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The Southland queen. Vol. II, No. 2 June 1896

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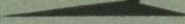
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The 
SOUTHLAND
QUEEN.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS,

June, 1896. 

Established 1884.

J. M. JENKINS,

Wetumpka, Ala.

Steam Bee-hive Factory.
 Full line of Bee-keepers' Supplies.
 Italian Bees.
 60-page Catalog tells you all
 about it. Free.

Root's Comb Foundation!

New Product.

New Process.

A Big
 Success.

We are pleased to announce that, having secured control of the new Weed process of manufacturing foundation for the U. S., we are prepared to furnish **Foundation by the New Process**, for 1896. Samples will be mailed free on application, and will speak for themselves.

OUR SANDED and POLISHED SECTIONS, well, they speak for themselves, also.

OUR 1896 CATALOG

now ready for distribution. Send in your name at once for catalog, samples of the new foundation, and those superb sections, and while you are about it ask for a late copy of **Gleanings in Bee-Culture**.

The A. I. Root Co., Medina, O.

56 5th Ave., Chicago. Syracuse, N. Y.
 1024 Mississippi St., St. Paul, Minn.

THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

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

Vol. II. BEEVILLE, TEXAS, JUNE, 1896. No. 2.

We see, by the Progressive Bee-keeper, that one of our county apiarists has taken 100 pounds of honey per colony, and he has over 100 colonies. We have taken from some colonies over 200 pounds up to date and will likely get more. We have not averaged up, but will not fall far short of 100 pounds per colony, of those we run for honey.

We note, in that spicy and well gotten up Bee-paper, The Australian Bee Bulletin, that the bee-keepers of that country are taking steps to prevent the destruction of the honey bearing trees of most importance to them. The same precaution might be used in America, with great profit to future bee-keepers.

What a contrast there is between the Progressive Bee-keeper, of today, and of several years ago; not casting any reflection upon Bro. Quigley, as sole editor years ago, as this paper has always been good. We only wish to show what the Higginsville people have done, and are doing for this paper.

Big water melons on our markets now, and have been for three weeks.

How to get the biggest price for our honey. Put it up in nice shape, and take it to the kitchen door of the consumers. Did you ever note how much easier it is for a fellow to talk and praise, and sell something nice of his own production, than if some one else had produced the article?

We learn that extensive apiaries are being started in Mexico, and do not know who it is doing it. They send their orders for supplies through the Express Co., and we do not get their names, but we suspect it is Americans.

We are having a good demand for honey just now, and we are rejecting offers of $7\frac{1}{2}$ cents for our comb honey. Had that yesterday, but we will get ten cents for all we have, we think.

Dry and warm just now. We have not had any rain for a month, and the thermometer registers 110° in the middle of the day.

The bees are still gathering some honey, notwithstanding the dry, hot weather.

Contributors' Column.

SMITH vs. FORD.

I notice in April number of THE QUEEN, an article headed "About Foundation" by T. S. Ford, which, according to my observation is wrong. He says if bees are left to follow their own inclination, they will build their comb so that the sides of the cells are parallel with the top and bottom bars of the frame.

I find to the contrary, that they build their cells with the straight side perpendicular, which, as any one, after a moment's reflection, will see is the right way. Because, their combs are held by suspension, and if the arches of the cells were put on the sides, as Mr. Ford claims, they would draw out of shape. But as the honey bee is the best architect in the world, as well as the best builders, they build on scientific principles, that is, they put the arches where strength requires them, which is above and below, and the planes, or straight side, on the side upright, where they will maintain the greatest strain. Now, if Mr. Ford will look at his bees again, I think he will see I am right.

My bees are doing fine; some of them have made fifty pounds of surplus honey already. Am run-

ning my bees for extracted honey. All the honey so far has been made from Horse-mint.

M. W. SMITH.

Cuero, Texas.

"FREE STATE" NOTES.

Our bees in the "Free State" are like the political cranks, they fly high and swarm often, but have not done much this season, though we can expect something from them in the future. But our political friends we can't expect any thing but discord and discontent, as the almighty dollar is what all of them are after. My bees, this season, are very prolific, but have not gathered much honey yet; last year they did but little, on account of the extreme wet, and then the extreme dry weather, the time for gathering honey in this locality, has not yet arrived; the time for the bees here is from the time corn begins to tassel until frost destroys the cotton blooms.

Since I began this letter, a friend of mine, a nice gentleman, and one of Kaufman county's best farmers, has visited me. I took him to my bee yard, and showed him all through my bees, and he tells me that he is bound to have some bees, and I told him that I would send you his name for a copy of your paper.

* * * * *

When you have a case of fertile workers, if your bees trouble you

in that way, what is the best way to proceed? Last season one colony of my bees had fertile workers. I had two colonies in one story hives and the one that had fertile workers was in a two story hive. The way that I managed them was this: I took them, placed the top story on one of the single story hives and the bottom story on the other single story hive, first removing the lid of single stories and placing a news paper on the top of the hive, then cut a small hole in the center of the paper, so as to give the bees a chance to pass out, and they did fine. This was an experiment of my own, as I had no one to consult with. Was that the proper way or not, or is there a more convenient way of ridding your yard of that trouble?

Have you any of the patent, wood veneer foundation on hand? If you have, please send me a sample of it, as I never saw any. I see the advertisement in the A. B. J., and you will confer a favor on me by so doing, and please let me know what your idea is in regard to that foundation.

I see in the Journal that sweet clover and many other things are grown for bees. What do you think best in this locality for bees to feed on, sweet clover or buck wheat? I have sowed both clover and buck wheat, but the clover did not come up when sowed, consequently I did not learn any thing

in regard to its value. The buck wheat did fine.

