were doing.

"How are the bees getting along, Professor?"

"All *dead*, *queen gone too*. I saw the queen come out and fly away. No bees work out of the hive like the old one."

"Well, Professor, I guess you are a bit mistaken, for here is the queen with her wing clipped, bright as gold."

"Well, I saw a *big* bee go away and thought it was the queen."

"That was a *drone* you saw go away, and the reason the bees do not work more is because the old bees returned

to the old hive, and what bees we have in this new hive are young bees, and will not go out to work for about ten days after they hatch. They will work strong enough next week. The hive is in good condition, as the new queen I put in when I divided them has filled all vacant cells with eggs."

This, Messrs. Editors, is only a drop in the bucket of the many singular cases that are lacking in knowledge in bee keeping. So give us more bee journals; send them broadcast over all the land.

H. NESBIT.

Cynthiana, Ky.

[For the North American Bee Journal.

On Artificial Swarming.

Messrs. Editors:—We congratulate you in the hope of success in the high calling of the culture of the honey bee, and I trust that you will debar neither practical apiarian or the novice from the columns of the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, who may chance to ask a practical question in regard to the culture of the honey bee. There is many men of many kinds, and so we conclude this part of our subject by saying, each spoke bears its own weight, or strength in the wheel, whether it is on top or bottom. A peck of sand is composed of small particals, hence it has more weight than if it was composed of a few smooth pebbles.

Now to my subject. Artificial swarming, (if I should hurt any corns let them hollow, I expect to speak plain and just as I see it,) has become as common as patent bee hives, and is practiced to an alarming extent. Yes, it is death and destruction to thousands of colonies of bees. I see it from every day's observation. I would here state that I follow noth

ing else but transferring, dividing and P. D. all the time, and know whereof I speak. By the way I will give one circumstance, and there is hundreds just like it. Some days since I stopped at a farmer's residence surrounded by a beautiful grove, bade him the time of day, asked if he was a bee keeper. The landlord replied he was. How are they doing this season? O, finely—just divided them a few days ago. I started with two colonies this spring and now have six. I would like to see them. "Wife let us have some smoke." He smoked, and smoked and smoked. I thought he was trying to smoke out a coon or a bear. I finally stepped up to the hive and opened it under the warning to be careful. Now what do you think I saw, a coon? No. A bear? Yes, a bare hive, almost, better had been. Two frames setting in the center of the hive, and them spread one inch apart, with, say from one to one and a half pint of bees sticking on them, and the combs riddled with moth. "Mr., do you intend the bees to build another comb between these frames?" "O no. They were warped so I could not get them in place." "And you think they are doing well, do you?" "I thought so." "But thoughts will not do in this case sir. Take and put them all back in one hive and let them stay there this summer, or get the best terms from an insurance agent you can, or you will lose all of them soon. Now Mister, where did you learn how to swarm artificially?" "There was a man passed through here last year and showed me how to do it. I may have forgot some things he told me." "Don't you want to take some good bee books that will keep you posted on such things? All these troubles

and the cost of them is nothing compared to what you have lost already in your apiary." "I believe I will. I have paid dear enough for my ignorance on one subject." I want it understood that I am a true friend to artificial swarming, but on principal, and readers we must imitate natural swarming near as possible.

Yours, fraternally, H. S.

[For the North American Bee Journal.

Bee Pasturage.

Messrs. Editors:—Apiculture in the South can be made much more profitable if more attention were paid to the cultivation of honey-producing plants. The principle source of honey in the States south of Tennessee are the fruit blossoms in early spring—the Black Gum (*Myssa-Multiflora*) which yields large quantities of honey; the tulip tree, and a few other flowering trees and plants of minor consideration. We have no large fields of clover, no bass-wood groves, no acres of buckwheat. We have a few stocks of bees in old boxes, logs and kegs, stowed away among the weeds, and often by piles of promiscuous rubbish. If, perchance, they make their unworthy owners a few pounds of surplus honey they are considered to have "done well;" but if they fall a prey to neglect and the worm, they are set down as "unprofitable servants." No farmer can expect to breed and rear fine stock without thorough attention. He must provide for all their wants. He should have his fields of corn, oats and grass. The bee is no exception to the rule. It does not and can not gather honey from every opening flower, as many persons suppose. They need proper pasturage. It is impossible for bees to be any source

of profit in a section of country where there are few honey-yielding plants. It should be the duty of every bee keeper to cultivate as many of such plants as possible.

White clover will grow and do well in most all portions of the South if the ground is well prepared, and not too sandy or poor. Where shade trees are to be planted in our yards, or along our lanes or highways, it would be best to plant such as make good bee pasturage. The linden is a tree to be particularly recommended. This is a tree of quite rapid growth, fine foliage, beautiful appearance, and makes a good shade. It grows and thrives well in middle Georgia, and I have no doubt would do well in any portion of the South. Last season the writer sowed a plat of ground in buckwheat in the middle of July, which made a fair stand, but had it been sown in August or the first of September it would have done better. My bees luxuriated on it as long as it blossomed. My experience is against the opinion that has been advanced, that buckwheat is worthless in the South as a honey plant. All honey-producing flowers, in every country, are liable to vary in the amount of their saccharine secretion with the peculiarities of the season. Hence, because a flower fails to yield its sweets one season, is no reason why it may not abundantly do so the next. Catnip (*Nepeta Cataria*) is also rich in honey, and should be planted in every nook and corner, in all out of the way places.

The writer would suggest to all bee keepers to take notes of all plants that bees frequent. Note the time of commencement of bloom and the duration, also the approximate increase of honey stored during the time such plants are visited by the

bees. Observations of this kind made as carefully as possible would do much to advance bee culture in the South.

DR. J. P. H. B.

Augusta, Ga.

[For the North American Bee Journal.

Bee Keeping—Will it Pay?

Messrs. Editors:—Were we to inquire why people chose the particular calling or pursuit in life in which they are engaged, we think that in a very large majority of cases, they would tell us that they were influenced by the profits which they supposed would accrue from their own particular pursuit. Of course there are other considerations which influence us to a greater or less extent, but the great controlling idea is wealth. The farmer will toil early and late that he may secure a home for himself and his posterity. The sailor will explore unknown seas, enduring hardships and privations in order to obtain a competency. The merchant will sit up late at night pouring over long columns of figures that he may become the possessor of an abundance of this world's goods. And were we to go through the long list of occupations it would be to find that this controlling idea pervades the minds of them all. And if you ask a man to engage in any business he is sure to meet you with that question so characteristic of the Yankee race, "will it pay?"

We are aware that there are those who do not believe that bee keeping, as a distinctive occupation, is remunerative, but that it must be combined with some other pursuit to be made a success. We can not give a definite answer without knowing the conditions; for that,—“circumstances alter cases”—is just as applicable

to our pursuit of bee culture as any other. To all who have a natural taste for the business, who are willing to study the subject thoroughly and possess the requisite energy to succeed in any calling, we say success awaits you. If you intend to make it a chief reliance for your support or income, you must devote your best energies thereto, giving it your undivided time and attention. Subscribe for the journals devoted to the interests of apiculture, and then carefully read them. Commence at first with a few colonies and they will increase with your experience and observation. Those who wish to make bee keeping a secondary pursuit, will find that it will pay them well for all the time devoted to it. We know of but very few pursuits that will yield better returns, according to the capital invested, than bee keeping conducted systematically and intelligently.

