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The progressive bee-keeper. Vol. X [XII], No. 3 Mar., 1902

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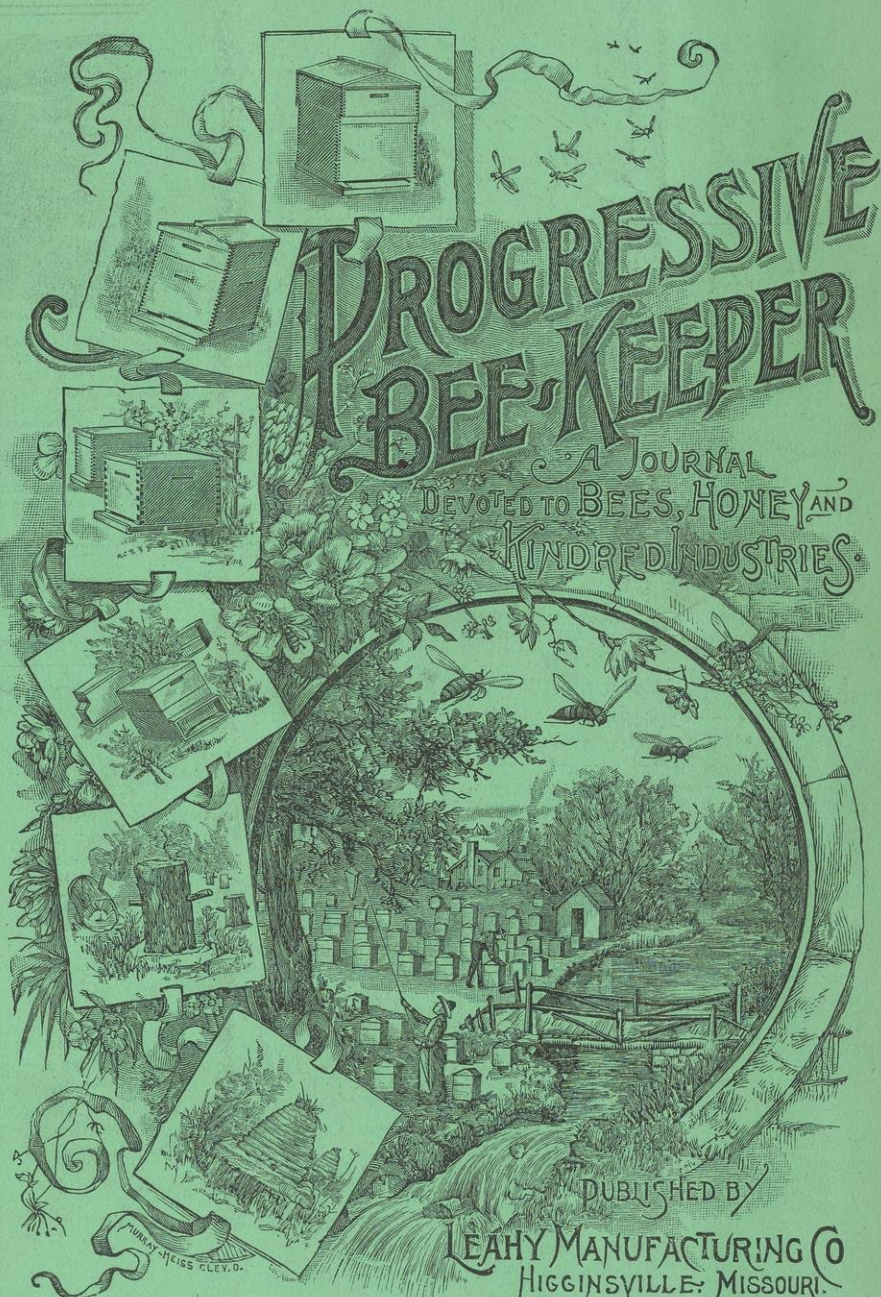
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MARCH, 1902.



PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER

A JOURNAL
DEVOTED TO BEES, HONEY AND
KINDRED INDUSTRIES.

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

50 Cents per Year.

Published Monthly by Leahy Manufacturing Company.

Vol. X. HIGGINSVILLE, MO., MAR., 1902.

NO. 3.

WRITING FOR THE BEE PAPERS —ARE THE GOODS IN COMMON, USE THE BEST ONES?

F. L. THOMPSON.

Mr. Smith—Hello, going to write another article? Wish I knew as much about bees as you do.

Mr. Thompson—Leave the blarney to Somnambulist. Hope you don't believe what you're saying. Whoever writes about bees knows more than the man who doesn't write—is that it?

Mr. S.—Well, anyone who writes is supposed to know a good deal, of course.

Mr. T.—You unsophisticated man—

Mr. S.—I mean those who write regularly.

Mr. T.—Again I say, you unsophisticated man. Nearly all of my writing, and that of some others, is not given from the teaching standpoint at all.

Mr. S.—But what use is it then?

Mr. T.—If I thought it was of no use, I wouldn't write. If enough of those competent to instruct would write in the right way, I'd quit.

Mr. S.—What do you call the right way?

Mr. T.—In your school days were you ever in a class in which the pupils asked questions, and did you get any benefit from those questions?

Mr. S.—Several. Generally it was more of a bore than anything else. In a class of physical geography, though,

was one boy who asked really sensible and suggestive questions, and I learned a number of things in that way.

Mr. T.—You would not say that boy was any authority on physical geography; and yet he caused you to learn more. In just that way some correspondents may be no authorities, and yet, by directing the attention of their colleagues to matters of which the consideration is valuable, they do some good.

Mr. S.—But some teachers are skillful enough to make the class alert and receptive, without their asking any questions.

Mr. T.—That is what I meant by instructing in the right way. But how many such teachers are there?

Mr. S.—Very few, indeed.

Mr. T.—So few, that it seems an impractical idea to depend on that kind of writers to fill out our bee journals. I admit that other matter than that is of less value; and yet, because it is of some value, and because there never will be enough of the other, I contend it is desirable and practical to encourage discussion from a learner's standpoint. Notice I don't say "beginner"—there is a distinction. A smaller amount of space will do for the mere beginner. But in an important sense we are all learners. What was the reason that boy influenced your mind so? If your teacher had thought to in-

roduce the same ideas as he did, would you not have learned as much?

Mr. S.—I don't think so: it would not have stuck, at any rate. You see, the boy was one of us, and we somehow identified ourselves with his mind; and that particular teacher was just an average one, not skillful enough to make himself one of us.