As I write today, I hear the constant hum of the honey bee passing from my little apiary to the forest in search of the sweets they love so well. If our fellow men were just half so industrious as the little bee, and used just half the energy and economy, there would not be half the cry of hard times in our land. We will, in the course of time, see that necessity will drive them to economize, but what will force them to industry? I will answer the question: Woe and want. Man is born of a woman, is but a few days and full of trouble. Not so with bees; they are reared of a queen and but few days, but they are full of life and industry. They come forth from the hive at the break of day, returning often, laden with the sweets gathered by their labor.

My bees are the Golden Italian; peaceable, and good workers. I have, since I began in the business, produced nine gallons of as fine honey as this country could produce from one, four-framed nucleus, in one year.

A. M. BARFIELD & SON.
Stone Point, Texas.

[If you have a colony with fertile workers, shake the bees all off their combs, and give them frames of brood and larvæ, and a laying queen, will generally put an end to the trouble.

We gladly send you a sample of wood veneer foundation, but we have not, as yet, tried it. We believe the bees will

work the foundation all right, but some how or other we do not think we'd like wood in our combs, for many reasons. The biggest one is, we often get a nice frame of solid, sealed, white honey in this latitude, out of the brood chamber, and we could not do so if we had wood in the comb.

We have seen sweet clover tried in Texas, and so far we have failed to see any honey from that source. We would prefer buck wheat to sweet clover; buck wheat does well, when it rains enough.

Yes, we are somewhat acquainted with that sweet music you speak of, and it brings rest to us when we are tired and warm, to hear the busy hum of the bees.

Your Golden bees sure did well, and shows them to be good honey gatherers.—Ed.]

BEEES FOR HOT HOUSES.

I have eight colonies and they have all wintered well. I sell bees to farmers, here, to be used in their green houses to work on their cucumber blooms, and these farmers use a great many bees that way. I have five colonies now engaged for May delivery. Some how, the farmers lose the bees, by keeping them shut up in the hot houses, and I don't think they care for the bees as they ought to. These farmers very much prefer Italian bees, as they say this race of bees is much more docile than any others, and do not bother the men while at work.

We all like your paper.

X. A. REED.

Belmont, Mass., Apr. 11.

[Well, this is something we had never yet thought of. Will Mr. Reed please take notes how the bees do, and how long they will live and do well, working

inside? This would be a good way to get a genuine sample of cucumber honey. We have often thought of trying an enclosed flower garden for the purpose of having queens mated as we desire, but had not thought of having bees in hot houses, for the purpose of fertilizing flowers. We want to know more about this, as we are struck with the idea.—Ed.]

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

BY C. B. BANKSTON.

Owing to the fact that our report was a short one, I want to give a kind of supplementary report, or a little of my observation in connection with the meeting of The Central Texas Bee-keepers' Association.

I went out in the country, two miles from town, and stayed over night with Dr. Dennest. He has only four colonies of bees, but these are in fine shape; combs perfectly straight, and properly spaced, which, by the way, is one of the most essential points in successful bee-keeping. I made it back to town the morning of the second, and took in Bro. E. R. Jones' bee yard, while they ate breakfast, and found things tolerably well tumbled up. He is working his bees out of full depth hives into the shallow chambers. A young swarm in his yard, hived two weeks ago, has filled two cases of sections. How is that for Central Texas? The shallow brood chamber is the main issue with experienced bee-keepers in this section of the

country when comb honey production is discussed. I take issue with Bro. Jones in his method of contracting the brood nest. When weather is favorable, we have two very good honey flows. At the beginning of the first, which lasts only about two weeks, I would cram the bottom chamber full of brood, and contract to one chamber, then give them sections. This will force them to work in sections ready to come off. I would then replace the brood frames, after extracting the honey from them. There would be sufficient honey coming in from the fields to cause the bees to fill them full of brood, which would be hatching in three to four weeks; just in time for the Horse mint and Cow-itch.

If a bee-keeper is up and at his post of duty, every stock can be built up in time to secure a good crop of honey from Ratan, which blooms in April, beginning about the first.

The advisability of the introduction of Italian blood was thoroughly discussed at the convention, as quite a number had never tried the Italians. The beauty of the Golden bees was very easily explained. Bro. John Cairns made an observatory hive, containing one Hoffman frame, and I carried along a pure Golden queen and about a pint of five banded workers, all from Bro. Cairns' yard. These bees were

quite a novelty to every body that saw them.

The most essential points to be learned in order to secure the best results, was pretty thoroughly discussed, and all agreed that one of the most important things to be considered, is the flowers from which you expect to get your honey. In Central Texas, the first flow that amounts to any thing, begins about April first. In order to get a crop of section honey, you should begin in February to stimulate your bees. Various plans for stimulation was suggested, and the discussion resulted in the decision that if a colony has plenty of sealed honey, the uncapping of the honey, and a judicious spreading of the brood was all that was necessary to build a colony up for the first flow. In case they are short of stores, combs of honey should be given to them if possible, otherwise, sugar syrup could be fed to them each night till the flow came. About one pint per colony would be quite sufficient if the colony had any honey at all. This could be made thin if the weather is warm,

Some of the brethren present, had fell a victim to the Golden hive swindle, and considered that the \$5.00 paid for a patent right to make this, would have done them better service by a hundred folds, if they had cast it into the fire. I was called off to transfer and Ital-

ianize some bees for Mr. Holaway, of Rockdale, four weeks since. Mr. H. is an enterprising farmer, but knew but very little of modern bee-keeping. By some hook or crook he fell a victim to the same fraud. Some of those hives that Mr. H. had me to put his bees in, had about a three inch bee space under the bottom bar.