HERBERT A. BURCH.

South Haven, Mich.

[For the North American Bee Journal.]

The Origin and Supply of Honey.

Messrs. Editors:—What is honey? Answer—Sugar, mucilage and acid, are its principal ingredients, its larger proportion being that of sugar. Sugar is the sacarine matter of vegetation, furnished in greater or smaller proportions, varying with the productions of the country, the largest in the sugar cane. Hard maple and sugar beet, and in varying smaller proportions in all vegetable growth, its supply, greater or less, is in proportion to the condition and quality of the soil, the state of the atmosphere and healthy growth of the vegetable. It partakes less of the acid when the growth of vegetation is

healthy and the flow of the sap rapid, and is more healthy to the bee and consumer. In times of great drouth when the flow of sap is almost stanchd, the sacarine part becomes so impregnated with the acid of the vegetable, the bee can not live upon it in confinement; dysentery will be the result, death follows, and all is entombed in a once happy home.

It has been a question in the minds of some, whether or not honey is generated in the atmosphere and lodged in the bloom and upon the leaves of the forest trees in the form of honey-dew, while others deny the existence of honey-dew except in the excrement of the aphid. The excrement of aphid thrown off in the form of honey-dew is not a growth or secretion of the insect, but a surplus amount of sacarine matter extracted from the tendrils and leaves, and thrown off so rapidly that only a small proportion of the honey or sacarine matter is lost in support of the apid.

A question here presents itself, that is the *modus operandi* in which the honey appears upon the external surface of the leaf, in the floral cup, and upon bloom of flowers, spreading over a vast region of country where no aphid is found to assist in the work. Like the human system when her fluids are abandoned and the internal heat at a proper temperature, and a healthy surface and a congenial atmosphere, the moisture exhales through the countless pores of the skin, condensing upon the surface as it comes in contact with the atmosphere and the invisible vapor is made perceptible to the naked eye, and that part that can not be appropriated to the support and growth of the system is thrown off. The honey of the clover and most

herbs is thrown off and condensed in the floral cup, the oak, hickory, etc., upon the leaf, the fur tree, among the fine growing leaves, and the tulip at the base of the floral leaf.

A. SALISBURY.

Camargo, Douglas Co., Ills.

[For the North American Bee Journal.

Uniting Colonies.

Messrs. Editors:—As the swarming season has about passed, and many bee keepers have what are denominated “buckwheat” swarms, I give my plan of dealing with them; not for the benefit of the “old hands at the business,” but for those who have just commenced and need a little help over the rough places. All experienced bee keepers, I believe, agree that the way to treat late swarms, or weak ones, is to unite them; but the way to do it has bothered more than one.

Some time since, finding one of my hives without a queen, and having had a bee tree given me a few days before, I determined to cut it and give the queen, bees and all to my queenless colony. So getting every thing in readiness, my brother-in-law and I cut the tree, and placed over the opening, where the bees went in and out, an empty powder keg, with one head knocked out, and drove the bees, by drumming, into it. After getting home I put two or three drops of the oil of anise into a pint cup of sweetened water, I then with a wisp of broom corn sprinkled the bees in the keg thoroughly, with this scented water, then of the same water I filled the bottle of an odorator, and taking out the frames of the hive I wished to put my queen and bees in, I threw a spray on all the bees, and every part of the comb; then with a wing I brushed all the bees adhering

to that sheet of comb into my keg, and so on until I had treated all the frames in this manner, and gotten all of the bees into the keg. I then replaced all the frames, and fixed the hive exactly as I should have done to receive a swarm, and then emptied the bees out of the keg at the entrance of the hive, which they entered as though they were a new swarm. My work was now completed, the colony had another and fertile queen, and a sufficient number of bees to make up for those that had been lost by its being queenless.

I used an odorator in preference to the broom straw for scenting the frames and bees on it, on account of the drops being so much smaller and more numerous, by which means all parts of the comb and the bees were more speedily and certainly perfumed.

WILLIAM A. BYRD.

Ursa, Illinois.

[For the North American Bee Journal.

Raising Queens.

Messrs. Editors:—Too many of our queen breeders seem disposed to withhold from the public what they know about rearing queens. I wish our apicultural editors would make it an imperative rule that their correspondents should have no secrets in apiculture. And I would not care if they would go further, and require them to burn up their “letter patent” on every thing of use in the apiary. But this is off my text.

Every bee keeper who desires to make bee keeping profitable, should know how to raise his own queens. The art is simple, and is easily acquired, and as easily practiced. All that is necessary to success is a fair knowledge of the habits, or instincts

of the bee, and a good amount of patience and attention.

Queens are but fully developed females; the workers are females, but imperfect. They are both hatched from the same egg, the difference being caused by the food upon which they are nursed. The eggs from which queens are raised are generally, if not always, laid by the mother queen in worker cells. When a colony wish to rear queens, they select their cells, enlarge them to two or three times the size of the worker cells, and feed the young grubs or larvae on the "royal jelly." This "royal jelly," or queen food, is a thick white substance, very similar in appearance to common flour paste. The larvae is fed on this substance until it is five days old, when the cell is sealed over and the larva left to undergo its various changes until it comes out a perfect queen. All of this work—the construction of the cells and the nursing of the larvae is done by the workers. In eight days from the time the cell was sealed over, the young queens emerge.

Except when a colony intend to swarm, or to supersede a reigning queen, they will not build queen cells in the presence of a queen. But in the proper season, a colony in good condition will always rear young queens when deprived of their old one. But to do this they must have comb containing eggs, or larvae, not over three days old, and a sufficient amount of bees to generate the proper heat, and to nurse the larvae. The proper season is when the bees can gather an abundance of honey and farina, or "bee bread;" the proper temperature is that usually maintained in the center of a full stock. Queens may be reared in a lower temperature, and when the

supply of honey and farina is less abundant, but they will not be so large or so perfect as those reared in the condition of a stock about to swarm. And, as a general rule, queens reared from the larvae, fed only two days on the "royal jelly," are not so perfect as those nursed on this royal food from the time they were hatched out of the egg. The best queens are those that have been reared in full stocks, and that have been properly fed on the royal food from the time their larvae emerged from the eggs.

It must also be observed, that but one queen can live in a hive at one time. There are occasional exceptions to this law, but they are very rare. About the first thing a young queen does after leaving her natal cell, is to seek for and destroy all the royal cells in her hive. If two or more come out at the same time, the most vigorous one kills the others on sight.

With these facts in the natural history of the bee, well understood, the novice is prepared to begin the rearing of queens. The first thing he has to do is to get his nuclei ready. I make my nucleus boxes the same style and size as my full hives, only they are just one-half the width. They take in frames from my large hives, but only one-half as many. I have tried various sizes and styles of nucleus boxes, but have finally discarded all for these. Their advantages over others are many. I can readily start a nucleus from the cards of a full stock. I can always have my nuclei as strong as necessary, when I wish to build a nucleus up to a full stock. I have only to add cards of brood and bees from other hives. If I have no fur-

ther use for a nucleus, the cards can be transferred from it to other hives, or if we desired to winter over the nucleus stock, it can be made strong enough for that purpose. My nucleus boxes are eighteen inches long, inside measure, ten inches deep, and seven and one-fourth inches wide. In these boxes I place three or four cards of brood, with the adhering bees, and set them in convenient places, where they can stand through the season.