Mr. T.—Then, after all, our very best instructors must come down to our level, and the most sensible ideas we ourselves have are also good for consideration?

Mr. S.—I guess that's about it. But see here; I discover a streak of egotism in your alleged modesty. By your writing every month you claim the distinction of occupying the same place among correspondents as that boy did among the pupils? How's that, hey?

Mr. T.—By no means—or, hold on—perhaps I do, too. You see that boy may not have been so extraordinary. He may have just had the trick of giving tongue to the very same kind of ideas that the rest of you had, and kept still about it. How's that, hey?

Mr. S.—Then if the editor of the Progressive should some day write to you something like this: "My Dear Sir:—So many correspondents are now giving voice to ideas of general interest and value, that we can now dispense with your monthly offerings, as their ideas are quite as good as yours, and we believe in giving everybody a fair show"—you would cheerfully accept the situation?

Mr. T.—Of cour-e. I've my share of egotism—no lack of that—but the feeling of the greatest good to the greatest number is the most satisfactory in the long run.

Mr. S.—But why do you not urge other people to write? Aha!

Mr. T.—Ahem—I guess I'll have to admit that was my egotism. I have done wrong in not bringing that up before. I'll begin right here. Mr. Smith, why don't you write?

Mr. S.—Ah—hum—haven't the hang of it.

Mr. T.—When you don't understand something about your insurance policy you make a special trip to Hartford, I suppose?

Mr. S.—That's different. That's a business matter.

Mr. T.—A mighty difference, truly. The long and the short of it is, you're too lazy.

Mr. S.—Oh, come now, you know it takes a sort of a flow of words to write anything for print.

Mr. T.—You're infected with that vicious and pestiferous newspaper reporter ideal, that's what's the matter with you. It is utterly condemned by men of judgment. It's only purpose is to pander to ignorance.

Mr. S.—That's coming it too strong. I'm not so ignorant but what I've heard of such a thing as literary style.

Mr. T.—That's all right, but it has its place. The very ones who have a literary style in spiritual and artistic matters drop it utterly in statements of facts. They tell a plain thing, very plainly.

Mr. S.—Plausible; but what will you do with a man who doesn't know what to write about when he sits down to write?

Mr. T.—Poor fellow. Not a single idea in his head how to earn his bread and butter. It's a wonder you don't starve.

Mr. S.—You needn't twist it around that way. After all you can say, you know people have ideas they can't express.

Mr. T.—I do; that is a special affliction of mine. But the ideas of general value in our business can mostly be expressed by everybody, when they once know them. But if you won't write, can you tell me what you would like other people to write about?

Mr. S.—Indeed I can. I'm strong on that point. Take implements, for example. I have bought a good many

colonies around the country of late years, and of all the do-funny rattle traps, the so-called Hoffman frame takes the cake. If it was the original Hoffman frame, it might do; but that V-edge to be nailed a certain way on one end and the other way on the other end (and no advantage in it anyway) is just what the general public never will catch on to. Half my combs are in frames nailed wrong, so that the ends are constantly slipping by each other—just enough of a nuisance to be annoying, and not enough to justify transferring. It makes me mad every time I open a hive. Why don't those smart alecs who are always writing, criticize things once in a while? I'm sure there is enough. Another piece of rot is those blamed wide top-bars to prevent burr-combs. I used to think they were all right because our self-styled leaders said so. I know better now. I find entirely too many supers to suit me which must have their bottoms scraped before tiering or taking off. Maybe you don't think it's aggravating when the hives are boiling over with bees, and the sun is blazing hot, and the work is rushing. Management? Rats. I give my bees plenty of room at the right time. No, sir; I want no burr-combs; I can't afford to temporize with them; I'll leave that to those who monkey with sixty to a hundred colonies, who want to fuss with this and that to keep their mind occupied; but when I make a serious business out of a thing it's got to be somewhere near paying for the work done, or I'll leave it alone. I don't care whether there's any zinc in it or not, but a honey-board over the frames is the only thing that will fix the burr-combs as I want them fixed. I'd like to know what those fellows mean who talk about the delay of removing a honey-board. What do you want to remove it for at that time of year? The time to dive into the brood chamber is before you put the supers on, and you don't have to have the

honey-board on them at all if you don't want to.

Mr. T.—Don't talk so loud. I'm not deaf.

Mr. S.—I'm not through yet. I don't wonder those would-be leaders want the bottoms of their sections covered; one evil generally does bring another. The bottoms of the sections might as well be exposed, for they don't show in the case, and it wouldn't matter if they did get dingy; but, you see, they want to keep off those burr-combs, which those precious top-bars are supposed to take care of. If I were going to use a frame to hold each row of sections, I'd use a complete frame instead of those idiotic section-holders, which are deficient in the very thing which would justify a frame, if anything would—they don't cover the tops. They have all the faults of wide frames, without their chief virtue; and one of those faults is the inordinate length of time it takes to clean them, if you want to get all the propolis off—twenty to twenty-five minutes to a super, including the separators; and if you try to get the propolis off the projections of those scalloped separators you are constantly breaking them off, and making more glue-traps. If I were sure it really would not discolor the honey to leave the wide frames uncleaned, I'd try them; but the genuine wide frames, with plain separators, mind you, not the section holders. But I don't know. That's another thing that ought to be written about. Meanwhile, the T-supers for me, and whether the tins are fixed or loose is tweedle-dum and tweedle-dee.

Mr. T.—I have had your experience with Hoffman frames and section-holders, and am getting rid of them. But do you suppose it will do the slightest good to point out their defects? It will be said that great numbers of practical bee-keepers are using them. There's Mr. Brown. You know he is a good enough bee-keeper. I told him my ob-

jections to section-holders, and what do you think he replied? That he had seen some T-supers in which the tins were all bent up, and they were not to be compared with the section-holders.