We would be glad to see a large number of the Central Texas bee-keepers at Cameron, on the fourth and fifth of August. We would like, also, those from the Southwest Texas, and the Texas State Associations to be with us.

Chriesman, Texas.

DOING WELL IN MICHIGAN.

It is now 3 p. m. Just received your card of the 13th, was glad to hear from you. I just want to say we have had one splendid time for bees in fruit bloom; warm and still, and I tell you the bees improved it for about two weeks; there are many of the hives full of honey; the weak ones, which are few, are building up rapidly.

Mercury now stands at 74°.

I love the tone of the SOUTHLAND QUEEN. JACOB MOORE.
Iona, Mich.

IN APICULTURAL FIELDS.

BY J. W. TEFFT.

Special to THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

I have read the many articles, straws, stray straws, rambles etc. from almost every state and ter-

ritory in the Union, and almost every kind of folks and fakirs, as well as botches, bee-trade editors, etc. and a hundred others.

In reading these articles, in connection with my experience as a bee-keeper, during the past thirty-six years, I am convinced that we do not lack variety in men, in connection with the bee business.

It is true, more is expected of an employed bee-keeper today than twenty or thirty years ago; that he is supposed to be acquainted with broader fields of work, but it is also true that the same holds good in all lines of business, trades and professions. The world is advancing, and the opportunities for being more thorough in any branch, is much greater today than they were thirty years ago. The good, competent, skilled, thinking, bee man is found, so is the quack, slapjack, botch—the ignoramus who has not the slightest idea of his ignorance.

Of course we have the fault finder, kicker, and unreasonable individuals to contend with in our business, (especially the "Mutual Admiration Society"). A bee-keeper advertises for competent help, and in his reply to the man, wants to know if he can speak English, Scandinavian and German; understands shorthand and type writing; blow a cornet in the village band, and a score or more other nonessential things, and one

who can do all this, besides taking charge of the bees, and is willing to work from Sun-rise to Sun-set (Sundays included) for \$6.00 a week, and found, can come on first train.

Regarding drink, I will say it is a mistaken idea that the best bee masters drink, as is so often stated. It is true, some good bee masters drink, but we have better ones who do not. To drink whiskey and beer at the devil's swill—which would be a more appropriate name—cannot improve one's ability in any direction. The best bee masters I ever met were strictly sober men. It seems to me that when a man at this day and age, spends his hard earned money for the benefit of the brewer and whiskey dealer, instead of working for his own welfare, (and the welfare of his family, if he has one) and eating and drinking what is nutritious and wholesome, that he has had wrong training, and is evidently guided by wrong and evil influences. In order to be a good bee master, it is not necessary to be saturated with the devil's swill. What is wanted is sober, level headed, clear minded bee masters, with proper and thorough training.

It seems to me that it would be well to make a move along the line of requiring a bee master to have a certificate, or diploma, the same as other trades and professions.

Make the "Bee-keepers' Union" (or Association) a place where one serving a certain number of years, could go and take an examination, show his knowledge and skill, prove himself competent, and receive a diploma according to his skill and ability. I have often wished that I was wealthy enough to start a bee-keepers' school, that is, an institution teaching all branches of the business, and having an expert in each department, as foreman. A person could enter, and learn the business from start to finish, or a honey producer could take short terms and finish up. Such an institution would, in my opinion, pay; perhaps a liberal donation could be gotten up to commence with. When I think of the many bees that are being lost, and the many thousands of dollars worth of property that is destroyed by the work of incompetent bee-keepers, I think it high time that the "Union" bee-keepers' Associations should make a move of some kind to suppress the BOTCH.

A bee master should know how to cut his lumber, so that he can make his hives; how to ventilate his hives; how to cut out his frames, etc.; how to lay out an apiary; how to rear queens; build up bees before the harvest; how to take away the honey and care for it; and in fact a hundred other things.

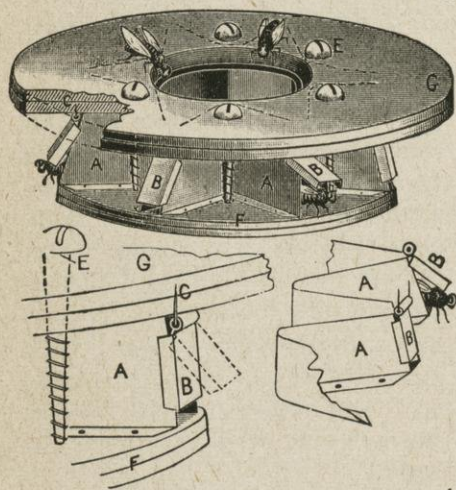
Buffalo, N. Y.



The New Jardine Bee-Escape.

From Gleanings In Bee Culture.

During the past half-dozen years or more, all of our "up to date" bee-keepers have used some kind of bee-escape. All readers of Gleanings surely know the principle involved in all makes of escapes; viz., that of letting bees out through an opening which will not allow them to return. In this way the bees are coaxed out of the su-



per cases down into the brood frames, through the doors or openings of the escape, by the simple law of nature which has been taught them by the divine Hand, to "keep near the leader" (in this case the queen).

Among the older and standard makes is the Porter escape. We do not wish to run down that or any other make for a minute, but,

rather, bow in thanks and praise to the good work which they have done, and speak from the ever-clattering tongue of progress, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

In all lines of invention we find the first now taking the back seat, while the new inventors have founded their thoughts upon some solid principle of a by-gone inventor, and thus come before the public with new and superior devices of all sorts. As it is thus true in almost all lines of inventions, so is it very true in the line of bee-escapes. We give here a cut of the new "Jardine" escape.