The nuclei started, the next thing wanted are royal cells. If his stocks are about to swarm, abundance of these can be found already constructed. If he can not find these let a colony be deprived of its queen, and in two hours afterwards the workers will begin to build cells. These will be sealed in from two to five days after the bees begin; the time being determined by the age of the larvae sealed. In two days after the cells are sealed they may be cut out with a small bladed knife, and inserted in the combs of the nuclei, one or more in each nucleus. In cutting out the cells, about an inch square of comb should be taken out with each cell. To insert this in the nucleus comb, select a comb in the center of the nucleus, and cut a piece of the comb large enough to admit the cell. Be particular to place the cell with the point downwards, just as it was in the original hive. The bees will soon fasten the cell in its place. The work of the queen raiser will now be done, except to see that the queen hatches out, is perfect in all her parts, and becomes fertilized in proper time. As I have already stated, she will hatch in eight days from the sealing of the cell. If the mother be fair, she will usually hunt the drone in

from three to five days after hatching, and will begin to lay in about two days after that. If the young queen is in any way deformed, or is not a good size, or bright color, she should be destroyed, and another cell given to the nucleus.

Much more could be said on this interesting branch of apiculture, but I find that my article is already too long. I will close by wishing the greatest success to the proprietors of the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL in their new enterprise.

M. C. HESTER.

Charleston, Ind.

[For the North American Bee Journal.

Bee Hives.

Messrs. Editors:—The developments made within a few years past in bee culture, has brought to the public a vast number of hives in various forms, designed by the inventors to meet the wants of the apiarian, and but few have merits that the practical bee keeper could adopt. I do not think that any one form will be generally used, for there are a diversity of minds in regard to what a hive should be for profit and convenience. Quite a number of hives given to the public, varying in form, seemed to answer the purpose for the increase of stocks, but since it has been found that with a suitable hive and proper management our swarms can be made to accumulate from one to six hundred pounds, or even more in one season, the inquiry naturally comes up, what kind of a hive, and how managed to accomplish such results? I would simply say, by arranging so that by a large amount of breeding, and the bees can have convenience and inducements to work, so that we can

get all the honey they are capable of storing. It is well understood that a good swarm put into a hive containing about two thousand cubic inches will fill it in about two weeks and then they come to a stand still. Perhaps a few small boxes or large ones, as the case may be, are given them, they may work in them or may not. If they do, say the boxes which are put on are six by six inches, containing about twelve hundred cubic inches for the same number of bees to work in that had filled the two thousand inches. Now as the boxes are being filled, their room for storing is being diminished continually, yet the same number of bees that could work and would if they had room, as there can only a certain number of bees work in a given space, therefore as the boxes are being filled, more and more of the bees are out of employment and quiet themselves on the outside of the hive, or instinctively swarm out. Now if the extractor is used, and two story large frames, the upper being equal to the lower in size, will contain two thousand inches, and if the comb is built the bees will fill them in one week or less. Empty them and you go on as long as the flowering season lasts, say from May until the last of August, and you have had four months. If two thousand inches per week it would be thirty-two thousand inches; but say you, no such thing is looked for. Granted. But suppose we say one-half that amount, sixteen thousand inches. You say too high yet. Mr. Gallup says he over-run six hundred pounds last season, allowing twenty-five pounds to the thousand inches, and he filled twenty-four thousand inches, by using the extractor. I believe three hundred and sixty pounds

is the largest amount reported by Mr. Quinby, put up in boxes last season. If so, it would take sixty six-inch ones to hold the amount. Do bee keepers say that can't be did? Mr. Adair tells us that the extractor is over-rated, and that because he can make more (honey or money,) by another process. If this can be done, is it not what we want to know? I say yes. You will find it possible in the forthcoming Badger State Hive, patented May 15th, 1872, and no more complicated or expensive than ordinary good hives.

A. H. HART.

Appleton, Wis.

[For the North American Bee Journal.]

Black Bees vs. Italian Bees.

Messrs. Editors:—Learning that you were about to publish a new paper, entitled the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, I think that a few lines of congratulation to yourself (for undertaking such an enterprize for the incalculable benefit and advantage of bee keepers) are not out of place. Such a publication will be to them, when conducted as you can conduct it, of great interest.

Now to my subject. There are a great many inquiring into the merits of the black and Italian bees. I will give a little of my experience and opinion for what it is worth.

1. The Italian bee is far the handsomest bee; so much so, that if I were buying I would give double the price for them that I would for the blacks, for that reason alone.

2. The Italians are much easier handled. I have many times taken them out of the hive by lifting out the frames, without smoke, easier than I can my black bees with smoke.

3. They are more prolific. I have

made three good swarms from one of my Italians this summer, besides drawing quite largely from them in the way of taking frames, to form nuclei, while I have not as yet divided any of my black bees.

4. Italian bees have stored more honey for me than the black bees have so far. Early in the morning I notice the Italians pouring out of the hive rapidly; passing along to the black bees, hardly a bee is to be seen for nearly a half hour after the three banded yellow workers make their appearance. Perhaps some of the readers would like to know what hive we use here. The Thomas patent hive is being the principal hive adopted among bee men in these quarters, as one of the most simple and convenient now before the public.

Now, Messrs. Editors, a word to you. Please give us the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL on time, promptly, as we received the NATIONAL BEE JOURNAL during your administration of the same, and it will in a short time procure for you thousands of subscribers, and what is better still, make your JOURNAL sought for. Were you to know how perplexing it is to the readers of any paper, to be looking—yes, looking—for it, and perhaps look for a long time before it arrives—if at all. You may think me plain, but we must have a paper published on time, and one that will give the people facts, irrespective of party or self interest. You may expect, in pursuing such a course, with your experience in apiculture, giving the people facts as presented to you for publication, that you will in a very short time add thousands of subscribers to your list. Long may the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL live—success to its editors.

By the by, let us have that long promised book on bee culture as soon as possible, and we will give you a large list of subscribers.

R. A. SOUTHWORTH.

Odell, Illinois.

[For the North American Bee Journal.

What We Want.