Mr. S.—Great Scott, man, I can show you thousands of T-tins just exactly straight as ever, after years of use; why, I practically never get them out of shape—just two or three that I can remember out of all I ever had, and what does that amount to? Mr. Brown is no authority at all on that point, no matter how good a bee-keeper he is. He must have seen some supers that had been lying around for the horses to step on. Yes, I know great numbers of practical bee-keepers who are using section-holders and Hoffman frames. Fiddle-faddle. Proves just nothing. They either never used anything else, or things that were still worse. That makes them fine authorities, doesn't it? That's just like our "leaders," to quote them as authorities. They would rather reason in a circle than reason straight. They have been making bee-keepers by the hundred every year, fitting them out with their imperfect devices, and then they turn around and call them "great numbers of authorities," together with the really few old faddists who started up those things in the first place. If there's one thing more than another that I've learned since I've been in the bee-busine-s, it is not to depend on "numbers of practical bee-keepers." I'll tell you the best way to judge of anything; try it extensively yourself; and if you can't do that, keep your judgment reserved. No, I'll have to modify that a little. Try it on a small scale if you like, but under as varied and severe conditions as the implements which you have already used extensively, and then summon all your experience to assist you in imagining those same results extensive instead of limited, keeping a firm rein on the said imagination. And if you have not had the extensive exper-

ience in the old implements, together with the personal trial of the new, you are not fit to judge, and you must make up your mind not to have an opinion, for borrowed opinions are no good. You see, whatever the reason is, puffing and booming is what causes the sales of goods, to-day, very largely. As to the reason, I suspect there is more profit in manufacturing section-holders, just as there is in making single-tier shipping cases than in making double-tier ones. That's what makes the single-tier up-to-date—it's all in the dealer's head, for the double-tier cases are still used as extensively by bee-keepers all over the middle west, and the great majority of honey-dealers are indifferent to the style. Let me tell you one thing about the single-tier case which our obliging leaders have kept out of sight: when it is carted on express wagons, it is as likely as not set on its side to fill up some hole in the other goods, on account of its shape, while the double-tier is not. Imagine the effect on the combs.

Mr. T.—Mr. Smith, I shall put your exact words in my next article, and after this you needn't tell me you can't think of anything to write.

Mr. S.—What, just the way I talked? It will look outrageous. That isn't the way to write.

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GOOD THINGS IN THE BEE-KEEPING PRESS.

SOMNAMBULIST.

"Shall We Produce Extracted or Comb Honey," was cleverly handled in the October Progressive by S. E. Miller.

His calculation of 100 lbs extracted and 66-23 lbs of comb per colony, was perhaps as close as could have been struck for this locality, and as he says, "locality cuts a big chunk of ice."

But is not the former mark more frequently reached than the latter?

His assumption that the cost of labor is the same in both cases might prove misleading with the inexperienced. If labor and time are prime factors in the situation, extracted honey holds a decided advantage.

Again, "I fear that Mr. Honeyman would be a little partial and select his strongest colonies for comb honey," a thing all of us do and still have the assurance to draw comparisons.

In the same number Fred W. Muth, of Cincinnati, O., in his advice to farmers' wives, says: "Don't raise comb honey; raise extracted; it's easier. You raise three times more with one-third the trouble and sell it at the same price." Speaking for this locality this is a little extravagant, especially as regards the price—the same price is never thought of for an instant.

In the January number Mr. Miller tells us that "a record of a colony, in order to be of value, should extend through a number of years,"—the only way to enjoy an intimate acquaintance with individual colonies.

Mr. Doolittle's experience of a quarter of a century leads him to believe that "commission men as a class compare favorably with any other class." Wonder if his being a big man, in more than one sense of the word, has had anything to do with his arriving at said conclusion?

He does admit that he has found scoundrels among them, and that is a

crumb of comfort, on the principle that "misery loves company."

How it does hurt to feel that we, alone, have been caught by a trap set for the unwary!

It does not require a quarter of a century's experience to arrive at that point, either. Most of us receive our first lessons in one-fifth of that time. The suddenness and unexpectedness of these affairs cause them to amount to serious shocks.

Unlike electrical shocks, though high enough priced, they are of no benefit, robbing us at once of our pocket money and our confidence in mankind. To counter-balance, the commission man can tell tales we would rather not hear and unveil objects we would rather not have seen.

Unripe and inferior honeys and filth polluted packages may find their way to the markets through criminal carelessness, but when it comes to combinations of beeswax and tallow, as well as the entombment of all sorts of debris, including even bowlders of ten and twenty pounds size, then it is time to drop the word carelessness and—the curtain.

I have never yet been quite able to convince myself that any bee-keeper could be so blind to his own interest as to adulterate honey, but the above is certain knowledge, and the only refuge is to hide behind the possibility of a middle-man.

W. W. McNeal, in the American Bee-Keeper, says: "Now, bad as glucose may be, the germ that is sapping the life of trade in honey finds its abiding place in unscrupulous methods of production. To people of taste and refinement the quality and general appearance of extracted honey in so many instances reflects on the producer such slovenly habits as to be in reality reprehensible.

"The man who produces thin, unripe, unstrained, or dirty honey, and palms it off on another, is just as de-

serving of censure as one who puts in glucose and calls it honey. The effects are the same in both cases, for both rob honey of its rightful constituents."

And in the American Bee Journal Mr. France is made to say: "The majority of the bee-keepers are working toward the production of extracted honey, less swarming, less work, and more honey and money. But the best producers are death on the chaps that extract unripe honey to put on the market. And they ought to be. The bee-keeper who puts unripe honey on the market ought to be—well, he ought to be forced to earn an honest living some way, and not rob consumer and also damage the market for good honey."

This is the manner of talk going on among bee-keepers of sense. Mr. J. S. Triggs, a consumer, who formerly believed artificial honey a possibility, and who took opportunity to air his views in the newspapers, after having been convinced that he was wrong, commented as follows:

"The item which drew forth the criticism was prompted, not so much by what we had read and heard of this fraud, as by the character and quality of a lot of honey which we bought about that time. Assuming that this lot of honey was the pure quill product of the bees, we wonder what the moral condition of the members of the hive must have been to have produced such an abomination when it looked so very tempting. They must surely have been foragers on strange grounds and eaters of forbidden fruits—revellers among the bloom of skunk cabbage, henbane and rag weed, distillers of the nectar from malignant and deadly types of the vegetable kingdom. Maybe their queen was dead, or the regular workers on a strike and the drones tried their hand. Anyhow, not knowing that the bees made that honey, the poetic sentiment with which we have always invested the bee is knocked into smithereens, and hereafter, it, like the ex-

or the pig, is of the earth, earthy."

In an article on "Marketing Honey" in the February Progressive, Fred Haxton says: "The first essential to success in marketing is good quality." As regards marketing solidified extracted honey, however, his and my experience conflict. And his last sentence, "even if the buyer asks for Jones' honey, he will accept something just as good if Jones' honey is all gone," will not always hold good. Some buyers buy to please themselves only and a certain honey they will have and none other. Each year they await its arrival with a patience that is commendable if it happens to be one's own customer, and exasperating if the other fellow's. These patrons seem to regard themselves helpless in making a selection, but if they only have the name of the producer that is all sufficient to them.