At the first glance the experienced bee-keeper will see the fundamental principle of its superiority over the Porter; viz., do the same work quicker. The Porter and other standard makes are provided with but one opening, while this escape has six. Any child in primary arithmetic can understand very clearly that a larger number of bees can pass out through six doors much quicker than through one door of the same size. We put the escape in the center of a board bound with cleats, which holds the super above the brood-frames, about the same as is used with other escapes. Supposing you fix up six Porter escapes, you must have six of these boards, and six escapes, in order to get the separating capacity which we have with one of our Jardine escapes.

Our escape is made round. The top and bottom pieces are thin wood securely fastened together with six wood screws. This top piece is about five inches across

with a $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch hole in the center, which provides ample passage for the bees. The bottom is about four inches across. The partitions are made of tin, all pressed to a perfect shape, and very neatly nailed to the wood members of the device with very fine furniture brads. Each door is pressed to a perfect size, and hung to the top piece of wood by means of a little staple. Each door hangs just high enough from the bottom to allow a bee's head to go under.

When the bee is on the inside of the escape and wishes to go out, it can easily raise the door, and pass through, after which the door at once closes, like a flood-gate in the river. The doors shut with flanges, passing on the outside of the partitions (or door frame) in such a manner as not to allow any sticking the doors shut. The escape is put up in such a manner as to look very attractive, and, in fact, is attractive, or, at least, the idea, "time is worth money," is, and hence a machine that will save time will save money. The inventor, Mr. Jas. Jardine, of Ashland, Nebraska, is an old practical bee-keeper, and has used this escape for years, with gratifying results; which alone induced him to introduce it to the public. A year ago he sent out several escapes for trial to such persons as Dr. Mason, Hon. E. Whitcomb, Mrs. Heater, and others, and each escape brought back a very favorable testimonial letter after the season was over last fall. Of course, the cost will be a little more than the ordinary "single-file" escapes; but it will not cost nearly as much as the others in proportion to its capacity, besides the saving

of so many escape boards. All these things must be taken into consideration.

JAMES PEARSON.

Germantown, Neb.

After twenty years of experience I cannot make the berry and bee business work well together.—W. H. Ritter, in Progressive Bee-keeper.

T. G. Newman, and family are now in San Diego, California, as I learn from the American Bee Journal. Mr. Newman was sick on the way there, but is better now.—Gleanings Editorials.

[Glad to hear this and hope Mr. Newman may continue better. We suggest that Dr. Gallup take Bro. Newman in charge, and dose him out that pure air and Sunshine, characteristic of that California region.—ED.]

The Southland Queen is a very good bee paper, but she is trying to get Californians interested in her territory. Nearly every number has a statement of a California bee-keeper casting his lot over there in Texas. And what for? There isn't any more honey over there, is there?—The Pacific Bee Journal.

[Don't worry, Bro. Bennett, there's a large number of bee-keepers still left in California. We'll say, though, that we are very proud of our "California" bee-keepers; they know their business. We wish you and your bright little Journal success.—ED.]

The Southland Queen.

MONTHLY.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY, - - - EDITOR.
 - - - Assisted by -
 Willie, Charlie and Amanda Atchley.
 E. J. ATCHLEY, - - BUSINESS MANAGER.

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 Beeville, Bee Co., Texas.

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BEEVILLE, TEXAS, JUNE, 1896.

I see by last Gleanings that the editors of that "best of bee papers" lean toward the mistaken idea that bees move eggs in some instances. I have only a hundred colonies of bees, and I will give the half of them for a queen whose bees will move eggs.

WILLIE A.

We see it hinted that we are at the top, as to improvements for the manipulation of bees. We offer the assertion, that if the parties throwing out such hints live half a score of years, they will see some very great improvements.

The editor of the Progressive Bee-keeper and that sleep walker got that master mouthpiece, "Doo-much" stirred up, and he lashed them so hard, with truth, that they had to own up.

We note questions still appear in different bee papers, why bees swarm. We would like to have our readers know that bees swarm because they want to. In other words, we might put it that nature swarms when it suits her.

We may conclude to think, that in some cases bee stings cure rheumatism, while in others they produce no effect. And I don't think it makes so much difference what kind of rheumatism as what kind of people. You know stings effect different people very differently.—Stray Straws, Gleanings.

[The above is just in line with our own experience. It is now evident to us that bee stings are a good remedy for rheumatism. We have just shipped to a medical firm in Philadelphia, the annual shipment of a large amount of bee stings, which we have been doing for several years.—ED.]

We feel it our duty to let our readers know about the test made with the new process foundation. While the thermometer is now registering above a hundred in the shade, every day, we placed some full size sheets of the brood foundation in the center of the brood nest of a large colony. It has not broke or sagged, nor stretched a single bit that we can see, at top or any where, and was promptly worked out by the bees. The tests we have made are evidence to us that this foundation is a long step in advance of any thing we ever used in the way of comb foundation.

We aim to "bee" hunting and fishing next week, from chief cook to bottle-washer, and if there is four days delay in answer to your letters you may know the cause. We began running the factory Jan. 1st and are just now catching up and have run every day and part of the nights, with the exception of three or four days, and all hands want to rest one week now, as we are up.

We note, from reports just received, that our North Texas markets are almost bare of honey, and none being produced this year, in that part of the state to amount to much. It may pay not to rush honey to market too hastily this year.

If you want to be sure to get your letters and advertisements to us in time for insertion in THE QUEEN, be sure and start them in time to reach us by the fifth of the month. We mean to come out promptly and on time, if possible, from now on.

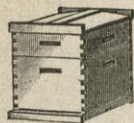
Chickens and bees go well together, as we are testing that this season. We keep chickens at our out-yards, and get eggs to eat when we go out and take dinner there. This is no sign of chicken pox, Bro. Hasty.