Messrs. Editors:—I find that bee keeping, like all other pursuits, requires much care and attention to learn all that needs to be known to make the business profitable. Not only must we know their immediate requirements, but we must also know and make provision for their future wants. In 1871 the drouth commenced early in July, and the honey secretion in the flowers was, in a great measure, cut off, and the natural consequence was that many stocks of bees, instead of increasing in numbers as they should have done during July, August and September, they but little more than held their own in numbers, and October found them with too large a number of old bees for safe wintering, either in or out of doors. Those, of course, that had enough young bees to generate the required amount of animal heat, and endure the cold and long winter came out all right, but on the contrary, all that had too many old bees died in February and March, leaving, in many instances, several pounds of honey in their hives. I find this verified in the experience of several years. If you will turn to page 383, of the *National Bee Journal*, you will see that I alluded to this very fact, when I said: "Well, it (the drouth) has made an indelible impression, and many bees will be lost this winter in consequence of it." It is further to be noted that after the

breeding season is past but little can be done; in most instances, by feeding, to induce the queens to commence laying again sufficiently to maintain the stocks good against this evil, and its effects on our bees. The remedy, to be available, must be applied in time to keep our queens breeding up to a late date in the fall, to insure success. This fact is also verified by three cases I had on trial last August and September. I introduced pure Italian queens into three stocks, and fed them regularly to induce breeding. The two introduced early in August laid enough to keep their stocks partially good, but the one introduced in September could not be induced, by feeding, to lay an egg for six months. The tenth of March, of course, found all these colonies very weak in numbers, but are now in nice condition. The remedy is found in early feeding, and the cultivation of honey-yielding flowers, which will not fail so largely in their secretion of honey in the *hot* and *dry* seasons of the year. Bee keepers will have to experiment in this direction, and see which will be best to stand the drouth and still give us a good yield of honey. Provision must be made for this contingency in advance, since it can not be done in any other way after the drouth has come except by early and continuous feeding in July and August, just in sufficient amount to keep the queens stimulated to constant breeding up to September and October.

Bee keepers will confer a great boon upon this branch of business to communicate their experience on this point in *bee pasturage*. We know that the atmospheric changes have much to do in the secretion of honey, and therefore require some plants which will give us a large amount of

honey in the dryest seasons of the year. I anticipate these will be found in plants which send their roots deep into the earth, and can hence resist these changes to a greater extent, and produce more honey for our bees under these unfavorable seasons, which of late has come so often upon us.

A few more winters like those of 1867 and '72, following the drouth of '67 and '71, will surely teach the wise among us the importance of these matters in bee culture.

You will excuse me for being short this time (if there is any fault in that), and will try and do better in time to come. JEWELL DAVIS.

Charleston, Ill.

[For the North American Bee Journal.

Experience of a "Beginner."—A Word to Southern Bee Raisers.

Messrs. Editors:—By your permission, I propose to give my first communication upon apiculture, to your first issue of the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL. I do not feel competent to give much light, but am willing to reflect the little I possess for the advancement of those that may not have learned what I have; though I am but a little bee man as yet, I hope to grow larger by and by, by reading the journals that are devoted to apicultural science and by experience. And just here, before I get off telling what I know about bee culture, let me congratulate your readers, and especially those of the South, that we are to have a home bee journal, conducted by experienced hands that are familiar with bee culture in our own latitude. I am making no appeal to sectional prejudices; but upon one moment's reflection every reasoning man will

admit the argument that I shall produce as correct. For instance, the journals published at the North, and edited and contributed too by men in the North—tell us (in the South,) to do as they do, at particular times in the year, we must do certain things—*i. e.*, at a certain time we must put our bees into winter quarters, and at another time in the spring, set them out again on their summer stands; which will do to follow to the letter no doubt in their latitude, but does not suit our locality, consequently “beginners” in the South who are reading northern journals, and following their teachings, are practicing wrong. Bees, like other stock in the South, must be provided for in accordance with our own climate, and not as they are provided for in a colder climate. I will not lengthen out the argument for I think a word that will cause the southern bee raisers to think for a moment will be sufficient. In this connection I wish to say one word to our brethren of the bee raising fraternity South, patronize liberally the periodicals devoted to apicultural science, and especially those published at our own doors. And to you, Messrs. Editors, I wish you much success in your undertaking, and in advance I promise to do all I can to assist you. This much I can do, if no more, I will direct my neighbors that are groping their way in darkness, trying to raise bees under the old code of “log gums” and “brimstone,” to the pages of your JOURNAL for “more light,” and from the same source expect to draw largely for my intellectual supplies, that are to make me grow into a bigger bee man than I am now. But I started out to give my brethren (the younger ones especially,) some of my experi-

ence since I commenced trying to raise bees, by the advice given in the bee journals. Well, case first was given me last December, a colony of bees in a log gum that had not more than eight ounces of honey and no bee bread to winter upon, and hear what I done with them. I brought them home, the day was cold and snowing, put them into a warm room, made so by fire, and split open the old log hive, cut out the comb and tied it in the comb frames of my patent hive, adjusted the frames and put the bees in, give them some strained honey and dry wheat flour, and then closed the hive. I kept them in the room where there was fire (the cook-room,) until the middle of February, only on such days during the winter that were warm enough for them to fly I would set the hive out-doors, open the entrance hole and let the bees fly out, then close them up in the evening and set them back into the room again. The middle of February I set them out doors and let them remain, as I found them in good condition as to numbers, and food stored away that I had given them, and raising young bees finely. It is now a vigorous colony and full of nice honey. I learned how to do this from reading the bee journals.

Again this spring I found one colony queenless and getting quite weak in numbers. No young bees, nor eggs. So I had another chance to try what I had read in the bee journals, and that was to *help* those bees rear a queen. We commenced “thusly:” Opened the queenless hive, took out one comb frame and comb, and swapped it for a frame out of a hive that was rearing young bees. This comb was full of eggs and young bees, and put it in the queenless

hive. I watched this frame every few days. In due time they reared a beautiful young queen, and she has proved herself worthy of Apis homage by multiplying the number of workers largely. Two colonies saved by reading bee journals, and if some knight of the quill does not pitch into me for my awkwardness in style of writing, or say that there was too much digging through debris to get so little, I may try my hand again and give some more of my experience, in my rambling way, in the (not on) bee line.

B. W. STONE, M. D.

Fountain Run, Ky.

[For the North American Bee Journal.]

Read the North American Bee Journal.

Messrs. Editors:—I am very anxious to have bee keeping understood in the South, and I think your JOURNAL is a good medium to disseminate all information that may be required, as it will have an extensive circulation throughout the South. For here the people are sadly ignorant of bee culture. During and since the war, I have traveled extensively throughout the southern States, not in cities and towns, but in the country, putting up at planters' houses during the night. Being a lover of bees I thought every planter ought to keep them. My first inquiry was about bees, and I found nearly every one kept a gum or two, that is, if letting the bees take care of themselves was keeping them. Every one on the place was afraid of them. When they wished to rob them, elaborate preparations were made, covering themselves with a sheet, made a smoke with sulphur, placed the hive over it, and so killed them. If an unfortunate bee would

get out, what a scampering and fighting there was. The gum was then broken open, honey separated from the brood, and when they were done what a filthy mess they had, unfit to eat, but how proud they were if the yield was large. But Oh, the slaughtered innocence. I've told them about frame hives, surplus boxes, queens, etc.; they would not believe me, but said their father knew all about bees, and that was the way he done it. Darn your father, I thought. There are still a great number of persons who know little about bees, and it is to them I address myself. Get you an improved frame hive of some kind; with it you can have access to your bees at all times. Break up your old box gums, cultivate their acquaintance, they will become your friends, so that you can go among them at all times without fear of stings. Move among them quietly. My wife and family go among my hives without fear. My servant hangs her clothes almost over the hives. They never bother her. They become accustomed to your presence. If a party should offer to sell you a moth-proof hive, with complicated entrance, avoid him, for he takes you for a fool, and he knows as little about bees as yourself. But to avoid being imposed upon, subscribe for a good bee journal and get posted by reading the experience of others. I will willingly answer all letters addressed to me making inquiries about bees, and I have no doubt the editors of the JOURNAL will do the same; but get posted, and the more you learn you will laugh at your former ignorance.