Another sentence reads:

"In every city can be found a grocer—the leading grocer is generally most easily interested—who will take your whole crop of both comb and extracted honey if, it is put up in attractive shape"

Yes, I have found it the leading or most enterprising grocer, too, but aside from these the confectioners, bakers and tobacconists, there are men out of employment who will gladly sell honey from door to door. They establish a round or route and each year this route enlarges or lengthens, and they talk as proudly of their customers as the boy with his first paper route. They are always grieved when the supply runs out, and one of them tells us he alone could dispose of three times the amount we are able to furnish him. Solidified extracted honey, too. Think you the effect would not be startling were we to attempt to palm off some inferior stuff on these innocents? Buyer and seller in the end would find themselves shocked.

Again he says: "Comb honey, as well as extracted, must reach the mar-

ket in the right condition in order to bring the best price."

Another point to which he calls our attention is: "The grocer generally buys honey by the pound and sells it by the section, thus making two profits, one in weight, if the sections weigh less than one pound each, and his regular profit from an increased price."

Bro. Doolittle reminds us that "comb honey, to bring the highest price, must be removed from the hives weekly and thus avoid that gravel-stained appearance." Oh, all we will have to do in the future, with the latter kind of honey, is to ship it to Chicago, where, thanks to the Tribune, they know it to be the only "genuine honey."

He also informs us that while tobacco smoke will do the work wanted it will make the bees revengeful for several days afterward. Who cares? Would have to call the neighbors in to do the tobacco smoking anyway, so would prefer to use something I myself can manage.

That wet sand idea for watering bees is a good one and I am glad to hear him say: "The patent features of most hives are attachments that may be left off, not only without detriment to the hive, but with positive advantage. The vender of a bee hive having a patent right attached to it has had his day."

I find myself longing to see Mrs. Barber's paper on "Abnormal Swarming Fever," (referred to in Mr. F. L. Thompson's Convention Comments). And further, if ever I sympathized with Mr. Thompson and a disappointed public, it is now, over this convention failing to discuss the same.

All should agree with F. L. T. in the following: "When people drive many miles to a convention, or pay railroad fare and hotel bills, they have a right to expect that the limited time of the convention itself (not speaking of the intermissions, which can be spent socially, if desired), shall be devoted to that which conventions alone can give;

and that anything else, no matter how valuable, which can as well be procured in other ways, shall be rigorously excluded."

Naptown, Dreamland.

SELLING HONEY.

S. E. MILLER.

This is a subject that has often come up in the past in the journals, and some might consider that it is pretty well worn out. Yet I wish to urge upon bee keepers the importance of keeping out of the great market centers as far as possible a surplus of honey which necessarily tends toward depressing the price of honey in general.

I might here ask, how many of the readers have given the subject of prices any serious consideration? In this article I will speak of honey, but the same rule will apply to nearly every article of commerce. For the sake of a name I will take St. Louis as a market. Not that it is a good market for honey. In fact I suppose that most bee keepers, who are posted, know that it is about the poorest market in the country, location considered; at least, so it seems to me. Why it is a poor market I can not say, but I will venture a guess. In the first place it is the dumping ground of all manner of produce for a very large scope of country. The farmer bee keeper, who by chance happens to produce more honey than he needs, will probably ship it himself or else take what he can get for it from his local merchant, who in turn ships it to St. Louis along with his butter, eggs, feathers, hides, tallow, etc.

The commission man knows as much about honey as a bee keeper knows about making automobiles.

Its consequence of this St. Louis is continually overstocked with honey. At least it must be, if we can judge by quotation—four to four and one-fourth

in barrels, and four and one-half to five cents in comb. Now, the merchant who is in the market for honey is shy about buying, because there is an ample supply on the market. Should he not buy cautiously? His competitor, just across the way, probably, may buy for less, and can therefore undersell him. For this reason he will not purchase the first lot he comes to, but will visit other commission houses until he finally finds one who will shade the regular quotations, say one-fourth of a cent.

Another commission merchant who is getting tired holding a lot of honey will also take one-fourth cent less per lb. than he has been holding it at

Another and another do the same, and the price of honey is down one-fourth cent, and the price being once down it will remain so as long as the supply is equal to or greater than the demand.

Now, let us reverse the question and say the supply is not equal to the demand. The purchaser now becomes more anxious, for if he does not buy the first lot that suits him he may not get any exactly suited to his trade. The commission merchant who has the honey for sale now becomes the independent one. He sees a chance to get one-fourth to one-half cent per pound for his client and the market advances. From what I have said above it will be seen how a surplus in any particular market will soon depress prices.

The question then arises, what is the remedy? My answer is: withhold as far as possible our honey from the principal market centers, and the way to do this is to dispose of every pound that we can in the smaller cities, towns, villages, and even in the county. I know it is much less trouble to dispose of the entire crop in bulk and be done with it, but by selling in smaller quantities and supplying the demand nearer home we can realize enough more per pound over what we would receive if

shipped to a commission merchant, to pay us well for the time devoted to selling and the extra cost of smaller packages. One who has never tried selling honey to his home trade and near-by towns does not know how much honey he is shipping off to help keep down prices in general, that might just as well be used near home to make new customers and an increased demand.

Many people will not think of using honey until you go to them and ask them to purchase, and after they have once commenced using it they are likely to remain permanent customers and are willing to pay you a better price for it than they would pay a stranger, or for honey from an unknown source.

So far this winter I have sold a great part of my crop in quart, half gallon and gallon cans. I use the friction top pails, such as may be seen in nearly all grocery stores, filled with corn syrup, and find them to be about everything that could be desired in tin packages of the sizes named. I have also put up some in jelly glasses holding ten ounces, and intend to use them more and more in the future.

Of course we should sell a customer a gallon or more if we can, but if he should insist on not having more than ten or fifteen cents' worth we should be prepared to accommodate him.

In one town I have a sister living who has eight sons, one of whom I get to canvass the town and then send me the orders. I then ship the amount wanted and he delivers and collects, and I allow him a commission for his work. Some places I sell to merchants and at others I have private customers who send me their orders each year, but the way to sell the most honey in the shortest time is to thoroughly canvass a town. If you have not the time to do it yourself employ some honest, energetic boy or man to do it for you.

I am well aware that this method will not apply to places in the west and

southwest where many carloads are shipped from a single station. At such places it seems to me the best interests of all bee keepers would be conserved by co-operation. All should join together and elect a competent man of undoubted ability to look after the interests of all in common.