We have just received a 50 pound box of that beautiful Golden Foundation from Dadant & Son. This is the new process, and if there is room for another step up the foundation ladder, we cannot find where it is.

What's the matter with the Southern department in A. B. J? Wake up, Dr. Brown, and keep us posted on bee matters from the good old goober pea state. Your department was too good to be stopped.

A nice, and refreshing rain three nights ago, June 13th, put new life into vegetation and we may look for some honey soon.

We suppose that we are to have a bee paper from Georgia some of these days.



OUR SCHOOL.

Mrs. Jennie Atchley,
INSTRUCTOR.

LESSON NUMBER 11.

I have been in the bee business a short while, and I have good success so far. I began with one colony four years ago, and have not lost any yet; only some few have left for the woods and did not return.

(7.) It seems that some swarms are inclined to want to go to the woods, and I cannot persuade them to stay. What is best to be done in such cases?

A. M. BARFIELD.

Stone Point, Texas.

(7.) Try giving your swarms a frame of unsealed brood and honey from some colony that can spare it, and we think you will succeed in getting them to stay with you.

A couple of weeks ago I purchased of you, a queen, which I presented to a young friend of mine who (since my house burned) is taking care of my bees. For the present I am living two or three miles away from my old neighborhood, so I do not have opportunity to see the bees as often as I should.

(8.) On calling last evening I found that the queen was introduced, released by the bees, and when the hive was opened she was seen to be "balled." She was saved from the bees, re-caged, returned to the hive, and the hive smoked, some tobacco being used to soothe them, and it did it too successfully, as the other bees began robbing them. The hive was then shut up, and was in that condition when I saw it.

As it was very hot yesterday, I thought best to see how the bees looked, and I found them smothered. One frame which had been left without wiring had the comb break out. I brushed the combs off clean, and carried the hive body over and put it under a hive body of mine, with zinc queen excluding board between the two hive bodies, hoping my bees would take care of the combs in the lower story, and that the brood would not have been killed by the smothering of the bees; there were queen cells in the combs. Will you kindly let me know what you would have done under the circumstances?

(9.) Will the queen cells and other brood hatch? If so, will the excluder save the queens alive in both of the two stories?

E. G. WYLIE.

St. Louis, Mo.

(8.) You did about the best that could be done when you found the queen balled. If the brood was not scalded it will likely hatch, or most of it. In such cases we have nearly always found that some of the brood was injured, and if the bees hatch at all, they—or some of them—would have bad wings, legs, etc.

(9.) I would not like to risk the queens that would hatch from the cells you mention, still, they may be all right, and uninjured. When cells are placed in an upper story, with excluder between the upper and lower stories, the bees will usually honor them if they are prosperous and it is about swarming time, but we have found that many times cells are torn down and destroyed when left in

upper stories; with queens in brood chambers, under an excluder. If bees are queenless, your cells will surely be taken care of in both stories. If you have a queen below, and the bees are fixing to swarm, all cells will be cared for, the same as if they were queenless. From your question we cannot understand whether you have a queen in the hive, over which you placed your cells, or not.

I want to know more about the hives. I do not expect more than one swarm from each hive, but want to have them ready. I have my bees in common boxes with eight frames each, and a small box on top; these boxes are home made affairs.

(10.) You speak of 2 lbs. brood, and 1 lb. surplus, being the amount of foundation I need. Was that meant for the extra hives or for all together? Information about hives, foundation and every thing a beginner needs, is what I am after, and we look to you and THE QUEEN for it. Don't forget to tell us more about feeding.

MRS. ELLA M. BARNES.

Blackburn, O. T.

I wish I could, right here, impress upon the minds of my class, and all beginners, that I have been all along the line of hives, and it has cost lots of time and money to test all the hives that came along, and after all, when the conclusion was reached, it was a common box with a movable frame, that is THE hive. Don't worry about hives; settle down on some simple one, taking some of the standard frames,

(the L. frame, for instance) and put your energy and muscular force to work, right along with the bees. Have your simple hives and all fixtures ready before they are needed. Try to have your hives, frames, and fixtures uniform, get your bees strong before your honey flow begins, and when it does come, do not allow the bees to suffer for room. When the flow is over, harvest your crop, sell it; and put the money into your pocket, or use it, or a part of it, right then in getting ready for next year's crop. Be happy and sweet, if you can, even if your CASH is slim, some seasons. If I could succeed in having all of my class to be satisfied and contented with their incomes, and stick close to their bees, one year with another, and that it is not really necessary to buy every thing they see advertised for bee-keepers, I would feel that our school was a grand success. These instructions are for those that have small means, as those with plenty of money can afford to buy more than they really need, I suppose. Well, it is not really necessary to use foundation at all, notwithstanding, it may pay to do so. It is not really necessary to use zinc honey boards, nor sections, as you can raise honey without either, and just as sweet honey, and honey that may sell as well around your homes till you get started, then you can use all the above,

if you choose, I give such instructions as above for the benefit of so many of my scholars that think they must have every thing that is used in the apiary, before they can get along, or make a start, and most of them say they have but little money. You have surely lived up to the present; then hold on to what ever you have made a living at, till you can get bees enough to justify your laying all else aside, and giving the bees your whole attention. By this time you will have learned whether yours is a good honey locality, or not. If it is not, and you are bent on staying with your bees, pull out to where it is good for bees, run them for all they are worth, and I have got you where I started out to put you. All of these instructions do not properly come under the one question as above, but we are behind with school and give this lesson so as to cover, as near as we can, many questions that we cannot reach separately. It is only a sign of disturbance when you raise the cover to feed, and the bees swarm up, and does not signify swarming; 2 lbs. brood foundation and one of surplus, will make starters to insure straight combs for 4 hives. It is owing to how wide your starters are, how much will be needed.