A. J. MURRAY.

Memphis, Tenn., Mayor's Office.

In transferring bees, keep the brood together.

Ladies' Department.

[For the North American Bee Journal.]

Bee Keeping in Robinson County, Tennessee.

Messrs. Editors:—Although I am a stranger to one of you, yet as I learn you have set apart a portion of your JOURNAL especially intended as the "Ladies' Department," I feel perfectly free to give you and your readers a few items from this section. In the first place, let me say that the ladies of the South who are taking an interest in apiculture have felt a delicacy in writing articles for bee journals, when their contributions were to be mixed up with very many, more or less vulgar. You, Messrs. Editors, are filling a long felt want in setting apart a "Ladies' Department," and I do hope that the ladies who are interested in this great work of making an honest and easy living will contribute regularly to the "Ladies' Department" in the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL. We are but beginners here, and we ladies of the South would be pleased to have our older and more experienced sisters of the North and North-west to enlighten us and aid us in our pleasant and profitable employment. Indeed do we find it both profitable and pleasant. How much better it is for us to be out in the open air seeing after our bees than to be tied down at a sewing machine, or wash tub, in order to obtain a living for ourselves and fatherless children. Oh, but the fresh air brings the rosy blush to our once pale cheek, and we have new life, our minds are more active we are more cheerful, and now feel that life is not a burden to us. Messrs.

Editors, we are forming a nucleus here about which we hope to build ourselves into a great "Female Apicultural Society." And let me say to all my sisters, both North and South, write for the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, for it is evident that its editors are liberal minded men, for the very fact of their adopting the name "North American," show that they have and mean to include the whole of our vast continent. I look forward to the time when there will be thousands of my Southern sisters engaged in apiculture. It has only been two years since that we ladies of Robinson county have embarked in this new business, and we find it pleasant indeed, both healthy and profitable, in fact our profits have far surpassed our expectations. Every lady should have a few colonies to give her recreation in the open air, whether she seeks the profit or not.

I think, Messrs. Editors, that you have given your JOURNAL the right name, for I am aware of the fact that the senior editor was the first man in the United States who called the people together for the purpose of forming the "North American Bee Keepers' Association." You are justly entitled to the name. Long may it live and prosper.

MRS. S. J.

Cross Plains, Tenn.

[For the North American Bee Journal.]

Adaptation of Bee Keeping to Women.

Messrs. Editors:—Health is to be derived from it. The ancients called the honey bee, "Deborah, or she that speaketh." Would that its gentle hum might now *speak* to many women in our land, and awaken an interest in a pursuit so interesting, and at the

same time so profitable. The quick observation and gentle handling, so requisite in the business, belong peculiarly to women, and there is no part of it which is laborious, or that may not be appropriately performed by them.

It has proven to me of great benefit. I came west twelve years ago, under sentence of speedy death from one of New England's best physicians, yet now rejoice in perfect health restored. More than to all other causes I attribute the change to the interesting occupation which has kept me so much of the time in the open air, and *paid me for being there*. I most heartily recommend it to others, who are seeking either health or a pleasant and profitable employment.

MRS. E. S. TUPPER,

In Bee Keepers' Magazine.

The Southern Planter and Farmer.

The Southern Planter and Farmer, edited and published by J. W. Rison, Richmond, Va., is the largest agricultural periodical published in the South; has sixty pages of choice reading matter devoted to the Farm, Garden, Dairy, Poultry, Bee and Household departments. It should be in the house of every farmer in the South. It is indeed a luxury to find it on our table.

The Southern Farmer.

Philips' Southern Farmer is the very best Agricultural, Horticultural and Apicultural periodical published in the South-west, and has a wider circulation than any other monthly periodical. It is read by twenty-five thousand people. It offers to advertisers the very best advertising medium in the South-west, if not the whole South. Address Dr. M. W. Philips, Editor and Proprietor, No. 361 Main Street, Memphis, Tenn.

The Southern Agriculturalist.

The Southern Agriculturalist is published by Thos. J. Key, at Louisville, Ky., and is the best and neatest and most valuable farmer's periodical printed in the South. It contains able contributions, and gives the experience of the most reliable farmers. Each number is illustrated with suitable engravings, and is published at the low rate of two dollars per year. Every family should subscribe for this valuable periodical. Address the publisher, No. 54 West Jefferson St., Louisville, Ky.

Annals of Bee Culture for 1872.

This is the title of a neat pamphlet of one hundred pages, issued annually by D. L. Adair, of Hawesville, Hancock county, Ky. Its pages are filled with choice reading from the pens of our oldest and most reliable apiarists. It is a complete compendium on most subjects connected with the apiary, and should be in the hands of every bee keeper. The number for 1872 is now ready for distribution.

The Genesee Democrat.

The Democrat is published every Saturday, at City of Flint, Mich., R. W. Jenny and C. Fellows, Editors and Publishers. Office on Union Street, near the railroad depot. It is one of the very best advertising mediums in the North-west. It is ably edited, its columns being filled with choice matter.

Progressive Bee Culture.

This pamphlet, of twenty-five pages, published by D. L. Adair, Hawesville, Ky., contains much information on bee culture, both for the amateur as well as the beginner. It is upon a new theory, and we consider it of great value.

Editors' Table.

Salutatory.

To the Friends of Apiculture:

A few weeks since, when retiring from the editorial charge of the *National Bee Journal*, I promised its readers that I would again enter the editorial arena, and publish a bee journal. While the call has come from East to West, and North to South, give us a bee journal published in the interest of the bee keepers of this country, and we will sustain it, I am aware the publication of such a journal will be felt and appreciated by every bee keeper in the land. We have been urged and cheered on in this enterprise, until we have consented to give you our aid. We will say there will be no pains spared in giving the public a journal devoted to the interests of all. We shall endeavor to publish it exclusively in the interest of bee culture. Our country at the present time presents an open field for not only the apiarian, but the apiarian editor, and one in which much labor can be employed with beneficial results. It abounds with the rich products for the bee, and by a wise and judicious management of the apiarian, we can make it the Eldorado of the world. It is true that progress in this rural branch has been rather slow, until within, say twenty-five years, when light began to be shed in this direction, since which time there has been an onward move. And it will be our aim and object to aid the new beginner in this laudable enterprise, and to ever stand up in bold defense of the rights of all. It will be the aim and object of this JOURNAL to avoid, but not to shrink

from controversy; to exercise the utmost liberality; to promote in every way cordial intercourse among the bee keepers of this country; to disseminate, at home and abroad, the advantages that can be attained by a practical and thorough knowledge of the honey bee. The columns of this JOURNAL will be devoted strictly to the interest of the apiarian. We shall exclude every thing of a personal character from its pages. We shall endeavor to bring the bee keepers of this country into a more intimate knowledge and closer relations with each other; and for this purpose, gentlemen, we need an organ specially designed to speak for them, or against them, as their general interest may require. The products from this rural branch for a few years has greatly astonished man. It has become one of the first and most popular and remunerative occupations of the day. Then, we say, give this subject thought—thought is the motive power of human progress—progress is the onward march of the American people.