I believe that if all bee keepers will unite in diverting a part of the honey crop from the principal markets and thereby keep them from becoming overstocked, much can be done toward maintaining higher prices.

A short supply makes high prices. I suppose you know this, if you have to buy potatoes. The more markets we can find for a product of a given quantity the less likelihood there is of any one of them being overstocked.

Bluffton, Mo.

HOMES FOR BOYS WANTED.

We have on hand a very fine lot of boys and girls of all ages from one to twelve years of age. We are putting them out in carefully selected homes.

They are placed on three months' trial. All it costs you is transportation.

References required. For terms address Rev. C. C. Stahmann, 810 Olive Street, St. Louis Mo., State Superintendent of the Children's Home Society.

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◆ HERE AND THERE. ◆

"I always know when there's company in the house, even if I am in the next room," remarks a little friend, "for I always hear mamma saying 'my dear,' to papa."

A nervous looking man came in a grocery store with his baby on one arm and a coal oil can on the other. He placed the can on the counter and said gently: "Sit there a moment dear." Then, holding the baby up to the dazed clerk, he added "A gallon of kerosine in this, please."

A lady whose name it would be hazardous to mention was looking for her husband, and inquired anxiously of a housemaid: "Do you happen to know anything of your master's whereabouts?" "I'm not sure, ma'am," replied the careful domestic, "but I think they're in the wash."

A big colored woman at Fort Scott complained to an officer that her husband abused her, and the officer advised her to smash him with a club. "Well, sah," said the colored woman, "hit is dis er way. My ol' man t'inks he is a preacher paht ob de time, an' dat he is a fighter de res' ob de time. When he t'inks he is a fighter Ah don' have no trouble in handlin' him, but when he has dem preachin' spells Ah can't slap a man ob Gawd."

Apropos of the Shakespeare-Bacon controversy a correspondent of the London Telegraph satirically comes forward with the theory that Shakespeare may have written the Psalms. In Psalm xlvi, he found that by counting forty-six words from the beginning you arrive at the word "shake," and by counting forty-six from the end (omitting, of course, the exclamation "Selah") you come to the word "spear." These conjoined, make up the name of the poet, and he asks whether they do not form a secret cryptogram?

This note is worthy repetition: A club woman answered the question, "Who is the greatest woman of modern history?" in this wise: "The wife of the man of moderate means who does her own work, brings up a family of boys and girls to be useful members of society and finds time for her own intellectual and moral improvement." There were several hundred answers to the question, but this won the prize.

The Progressive. Bee-Keeper.

A journal devoted to Bees, Honey and Kindred Industries.

FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR.

G. M. DOOLITTLE & R. B. LEAHY, EDITORS.

AFTER a severe cold winter, the ground covered with snow for over four months, March comes with nice warm weather, with plenty of sunshine and rain. The pee-wee and the blackbird are here. All things now seem to indicate an early spring and a vigorous growth of all kinds of vegetation.

THE editor of Gleanings predicts a failure of the honey crop in Southern California this year. We clip the following from that paper:

NO HONEY IN CALIFORNIA THIS YEAR.

"The California bee keepers, especially those in the southern portion of the state, are very much discouraged. That little spurt of rain that I told about recently did not amount to much; and it is almost a certainty now that there will be but little or no honey in California the coming season, as everything is drying up. What effect this

will have on the honey market all over the United States, can scarcely be estimated at this time. If California produced last year 200 carloads, and some say 300, and turned a large part of it loose on the east, what will be the effect on the market if next year it can not ship any? Certainly the price on extracted here ought to hold its own and a little more, whether we get a crop or not. California will be no bonanza this year for bee-keeping home-seekers. The state will have more bee-keepers and bees than it can take care of."

We received from Los Angeles, Cal., this morning, from a prominent bee-keeper, quite encouraging news for that locality.

FROM the \$8,000 Corn Produce Company recently organized in Kansas, has within the past few months arisen an \$80,000,000 trust, incorporated under the laws of the state of New Jersey. Ernest Root's comment in *Gleanings* is so well to our liking that we give it here in full:

THE BIG GLUCOSE TRUST AND HOW IT
PROPOSES TO BEFRIEND THE
BEE-KEEPER.

"From several clipping that have been sent in it appears that a new glucose trust is about to be or has already been organized with a capital of 80 millions of dollars, and will be called the Corn Products Co. It will take care of all commodities made of corn, except meal, hominy, grits, and whiskey. But its particular business will be the manufacture of starch and glucose. Several of the items referring to this trust go on to state that it will make an effort to "bring the cost of honey and maple syrup something near the price set by the bee and the maple tree." This will be interesting, if true. The object of this "trust," I trust, is to

advance the price of its product. If so, I hope it will make it so high that it will not pay to use it in honey. But there is no likelihood that it will be thus considerate of the honey business. The glucose interests have always been a damage to the bee-keeper. They reduce the price on what is called bottled honeys, by putting out a doctored product that is so vile that it disgusts the general public with all honey, good, poor and bad.

"We wish our friends, the enemy, success in advancing prices, providing that advance has a tendency to increase the value of honey. But our bee-keeping friends will do well to watch their efforts to "bring the cost of honey near the price set by the bee." If they are at this late day doing works of philanthropy they must have reformed. But they haven't, and they can't pull the wool over our eyes, either. Glucose may advance several notches, and still be used profitably to adulterate honey.

"Strange, strange it is, that when the majority of the people, the big majority of them, are against the glucose business, laws cannot be enacted at Washington and at the state capitals that will stop this nefarious business of glucose mixing of a paltry few, and palming it off under honest names as pure goods. The trouble is, I suspect, that the glucose lobbyists are much more alert to their interests than the dear public are to the interests of their stomachs. The result is, no legislation in many states has been enacted; and even in one or two cases where good laws have been passed, somehow the very intent of the law is misconstrued by the very people who should see that it is carried into effect.

A HARD WINTER.—With the 11th of November our winter began, and snow, wind, and more or less zero weather, has been the program ever since, ex-

cept the two days in which occurred our flood, which the newspapers told the people all over the world about. At that time the mercury suddenly rose to 65 degrees, but the bees mostly staid in their hives, owing to the wind and down-pour of rain. What did venture out were blown and lost in the storm. Snow is now anywhere from 1 to 10 feet deep, just in proportion as the wind has moved it. Probably it would be about three feet on a level, had it been allowed to have lain where it fell.