Well, I thought I would drop you a few lines to have you answer me a few questions. I bought two swarms of bees

last Spring a year ago, and they were in small frames, only six inches deep, and I raised them up and put nine inch frames under them. The bees made it about one third full and the queen is still in the upper story.

(11.) Will you please tell me the best way to fix them, for I want to take the top frames off.

H. H. WAGONER.

Independence, Oregon.

(11.) The best way to get your bees out of the shallow frames, is to shake the bees into the lower story and put queen down with them, put on a queen excluding honey board, set your shallow frames back on top, and when the brood is all hatched out of the shallow frames, take off your shallow box, and your bees will be snugly housed below. This is one place where the queen excluding honey board comes in good play. If there is honey in your shallow frames, you can extract it.

(12.) My bees swarm and stay with me about twenty four hours, swarm again and try to leave. Please let me know how to keep them when they swarm.

JOHN OWENS.

Webster, Texas.

(12.) See the answer to question No. 7, this lesson. It would be well to make a good shade over the hives.

(13.) I want to ask you, as one who knows, and who has had much experience with Carniolan bees, what you think of them as to hardiness. Will they winter well in cold climates like this, where it runs five to ten degrees

below zero in winter?

J. A. GOLDEN.

Reinersville, Ohio.

(13.) From reports received from Northern customers I believe the Carniolans are hardy, and will stand the coldest winters of your state as well as any race of bees I could name. I have, for some time, thought they were a better bee for the North than for the South. I have but one serious charge against them for this country, and this may be, and I believe will be overcome by colder countries than this. They are fearful breeders, and when the honey flow stops they keep right on raising and breeding until every drop of their stores is consumed. This, I believe, will be overcome where it gets cold enough to make them stop rearing brood so heavily. They breed up quick, are energetic, good honey gatherers, and very gentle, make white honey, that is, they cap their honey white like black bees. The queen you mention, must have become disabled in some way. We find, as a rule, the Carniolans very prolific, and fine bees to care for their brood.

Since I received my extractor, it is just fun to extract honey, and get the money for it. I have sold \$19.25 worth of honey since the 13th of May; it sells like hot cake with butter all over it.

(14.) My bees lay out very badly, and do not swarm. Why is it? They will stand on their heads and look like

they are dancing, early every morning. I am a beginner in the business, and like THE QUEEN very much, for it teaches me how to manage my bees properly.

(15.) I had an idea that next time I extracted, I would lay a section down on the white comb, and imprint the size, cut it out and fix the combs in sections and raise section honey in a hurry. How will it do?

C. M. SMITH.

Lake, Texas.

(14.) Your bees lay out because the weather is warm, and they are likely full up inside. Bees sometimes lay out when they have plenty of room and but little honey in their hives. The reason they do not swarm, is, they are likely getting honey too fast, or not getting enough; either will hold them back from swarming. That peculiar motion you speak of is one thing you are ahead of me on. I have seen this ever since I have kept bees, and never could tell what caused it. I have noticed it more on hives or colonies where they were very rich in honey and just after the flow was over. They act like they wanted to scrape the alighting board clean, and so busy that they had no time for fun, as the bees thus engaged pay no attention to the balance, but just work like dear life depended on it.

(15.) This will work all right, if you use nice, white combs.

Some of our students have been asking for general directions, what ought to be done at certain times,

etc., but we have been so crowded out by other good matter that I have left it off, and it looks as though this lesson was getting too long, but I will give a few instructions. For those of you that live in the South, I will say that I would advise you to get your honey off now, as soon as the flows are over, and get your honey up in good shape and sell all of it in your home market if possible, if not, take it to your nearest big town and dispose of it in person, and direct to the consumers, unless the merchants will allow you within two and a half cents of what you can get at retail. It may then pay you to peddle it out for the two dollars and fifty cents per hundred pounds; this you are to judge. When you have sold your honey, and have rested up and returned home to your bees, I would advise you to see that all of them have shade at this season of the year, and over-haul them, noting that all have queens, and room, and it will do no harm to leave an empty super on each hive, so that if the bees should get cramped for room they will have a place to stay in out of the heat, instead of laying out on the outside of the hives. A super on top is one of the best things I ever tried to keep bees cool in hot weather. I have noticed that the empty space which it gives makes it cool, something like a hall-way in our houses, and the bees seldom are bothered with heat or melted combs. When each colony has been treated as above, I would let them remain unmolested about the same as in winter, till the fall flows begin, and then it may be necessary to give room, put on more supers etc., the same as in spring. These instructions are for those raising honey. Of course, if you have nothing to do during the summer, and you wish to try your hand at raising a few queens, it will be a good pastime, and may turn out very profitable, as some of your queens may be getting old, and some may not keep you good strong colonies, and these you can supersede with young queens you raise. If you have a good many bees, and you expect to get ready for your next year's crop, I will venture the assertion that you will not have much time to spare to any thing, but it may pay you to know how to rear your own queens, as then you will know what you are getting, and you can have the queens at the time you want them. It is right annoying to depend on buying your queens from a breeder, and about the time you wish them sent, that breeder gets behind and you can't get your queens as promptly as you expected. These things will come upon a queen breeder and he can't help himself. You never know today who will order a queen tomorrow,

and the queen breeder some times finds that every body wants queens at the same time, and the result is, he sells out in a single day all the queens he has ready for market. Do not fail to look after and save all the little bits of waste combs that some times accumulate about the apiary, as it may be well to let you know that bees wax is ready sale, and usually brings twice as much per pound as honey. With these few scattering, general directions, I will close till July, and then try to answer up all your questions that remain, and what new ones that come in.