We have placed the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL upon a basis that will (or should) please all. May it grow with the growth of the country and the interest it represents; may it be the developer and promoter of the right, the true, the real, the practical; also the detector, exposé, and exploder of error, of the false and impracticable. We will endeavor to make it a welcome visitor to every bee keeper in the land. In doing so we expect our friends will aid us in this enterprise. You have our best wishes for the great interest you have already manifested for such a journal. We hope it may meet your expectations, and prove a blessing to all.

ED.

The North American Bee Journal.

The heading of this article may seem strange to some, and not in place, from the fact that it is the name we have adopted for our JOURNAL. I have a few words to say to the readers of this first number of our JOURNAL, and I mean to be very plain, indeed, and shall use language which can not be misconstrued. For although this is my first appearance as an editor in any periodical *said to be devoted alone* to apiculture, yet very many of our readers know me from my articles contributed to the columns of various bee journals heretofore. They know, too, that I am one of those plain spoken blunt men, that says what they think, and mean what they say. In the first place I have long seen the need of a periodical published more in the interest of our brother bee-keepers of the South. We all know that bee culture has been in progress under our new movable-comb system at the North for twenty years past, but that its progress has been slow, and that our Southern friends are now beginning in the great work; and we all know that the South is indeed the "home of the honey bee," and every thinking man knows that the management of bees throughout the entire season is very different in the South to that of the North and Northwest; and all the readers of the bee journals know that the principle contributors are our oldest and best apiarians at the North and Northwest, and that their teachings upon the management and cultivation of the honey bee does not suit our more Southern climate. Consequently I felt determined to make an effort at least to supply this long felt want, and at the same time detract nothing from the

value of our JOURNAL to those of our Northern friends. We have here in the South quite a number of experienced bee keepers, but they have heretofore kept in the back-ground, and have never let their light shine that their own brethren might thereby be profited. I now call upon them to come forth from their hiding places, and aid us to disseminate that knowledge so much needed and sought after by our friends here in the South. Send us your experience in bee keeping, that we may publish it, that others may be profited thereby. Do not send one article and think that is all you can do. Send us an article each month in the year upon some subject connected with this great work. And let me say to our Northern readers, to send in their articles too, for I do not wish you for one moment to think that there is anything sectional connected with our JOURNAL; for if there was it could not bear the name we have given it. It is our object to include the whole of North America, for we have many valued friends in the Canadas, who are masters of this great science. We invite them, too, to take part with us, and we will be much pleased. It is known throughout the length and breadth of the land that I am the inventor of a bee hive, and I have no doubt but that many have said, since it has become known that I was to be one of the editors of this JOURNAL, that Will R. King, of Kentucky, had concluded to run a bee journal that he might get a better chance to run his bee hive. If such is the case, I wish to say to our readers that they do not know Will R. King. And let me say to the readers of the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, that whenever they find that such is the case I want them to talk it out; and if

the proof is conclusive, I will retire as one of its editors. We expect and intend to make this JOURNAL one of the standard publications on bee culture in North America, and its columns are, and always will be, open for the free discussion of all subjects connected with apiculture. But we assure you now, that there shall be no bee hive controversies carried on through its columns. Every one who has a hive which he wishes to present to our readers, can do so by advertising it within our columns. But as for our columns being devoted to the praise or abuse of any hive, it shall never be so. If any contributor wishes to speak of the hive he may be using, he has the privilege to do so, whether it be for or against it, but let him do so in a courteous manner. I expect to, and do, advertise my hive within our columns, and it is advertised by other parties, some owning territory, while others are agents. But I assure you that all my agents pay as much for their advertisements as if they advertised another hive. I give them a certain commission on all sales they make, and they pay all expenses of traveling advertising, etc. I have not connected my name with three or four bee journals in order that I might the better monopolize the whole bee hive trade. Far from it. I do hope that I look beyond anything of this kind, and hope to be spared to prove to all bee keepers in North America that I have a higher aim than that of merely making a few dollars out of a bee hive. I believe I have the interest of every honest bee keeper at heart, and I do assure you that I will strive to do justice to all, regardless of any outside interest I have in a patent bee hive. I have associated myself with a gentleman well known to all of our

more Northern bee keepers, as being an old experienced apiarian of forty years standing. His name is familiar in every household where there are bees, as the inventor of the first movable comb hive ever invented in the United States, but was never patented. This hive was invented by Mr. Moon in the year 1838, while I was but four years old. Thus you see his long and continued experience with movable comb hives places him some twelve or fifteen years ahead of any man on the North American continent. This being the case, you may expect a rich experience to be brought to bear to enlighten those who are seeking more light upon this subject.

Before closing I wish to say a few words in regard to our new Guide or Manuel, published particularly for the instruction of those just beginning the culture of the honey bee. Before Mr. Moon and I had made arrangements to associate ourselves together in the publication of the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, each of us had prepared to publish a Bee Keepers' Guide or Manual. We came to the conclusion to put our two books into one, and thus we would have a Manual that would suit the beginner both North and South, as the experience of one of us was from a Northwestern latitude, while that of the other was from a Southern latitude. Thus, you see, those either North or South, who are in need of a Guide to direct them how they may succeed, can be accommodated. This Manual will give you a clear description of the hive invented by Mr. Moon in 1838, but not patented. This Manual we furnish free to each subscriber to the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.

WILL R. KING.

Franklin, Simpson Co., Ky.

Bees in New Zealand.

A few days since we had the pleasure of visiting Capt. Chas. Nichols and lady, of Odell, Livingston county, Ill., who, by the way, are among the first class citizens of the place, having recently returned from sea, where they have spent about thirty-five years of life on the waters.

Capt. Nichols gave me a very interesting account of the honey bee in New Zealand. The natives cultivate them extensively. The hive they use is the common box, similar to those in this country. A greater portion of the honey produced in that country is very fine indeed, although it is not in a good condition for market, being broken up, etc. It brings six cents per pound, twelve in our money. The honey gathered in that country, or some of it, is said to contain poison, or a sufficient quantity of it, that several instances of death has been known by eating of it, although it is not feared by the natives. Honey is brought in in large quantities by the natives, and is considered one of their leading staples in market.

New Zealand is situated near Bay Islands, thirty-five degrees, ten seconds south. Voyage from there to Sidney, five days. Bees were carried to Sunday Island in the year 1852 by one Captain Peas, on ship Planter. This island lies about twenty-nine degrees south latitude and one hundred and seventy-eight west longitude, and is said to be one of the finest countries in the world for honey. There is a tree that grows spontaneous on the island called the honey suckle, a single flower of which has been known to contain a half teaspoonful of honey at one time. The bee has free access to it, and can reach

the honey. This island was settled by the Europeans, which consisted of a few families. A few years ago it was visited by a volcanic eruption which split the island nearly in two, causing the inhabitants to leave their balmy homes and seek quarters in the old world again.

We were presented by the Captain and lady with a large number of valuable and choice relics which they had obtained from the natives and from other portions of that country, which we appreciate very much. Long may the Captain and his lady live to enjoy their rural home. Ed.

Advertising.