EIGHT COLONIES of my bees were left on their summer stands so that I might be cheered with their occasional winter flight. But so far I have not been once so cheered, and from the number that comes out on the occasional days, when the wind does not blow, and perish on the snow, it would look as if they were suffering for a flight and especially, as those which come out, soil the snow before they die. I write this so that our southern friends may know what bees here at the north sometimes have to endure during winter. But there is a ray of comfort even in this matter, which is, that the queen whose bees can pull through such a winter as this, is of value as a breeder, from which a very hardy race of bees may be disseminated.

"HAPHAZARD, GUESS-AT-IT-RULE-O' THUMB" queen breeders, is something which is hinted at by the first writer in the Progressive Bee Keeper for January. And if the tone of that article indicates the emotions of heart possessed by the writer, he rather rejoices that a "few learned" men have been enabled to prove that the queen breeders of the world, at the beginning of the twentieth century, were a set of ignoamuses along the line of the "laws of heredity." Well, if there is any consolation to be had in thus thinking, I don't suppose anyone should begrudge them their pleasure in the matter.

But it might look a little better to the coming historian had the critics taken the same space they have used in our bee papers, in trying to hold queen breeders up as ignorant people, and used it in giving to the world better and more practical plans (which they had proved by years of hard study and experiments as plans giving better and more valuable queens) than were given by the present "authors of our text books, editors of our journals", and the queen breeders of the present. The trying to prove that a man "is down", without at the same time extending to him a helping hand, savors somewhat of egoism.

WHICH IS BEST, single walled hives, those with double walls, or the cellar, for wintering bees, is something which often puzzles bee-keepers. especially those who have only lately entered the ranks. In giving a decision it is all important that we take into consideration the part that locality plays in the matter. Those who live in the south would natually prefer single walled hives, as they are more cheaply made, take up less room and are made readily

"A QUEEN FREE."

In order to introduce our strain of superior long tongued Italians we will give one warranted queen with every order for one dozen untested queens received during April, May and June, with the cash. Prices:—Untested queens \$1.00, 6 for \$5.00, 12 for \$9.00; tested \$1.25. Select tested \$3.00. Breeders \$5.00. 2 frame nucleus and untested queens \$3.00, 3 frame and queens \$3.50. Send for price list of Bee-Supplies and our queen circular. 100 Tested queens for early orders.

Preston Store & Produce Co.
Dority, Preston Co., W. Va.

and easily movable, when any manipulation is made which requires a changing of hives. Then those who live in the extreme north will prefer cellar wintering, generally using the same hives as those preferred in the south, as the double hives hardly give protection enough, where winter holds sway from October till April. But where the winters are moderate, and in some other localities where great quantities of snow fall, the double hives generally give the best results. They are the hives to use in latitude 35 to 40, where they sometimes have a week or more of weather when the thermometer will register zero, or a little below; but the rule is "open weather," with the bees flying occasionally all winter. Here the single walls are hardly sufficient for the zero week, and the temperature of the cellar will run too high for the comfort of bees, during the warm spells, they becoming uneasy, and flying out on the floor by thousands to die, while if in double hives out doors, they would get beneficial flights. In this matter, as in all others, the ground should be carefully gone over before making a decision. In my locality, 42½ north latitude, the winters, as a rule, are continuously cold, and here the cellar gives the best results, because the cellar can be kept at an even temperature, or very nearly so. This means all light consumption of stores and comparatively few bees dying during the winter.

DURING THE PAST 6 WEEKS I have enjoyed a little rest from the more stern duties of the apiarist, and have been having this little rest by looking

after church matters, having my teeth filled, straightening up matters of our Borodino Creamery Company [Doolittle being president], reading more carefully the bee papers than was possible during the hurry of the season of 1901, and cutting cordwood with axes and saw. While this latter is very laborious physically, I have really enjoyed it more than any of the others; and almost feel envious of the past, when a young man of from 20 to 24, I spent the most of the winter that way. There is a health and enjoyment that comes to the one out "battling with elements" all day that cannot be gotten in writing articles, straightening up a knotty mess of figures, or even getting ready the summer supplies for the bees. But now (January 16) I am just commencing on the latter, and am wondering how many of the readers of this are doing the same. Remember that it does not pay to put these things off till the season is upon us. I am getting around all of the unoccupied hives I have on hand, and putting them all in good shape to use at a moment's notice next June. Then the next work will be to make all the needed sections for the season of 1902, fill them with thin foundation, and see that all supers are ready to set out in a day's time, when the honey flow commences; see that the upper stories are in perfect order to set on the brood chamber of colonies, to be worked for extracted honey, etc., and preparing for the season in general, before it comes.

G. M. DOOLITTLE,
Borodino, N. Y.



Behold The Hen Doth Lay An Egg.

Her part of the work is done, then we take care of that egg with the

Successful Incubators and Brooders,

turn it into a strong, vigorous, bread-winning chicken, that will work for a living around the farm yard. Here's something new in catalogues—5 different editions, in 5 different languages. English edition sent for 4 cents; others free. Covers the poultry question like a blanket.

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It means that here is a remedy that makes you feel certain of the lives of your dear ones in cases of accident or sudden sickness. It means many dollars saved to you that would otherwise go to the doctor or veterinary. In all cases of cholera morbus, diarrhoea, flux, rheumatism, cuts, cramps, strains, burns, mumps, sore throat, diphtheria, etc., it is a God-send.

Worth Its Weight in Gold.

Red Lake, Minn., June 5, 1901.

One time last summer I got very sick with cholera and thought sure we would have to send for the doctor, but after taking 3 doses of Watkins' Vegetable Anodyne Liniment I felt as well as ever. Since then I use it every day and find it the best family medicine in the market to-day; it is worth its weight in gold. JOSEPH DUCHARME.

Thousands of good people have written in the same vein.

FOR ANIMALS it cures colic, diarrhoea, sprains, cuts, scratches, bruises, sweeny, etc.

Don't wait until you are down sick, or injured by some bad accident, but be sure to get a bottle from our agent when he calls. If no agent in your county, write us at once and we will see that you are supplied. Price \$1.

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"I Love You, Dear."

A TRAVELING QUEEN.

"I love you, dear." There are no words more sweet
In all earth's language. Lovelier to the ear
Than all beside; with melody replete;
Sweet with each utterance, "I love you, dear."

"I love you, dear." And when the way is bright,
I feel your love, the guerdon of life's way;
Your eyes like gloried stars of April night,
In which the fairy sprites of Cupid play

"I love you, dear." And when the shades of gloom
Encompass me, I seem to hear you say,
"I love you, dear," and like a burst of bloom,
My happy heart bids sorrow fly away.