I have been thinking for two or three years that I would have a talk with you about re-queening my apiary. I have just learned of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN, and I ask you to send it to me. Any information about how to re-queen, or other advice will be highly appreciated.

MRS. ALFRED OSBORN.

Norfolk, Neb.

There are several ways that I might name that would be good plans to re-queen an apiary. If you have no queens in your own yards that you wish to breed from,

I would advise you to get a good breeder, and raise your queens according to my plan, laid down in our catalogue, a copy of which I mail you today. About three days before your queens hatch, that you have started for the purpose of re-queening, I would take out all the queens that you wish to supersede, and on the morning of the day the cells are to hatch, take out your cells, leaving one in each hive where they were built, and give each colony that you have made queenless, a cell. If you will do this, according to the instructions given in the catalogue, you will likely have good success. Try to have none but good drones in your yards at the time you are re-queening, and I will assure you that you will get a grand improvement in the way of new blood and new stock.

Do you practice the Doolittle plan of queen rearing in full, or how do you rear your queens?

W. J. FOREHAND.

Ft. Deposit, Ala.

We do not practice the Doolittle plans any more, further than we dip wax cells according to Doolittle, only with the variation of a small sink in the bottom of cell cups, made to take the cocoons. We record your subscription as requested, and any information that I am able to give you in this department I will gladly do so. We also mail you a copy of catalogue

describing our plans of queen rearing in full.

I wish to know how to raise and manage the queen bee. Any information you will give me will be thankfully received, as I have a few bees and want to get some more queens from them.

MRS. ELIZA J. HARLES.

Webber's Falls, I. T.

Judging from your questions, or your letter rather, I think that the best way for you to rear queens, would be for you to take the queen away from some one of your strongest colonies, and also take all the unsealed brood, and the third day after, give this colony a frame of eggs and larvæ from the queen you wish to raise from, and the bees will start cells at once on that frame. Then mark the day you put this frame of eggs and larvæ in the queenless hive, so you will not lose track of the date, and on the twelfth day, counting the day you put the frame in, remove all the cells but one, to nuclei prepared to receive them. Your nuclei should be made about three days before your cells hatch, to be sure the bees will not tear them down. If you do not wish to prepare nuclei to receive your cells, and wish to re-queen your apiary, you must take out your old queens, (which you wish to supersede,) three days before your cells are ready to take off. Now, I might go on and tell how to rear queens in a half dozen ways, but

I think this one will be the best for you. If your bees are prosperous and it is about swarming time, you may have some swarms, as, at such times, the young queens that hatch from the cells you put in the hives do not tear down all the cells, but wait till they are sealed, and lead off swarms. About twelve days after your young queens hatch out, better go 'round and examine all the hives and see if there are eggs in the cells, and if you find any that are not laying you had better give them a frame of brood from some other hive, so there will not be a worker, or workers go to laying, as a hive a long time queenless will take what we term laying worker, and then they are so much harder to get to accept a queen. If you think one frame of brood is not sufficient to keep the strength of the colony up, better give them two. This would be a place where it might pay better to purchase a queen than wait to rear one. The bees will start cells on the brood you give them and rear themselves a queen, but they might possibly miss again, as we have found that when queens have been lost one time, or the hive has had luck one time, I might put it, they seem to have it again, and it might be better to give them a laying queen the last round if you can get one. While I am at it, I will state that I do not like the queens as well, as a rule, that are

reared by the bees the second round as the first, as they seem to lose some of their vitality, and make short, dumpy cells from which hatch out inferior queens. I believe it is best to have a hive chock full of young bees if we want to get the best cells every time, and use colonies that are prosperous, and in a very thriving condition. I do not think that I could say too much along the line of trying to impress upon your minds the very great importance of having all good queens in your hives you wish to run for honey if you expect to derive a benefit, or get a honey crop.

My bees are doing finely this season. Entered Spring with 22 colonies, lost one, had only four swarms (natural). Did not divide. Now have 25 colonies, all in good condition, and working like beavers. We have the best honey flow of the past eight years. I run for comb honey. Twenty hives now have two supers on each, and already full. The general temperature of heat here in the shade has been about 80° nearly all the Spring since April 1st. My Italian colony has not swarmed yet. Two black colonies scored the first sealed honey, notwithstanding the fact that the Italians had a super on two months ahead of any of the blacks. I think I shall take off several supers full in less than a

week. The bees of my neighbors have swarmed but very little this Spring. The moth worm is destroying a great many colonies throughout the country. Yet, so far, I have not been troubled with the worm since I adopted the frame hives and have the frames correct as to spaces. At first (1893) some of my frames were too near the floor by mistake in the make. Then I found worms, but none since. I shall expect 1,000 pounds (section) comb honey this year. For this country that is remarkable. This beats making cotton, if I get at least ten cents per pound.

R. A. WHITFIELD.

Westville, Miss.

We have never had a better honey flow than has been on for ten days, (from poplar). I have to take full combs of honey from my queen rearing colonies as fast as the brood hatches out, I may fill a top story of a ten frame hive full of brood, and put the queen below on empty combs or foundation, and every thing is soon so full of honey there is no place for the queen to lay. This was the only Spring I ever knew, that I was unable to have all hives full of bees by May first, owing to the fact that Winter lasted until April tenth, and Summer came on at once, which forced vegetation to the front, and ahead of many colonies, but some of them are getting there just the same,

and the weak ones, nuclei etc. are all filling their combs chock full. I have had only one swarm, as I used all my strong colonies, early, for queen rearing. White clover is blooming, but is not noticed much, and will be injured unless it rains soon. Persimmon trees are coming in bloom now, and if the season continues favorable it will take two counties to hold me. I am not expecting many swarms, as the honey will have to be moved up or the queens given holiday, if the flow continues.