To those of our patrons who expect to advertise with us, we would say send on your advertisements with cuts forthwith, that we may get them in our second or September issue. We have but a limited space for advertisements. Bear in mind that we have a large circulation, and names continue to come in from every direction. We refer you to our premium list, where you will find we offer Italian colonies, extractors, etc., advertised in our columns as premiums.

THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL is a monthly periodical, edited and published by Geo. Wagner, Washington, D. C. It is the oldest publication in the United States devoted exclusively to apiculture. It is a high toned, spirited publication, and for years we have perused its columns with both pleasure and profit. Its former editor, Mr. Samuel Wagner, (the father of the present proprietor), will be long remembered by the American people for the interest he manifested in their behalf in apiculture.

Editorial Notices.

A FEW words from us to the readers of this first number of the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL is all that is necessary. In the first place the articles written for the first number have come into our offices by the dozens, and we now have enough matter for three or four more issues already on our tables. We do not want any one to feel slighted because his or her article does not appear in the first issue. We have numbered the articles as they have been received, and commenced with No. 1, and continued until we have our pages full.

WE wish every bee keeper in North America, who reads the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, to send us his or her experience in bee culture. We specially invite the ladies to contribute.

ALL communications from the South and Southwest, intended for the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, must be addressed to NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, Franklin, Simpson county, Kentucky.

SPECIMEN copies of the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL can be had by addressing the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, Franklin, Simpson county, Kentucky, or Indianapolis, Indiana.

ALL communications from the North and Northwest, intended for the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, must be addressed to NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, Indianapolis, Ind.

OUR correspondents will please write all communications, intended for the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, in a plain and legible hand. Write only on one side of a sheet of paper.

WE intend that each article written for the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, shall appear in order as they are received, being designated by their numbers.

IF, after having read this first number of the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, you like it, send us your name and postoffice address, plainly written, with the subscription price, \$2.00, and you will receive it regular and on time.

OUR Bee Keepers' Guide or Manual will be ready to send out to each subscriber (*free*) with the second issue of the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL.

DO NOT delay sending in your names and the subscription price, \$2.00, for the NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, for we wish to know the number needed for September.

WE have before us two Southern periodicals, devoted to Agriculture, Horticulture, Farm, Workshop, Literature, Science and the Social Progress. One is *Our Home Journal*, C. Redmon, editor; published by Jas. H. Hummel, No. 106 Camp St., New Orleans, La. The other is the *Rural South Land*, published by the South Land Company, 76 Carondelet St. New Orleans, La.

These journals should be in the hands of every planter, farmer, mechanic, professor and artist in the South—in fact there should not be a household or office without them. The South should be proud indeed that they have two such periodicals published in their midst, and journals too that will and do stand up for the home enterprise, their aim being to lead the people out of their suffering condition, at the same time to prevent them being humbugged by sharpers.

Publishers' Department.

Advertising Rates.

SPACE.	SPECIAL.			
	1 Month.	2 Months.	3 Months.	1 Year.
1 Page.....	\$16	\$30	\$45	\$80
1/2 Page.....	12	20	30	55
1 Column.....	10	18	25	45
3/4 Column.....	8	15	20	40
1/2 Column.....	7	12	17	25
1/4 Column.....	6	10	15	20
1/8 Column.....	3	5	7	10

Outside of back cover, double rates. Inside of back cover, 50 per cent. added to rates.

Bills of regular advertisers payable quarterly if inserted for three or more months; payable monthly if inserted for less than three months. Transient advertisements, cash in advance.

We adhere strictly to our printed rates. Address all business communications to NORTH AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, Publishers.

BEE KEEPERS' DIRECTORY.

Cards inserted in this Directory, and copy of the paper sent one year, for \$10 per annum, cards to be four lines or less. For each additional line \$2 per annum will be charged. A line will average six words.

QUEENS! QUEENS!!

After August 1st, 1872, I will send by mail, my best Queens for \$2.00 each, purity and safe arrival guaranteed.

Neueli Hives, five frames each, pure queen, fumigator, and best feeder in use, \$4.00.

H. ALLEY,
Wenham, Essex Co., Mass.

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Having made Apiculture and raising "Italian Queens" a speciality, I offer for sale

- 1 colony Italian Bees (in my "Dixie" Hive)..... \$20.00
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- Over 2 colonies Italian Bees (in my "Dixie" Hive)..... 15.00 each
- 1 pure Italian Queen 8.00
- 2 pure Italian Queens..... 6.00 each
- Over 2 pure Italian Queens..... 5.00 each

I guarantee purity and safe arrival of all Colonies and Queens I sell, when they can be shipped the entire distance by steamboat, rail or express. In my

DIXIE HIVE

I have endeavored to combine all the points I considered essential for successful bee culture in the South.

1st. All parts of it can be sawed by any saw-mill without the tedious ripping out the triangular pieces for top of frame required by most frame hives

2d. Simplicity; any carpenter can make at least two per day, and any one can understand and use them.

3d. The frames are peculiarly adapted for the "Extractor." From their shape the bees will attach the comb all around, so that it can not break out in the Extractor.

4th. The frames are simple and strong, made with only four nails and four pieces of wood. Will not come apart on being lifted out.

5th. Each frame is entirely independent of and does not touch the other, and any one can be lifted out and examined without disturbing any other.

6th. The Hive being composed of two compartments, each complete in itself, can be used for a large or small colony without a division board.

7th. Proper ventilation, that the bees will not cluster out many hours of our long, hot summer days.

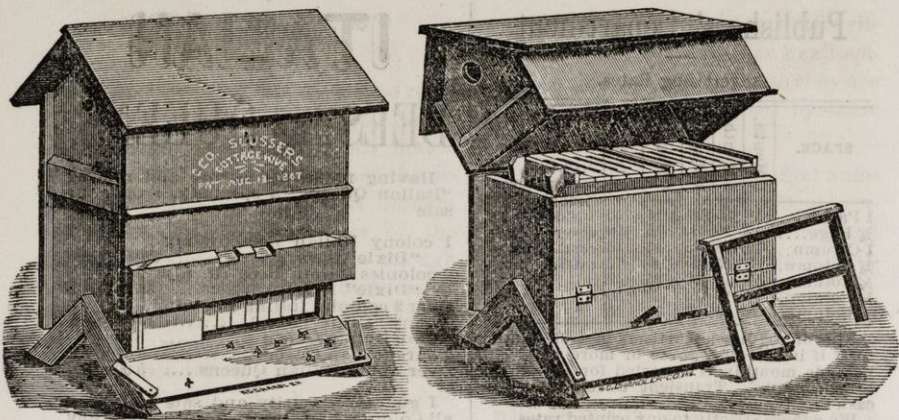
Any one buying bees of me can make and use as many of my hives as they wish, or I sell them as follows:

- 1 Dressed Hive, painted..... \$5 00
- 1 Undressed Hive 3 00
- Or material sawed and packed, with a sample Hive Per dozen, 25.00

Remittances must always be sent by Registered letter.

Any one wishing to purchase Bees or Hives, will please address

L. S. HEREFORD,
Hermitage Post Office
West Baton Rouge, Louisiana.



GEORGE SLUSSER'S COTTAGE BEEHIVE.

Patented August 13th, 1867,
By GEORGE SLUSSER, of Hillsboro, Ohio.