"I love you, dear." O, sweetest of all speeches!
To be beloved of one so pure and true;
Thank God for love and all the bliss it reaches,
And know, dear heart of hearts, that I love you.
—Will Ward Mitchell.

HOIE'S FACE.

Don't grieve, dearest heart, for the bleakest
of night,
Will soon fade away in a morning of light,
And God's stars through the mist of the way
shall shine bright.

Don't grieve, for the way that is clouded with
rue,
Has sunshine and stars and its silver lines,
too,
And God loves the heart with hope's face
to the blue.
—Will Ward Mitchell.

A. E. WILCUTT.

I will give you a little experience I had last summer with what I called a traveling queen. Upon opening a nucleus which a day or two previous contained a young laying Italian queen, you may imagine my surprise to find a nice, large black queen established and laying. I closed the hive and left her in possession. Some days later I opened this nucleus and found my black queen gone and queen cells started.

While working in the apiary several days later, upon opening a full colony which had a golden or five banded queen, I again found my black queen. She had superseded the yellow queen. She had been in this colony sufficiently long to have some of her bees hatching and they were pure blacks. This last fact proves that she had in some way introduced herself to this colony, for I hadn't given them any combs from other colonies; had they reared a queen

she would have been an Italian.

Now I have no positive proof that this was the same queen that had superseded the Italian of the nucleus. But I believe I had circumstantial evidence enough to sustain my belief. It appears she had the faculty of establishing herself in any colony which suited her fancy, and if one hive didn't prove to be just the thing, she would bid the inmates good day and enter another colony, kill its queen, and establish herself as mistress.

Can we learn anything from this circumstance? May not this explain some of the troubles we have along this line? If this meets the eye of friend Doolittle I hope he will give us his opinion on the subject, or anyone else who may have had a similar experience.

Swift River, Mass.

PROSPECTS NOT GOOD.

J. F. HAIRSTON.

SALINA, I. T., Feb. 20, 1902.

Editor Progressive:—After a long silence I come again to report the

worst wintering in my experience. I don't believe I will have over one hundred colonies in the spring, out of 165 last fall, and most of those will be so weak that they will be practically worthless.

My loss was caused mainly by honey dew being mixed with their stores, and the long and continued cold weather during the latter part of January and throughout February. The bees having been confined to their hives a month without a flight, nearly all had diarrhoea; some starved with honey in the hives, it being so cold that they could not break cluster after consuming what was accessible.

We have had two failures here in succession, and the prospects for this season are very gloomy. Bees all weak or dead; and dry, dry!

The supply business is at a standstill; no demand. I am not discouraged. I will give what few I have left the more attention and try to fill my empty hives and be ready if we get a honey flow.

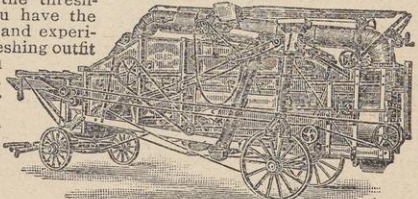
"Thrashin' Time."

When you come to the **RUMELY, Stop!!** That is the place to make your stand if you are interested in threshing. Why do we exult over the name? We know, and you know, it stands for a success. We cover the ground when it comes to threshing.

The New Rumely Separator

with the various modern attachments, leaves nothing to be desired. Its specialties are: 1. Fast threshing. 2. Clean threshing. 3. Clean in saving. 4. Turning grain out in proper form. 5. Adaptability to all kinds of grain and seeds. 6. Simplicity of construction. 7. Durability. **The Rumely Rear-Geared Traction Engine,** with the above, satisfies the thrasher's wants. In these you have the best product of our skill and experience; the one perfect threshing outfit upon the market. You should have our catalog. We send it upon request.

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Please mention the Progressive.

"Riverside Farm, or Led By a Bee"

Bessie Bond, Author.

CHAPTER VIII.

MISS BELLE'S BRAVE DEED.

A few days later at noon finds us all—lazy wheelks—lounging about taking a noonday siesta, when Aunt Millie brought her knitting and sat on the window seat beside me. The seat was my favorite lounging place, but as she came in I raised up and asked her to share it with me.

"What is it son, a tete-a-tete?" said she, smiling. "I think it quite time, too. We have not enjoyed our tete-a-tetes of late, on account of busy times and company."

"That is all true, auntie, when I'm dying to ask you how you like the Bird family?"

"The whole family, Cal? or just Miss Belle?" said she, eyeing me closely, while a meaning smile played round her mouth and eyes. "You need not blush, or deny anything," she continued, "for I have eyes, and think I know from whence the wind blows; it is not from the east, either."

"You are my dear old auntie," said

I, kissing her cheek, and laying my head in her lap, where I could look up in her face and see every expression, just as of yore. "Of course it's Miss Belle; that is most important with me. But I would like to know what you think of all the family."

"Well, if you will have it in a nutshell, I think well enough of them all. The old folks are well-bred, kind-hearted and well-meaning people. The children are just the kind one would expect such parents to raise. As for Miss Belle, individually, I think she would be an honor to any man's home."

"Thank you, very much, auntie. I was afraid you would not like her; but I guess you see plain enough that Bess does not want me, neither do I want Bess. I was afraid to tell you this, but I see you are not greatly disappointed."

"No, not very much; for Bess told me some time since that I might as well get all such nonsense out of my head. And I knew if you could not love each other, while so many miles lay between you, why, you never

for anything that chanced to be ahead of us. We asked no quarter, neither would we grant any; but the battle was soon over.

There were only about twenty comprising the band, and as their arms consisted chiefly of bows and arrows they were not hard to conquer. They had guns, but no ammunition. Nine were killed outright, eight wounded, and the rest were soon bound hand and foot and sent to the county jail. But long ere all this was done I espied a pale, scared face looking down from an upstairs window, and as soon as I could I made my way to that room. But it was little Clare who opened the door to admit me and threw herself into my arms with a sudden burst of hysterical tears; while my darling Belle sat upright upon a couch, so pale, so calm, now that the danger was over, I feared she might faint, but I did not yet know the girl. I sat beside her with Clare in my arms, but I involuntarily unclasped one and made an attempt to place it around her sister, as I murmured:

"My darling, do not faint; the danger is all passed."

She drew herself up proudly before me while fire flashed from those beautiful brown eyes, and exclaimed:

"You will please remember, sir, my name is Miss Bird, and I have no right to any other; but if I should faint from a little excitement I would consider myself a disgrace to my name and country, and disown them both."