I am too full of honey now to say any more about it, for my next letter may be a complete set back.

W. H. PRIDGEN.

Creek, N. C.

I have done fairly well this year with my bees, having taken over a hundred weight per hive, and nearly one hundred sections to the hive, and more of both to come.

A. AYLING.

Dubbo, N. S. W., March, 1896.

[It will be remembered that the seasons in Australia are just to the reverse of ours, that is, when we have Winter they have Summer, etc.—ED.]

You Southwest Texas bee folks are about to drown us up here with honey. I acknowledge a 500 lb. barrell and 3 cases from you, and I see it all over this country.

W. A. EVANS.

Gober, Texas.

SOME PLAIN TALK.

BY JOHN ORVAL.

Say, you printer man you, what sets the type for THE QUEEN, what made you head my other epistle "Papers Reviewed?" Them papers aint goin to school to me, all in the world I was doin was tellin of a few young thoughts that had sprouted up in my old cranium, but go ahead, printers will be printers, and they are too cunning a set for me, so I will let you alone.

That MAY QUEEN! gee!! whizz!!! But hush, don't tell the A. B. J. that you had a lot of extra pages, it might kick. And that made me think about that "personal" where Bro. York was disputin' with that woman about the queen trade. Say, York, give me the name of that woman that reported a sale ten times too big, and John Orval will show her up in the light she so justly deserves. Out with it, I am a dandy at showin' up frauds, and now I must know who it is. It is too much like an old settin hen, to be mouthin around and never say any thing, and thats why John Orval wants a finger in the pie; he aint afraid to say.

In the course of human events it becomes necessary to add to the progress of our country and our industry, and in consequence I see a new journal coming from the good state of California. The Pa-

cific Bee Journal. Let me see, yes, it is a dandy little journal, with but one fault, it don't come often enough. Bennett seems to be one of these open countenanced kind of fellers that ain't afraid to dig into the "big" ones, and that's what will win. California is too good a honey country to be without a bee paper of her own, and the Journal bids fair to do her credit.

But where's my other papers? All laid away, I recon. Well, I'll glance at THE QUEEN again. Yes, Jack hid the Smoker. That infernal little dickens, that's just like a kid. I can immagin I see that boy now, sitting there pumping like play—not work, for if it was work he wouldn't do it.

Texas Conventions for 1896-7.

Central Texas Bee-keepers' Association.

Meets at Cameron, August 4 and 5 1896. No hotel bills to pay.

C. B. BANKSTON, COR. SECY.
Chriesman, Texas.

S. W. Texas Bee-keepers' Association.

Meets at Beeville, Sept. 16 and 17, 1896. No hotel bills to pay.

J. O. GRIMSLEY, SECY.
Beeville, Texas.

Texas State Bee-keepers' Association.

Meets at Greenville, April 7 and 8, 1897. No hotel bills to pay.

W. H. WHITE, SECY.
Blossom, Texas.

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I can now supply Holyland queens, untested, at \$1.50 each, or 6 for \$8.00. Tested, \$3.00 each, or 6 for \$16.00. Breeders, the very best, \$10.00 each.

Willie Atchley, Beeville, Texas.


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If so, we have something special
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Make your head boozy.

Better write today, and see
what we will do. We must get
the printing for our Southern
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Pleasing our Patrons.



DEW DROPS.

I like the advt. in *QUEEN* very much. Thanks. *THE QUEEN*, too, is booming ahead in a most praiseworthy manner. Success to it and company. We hear from it also. Cherries are in bloom and Summer is here.

T. F. BINGHAM.

Farwell, Mich.

[What more cheering words could be uttered? We can imagine the birds singing in those cherry trees.—ED.]

My year's subscription to *THE QUEEN* is out. Please renew, as I cannot do without it.

JACK CRAWFORD.

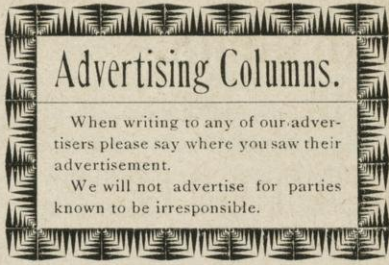
Hannibal, Texas.

[This is what many of our subscribers say, and all indicate, as we have not yet lost a single subscriber, and new ones steadily come. This will make us a fine paper by and by, and we are very thankful to our friends for their support.—ED.]

I received all the copies of *THE QUEEN*, and was very pleased with them, every issue is an improvement on the one before it, and there is not one of them but has been of great value to me.

W. S. PENDER.

West Maitland, N. S. W.



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I would not exchange

for any in the world. Am well equipped for the business; give it my personal attention; rear all the queens I sell, and do not intentionally send out any except the best. Those who prefer buying untested queens will find it to their interest to write for descriptive circular and prices, as I have Italianized my neighbors' bees, free of cost, for my own protection, and seldom have a queen mismatch. Diseases among bees are unknown in this section. Try a **Tar Heel Queen**, and if I fail to treat you right, report me. My Money Order office is Warrenton.

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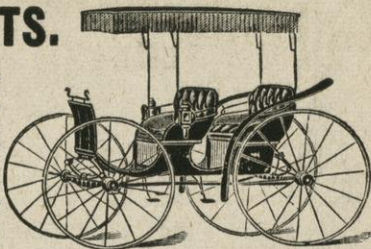
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W. T. Lewis, - - - Miller, Miss.

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Graham

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Select tested, for breeder,	- -	3.00
The very best for breeders,	-	5.00

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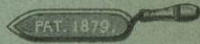
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