This hive has been before the public nearly five years, and has been tried by many of the practical Bee Men in various States in the West, and wherever it has been put to the test, it has proved itself superior to all others. It is especially adapted to wintering on the summer stands, and at the same time very cool in summer. It has also been proved by actual weight, for the last three years, that bees consume but one-half the honey during winter, in the cottage as they do in single wall hives. Then again, the ease with which they are handled makes them universally liked wherever tried.

State, County or Township Rights sold low.

Address,

**GEORGE SLUSSER,
Hillsboro, Highland Co., Ohio.**



Bees and Bee Hives.



THE THOMAS PATENT BEE HIVE

Patented February 2, 1867.

This Hive, wherever it has been tried and fully tested by the most practical Aparians in the United States and Canadas, has given as great satisfaction as any hive ever introduced in America.

This Hive was exhibited at the Michigan State Fair for the years 1867 and 1868, and coming into competition with several of the leading hives now in use, was awarded the first prize over all others. The committee was unanimous in giving this hive the preference, as being the best for all bee men. The hive is made cheap and durable. It was awarded the first prize at the Provincial Fair in Canada; it has also received the first prize at every county fair in Michigan where exhibited.

The Hive is a non-swarmmer. If a person wishes, artificial swarming is rendered very easy. The hive has a movable bottom-board, on an inclined plane to the front, making it easy for the bees to carry out all rubbish. The entrance can be enlarged or contracted at will; it being a sure thing to prevent robbing in spring and fall. The frames are held firmly to their place, and can be taken out with ease.

The Hive is of proper size; about twelve to sixteen inches in the clear. This depth, for wintering, is about as near the standard as it can be. For surplus honey it is not excelled by any. It has four honey boxes, containing about seven pounds each; they are so arranged that the apiarian can let in a part or all of the bees.

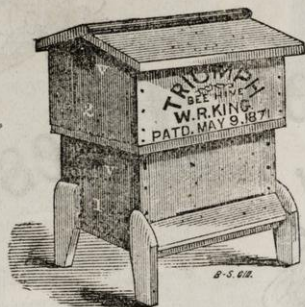
The boxes have a cap over them, a slanting roof, which will carry off all storms. It is a hive and house of itself, and is an ornament to any yard.

I have yet the following States for sale: New York, Indiana, Missouri, Ohio, Kentucky, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and four southern counties in Michigan. All of which I offer for sale at reasonable terms.

Address:

HENRY HUFF,
JONESVILLE, HILLSDALE CO., MICHIGAN.

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After two years practical experience with the Triumph Movable Comb Hive, I feel fully warranted in recommending it to the bee keeping public as having no superior in the country. It is the best winter hive ever invented; and equally as good for summer for it is the only well-ventilated hive ever offered to the public. I will give any practical bee keeper the privilege of trying one of the Triumph Hives before buying the right. State rights sold low for cash, or will be traded for either real or personal property.

County rights, from.....\$40 to \$400
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 One sample Hive and Farm Right 10
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 Send for circular and price list.

Italian Bees and Pure Tested Queens.

For full colonies in Triumph Hive \$20
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 For 6 " " " " " " " " " " " " " " 30
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 For 12 " " " " " " " " " " " " " " 40
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 For 6 " " " " " " " " " " " " " " 20
 For 12 " " " " " " " " " " " " " " 36

All from the latest importations. Purity and safe arrival guaranteed. Send for circular. I also give a premium to each customer. Addresses:

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 For Territory, Hives and Rights, address WM. M. KING, Champaign City, Ill.

The Thomas Bee Hive.



Having purchased the right of this well known and popular

BEE HIVE

For the State of Illinois, except the Counties of Mercer and Lasselie.

☞ We offer Counties, Townships, and Individual Rights, for sale on reasonable terms.

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TO SAINT LOUIS,
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Passengers should remember that
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EMIGRANTS to KANSAS, for the purpose of
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Indianapolis.....	3:55 a m	9:40 a m	6:45 p m
ARRIVES.			
Bradford Junc.....	7:55 a m	2:00 p m	11:30 p m
Columbus.....	11:20 a m	5:45 p m	3:15 a m
Newark.....	12:25 p m	6:50 p m	4:30 a m
Dennison.....	2:33 p m	9:01 p m	7:30 a m
Steubenville.....	4:37 p m	10:52 p m	10:05 a m
Pittsburgh.....	6:35 p m	1:00 a m	12:10 p m
Altoona.....	11:55 p m	5:35 a m	5:25 p m
Harrisburg.....	3:20 a m	9:40 a m	10:15 p m
Philadelphia.....	7:05 a m	1:30 p m	2:40 a m
New York.....	10:19 a m	4:29 p m	6:19 a m
Baltimore.....	7:00 a m	1:15 p m	2:15 a m
Washington.....	10:00 a m	3:40 p m	5:50 a m
Boston.....	9:05 p m	6:00 a m	5:05 p m

The Fast Line and Day Ex-
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For Niles, Saginaw, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Holland, Grand Rapids and Muskegan, and all points in Michigan.

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For Elkhart, South Bend and Goshen.

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At BUNKER HILL

For Marion and points East.

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For Logansport and points West.

 All Night Trains are provided with the newly improved and luxurious Woodruff Parlor and Rotunda Sleeping Coaches. Baggage checked through to all points.

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BEST AND CHEAPEST IN USE.

Have taken over **250 Premiums** at Fairs throughout the South. Send for illustrated Catalogue, with Price List, and certificates of planters who use them.

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Hanover.....	7.55	12 52	5 14
Jonesville.....	8 25	1.17	5 57
Reading.....	8 55	1 47	6 40
Fremont.....	9 31	2.25	7 37
Angola.....	9.53	2 49	8 05
Pleasant Lake.....	10 05	3 02	
Summit.....	10 17	3 13	
Waterloo.....	10 34	3 29	
Auburn.....	10 48	4 42	
Fort Wayne.....	11 45	5 55	
Indianapolis...	6 20 p m		
Cincinnati.....	8.50	6.30 a m	
Louisville.....	11 00		

TRAINS GOING NORTH.

	Angola Acc'n	Express	Mail
Louisville.....		8 30 a m	11 00 p m
Cincinnati.....			7 00 a m
Indianapolis.....		3.50 p m	10 25 p m
Fort Wayne.....		11 10 a m	4 10 p m
Auburn.....		12.08 p m	5 13
Waterloo.....		12 20	5 25
Summit.....		12 35	5 42
Pleasant Lake..		12 49	5 54
Angola.....	6 15 a m	1 20	6 20
Fremont.....	6.47	1 42	6 43
Reading.....	7.42	3.21	7 20
Jonesville.....	8 25	2 50	7 45
Hanover.....	9 05	3 18	8 13
Jackson.....	10 00	3 45	8 50

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At JONESVILLE, with Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad.

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W. A. ERNST, Supt.

ROBERT RILLIE, General Ticket Agent.

ITALIAN BEES.

I wish to say to my friends and bee keepers generally, that I have supplied my apiary with a superior lot of imported and home-reared queens of undoubted purity for the coming season.

Italian Queens for sale. For circular, address

R. M. ARGO,
Lowell, Garrard Co., Ky.