"Oh, my darling, my tragedy queen! Do you not know I love you? You must be mine, for life is not worth the living without you," I almost wailed. But before she could answer I saw a great red spot on the sleeve of her light summer gown, and by main force I clasped her to my breast, exclaiming:

"My love you are hurt. No wonder you are pale. You must let me do something for you, before the poison from those arrows takes effect."

So without a murmur she then allow-

would. I could not have you marry without love."

"You are my own dear auntie; and I am so glad you like my Belle. I know now you will love her when you know her better. I'm going right over this evening to learn my fate."

"That's right, my boy, and may God's blessing, with my own, rest upon you."

"Amen," said I, fervently. Just then I heard a fluttering of wings and a pigeon—one of those given to Clare—perched upon my knee, with a note hanging from its neck. I hastily relieved it of its burden and read:

"Mr. Carl Rochester: Will you please come, immediately, with all the men and fire-arms you can muster, to

Yours, in distress,

Belle Bird."

"What can it mean?" said I, thrusting the note into Aunt Millie's hand. After a glance at it her woman's instinct seemed to solve the riddle, for she said:

"Go, my dear, it must be Indians. She would never send for you for nothing."

In less time than it would take to tell it I had the boys all wide awake, each one armed and speeding away toward the Bird farm. Soon we heard the crack of a rifle, which continued at short intervals until we reached the gate. Yes, it was a band of hostile red skins. We could hear their awful yells, mingled painfully with that of the rifle's roar. Oh! if I might have the wings of an eagle. Old Gale, the fastest horse in my stables, seemed to creep. But just as we went in at the front gate Bob came in at the side from the field, out of breath and unarmed. At the door lay faithful old Bruno, with arrows sticking in his body almost as thick as the hair on his back, now drawing his last breath. But the sight of the poor beast that had died in defence of his home and the precious charges left in his care, only served to make demons of us, and we were ready

ed me to tear the thin sleeve from her wounded arm and bathe it. By this time Bob came up, and seeing his idolized sister's bleeding arm turned without a word, and running to his mother's medicine closet soon came back with an antidote for the poison.

There was no one at home except Miss Belle, Clare and Bob, as their parents had gone to town that morning to do the fall and winter shopping and had taken the little ones all with them to have shoes fitted on them. So when the savages came and found only the two girls in the house—for Bob had gone to the melon patch—they thought they had an easy prey; but before they could gain the door Miss Belle and Clare were safely ensconced in the second story of the building and Miss Belle was giving them hot lead in no small quantities. Two she floored, who went to join their ancestors in the "happy hunting ground," and when no more would come within rifle range of her steady aim she fired random shots

in the air to let them know she was yet master of the situation. It was little Clare that had remembered what I told her concerning her winged messenger, and on beholding the little bird—"King Solomon," we called it—she quickly clasped it to her breast and asked her sister to write a note to me, which she did, and in a moment more she kissed the little creature, saying: "Go home to your old master, King; go swiftly home;" then let it through the window and watched it out of sight.

The rest of the battle you already know: for, as usual, I have "put the cart before the horse," and told the first, last, and the last, first. But perhaps you do not know I staid at the Bird farm that evening until the old folks returned. Neither did I take leave of them until Miss Belle had said "Yes" to my most momentous question, and I knew I was the happiest man in the world.

(To be continued.)

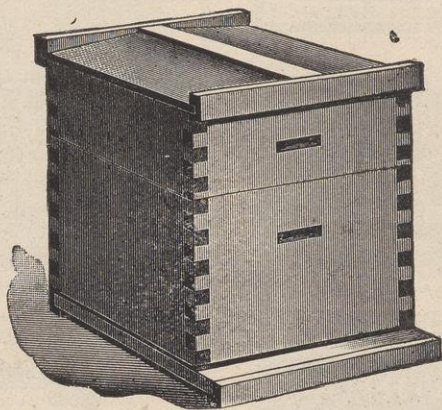
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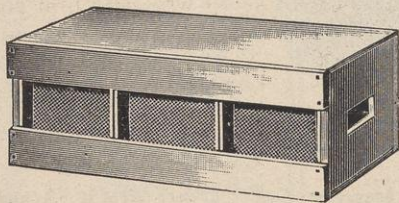
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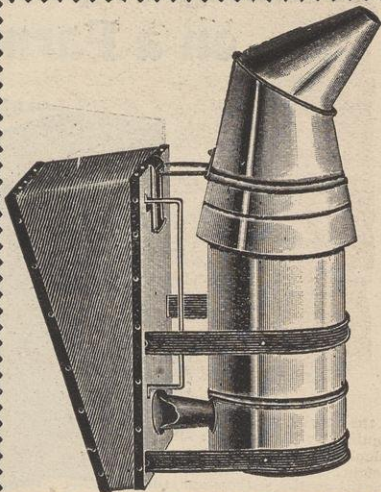
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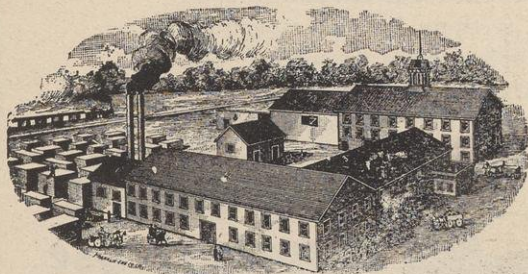
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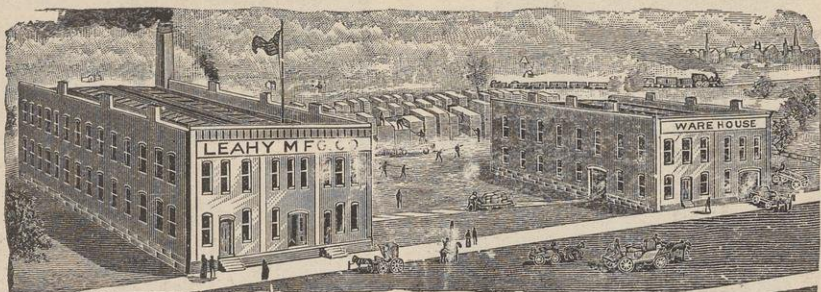
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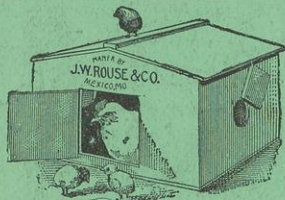
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