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## **The Nebraska bee-keeper. Vol 3, No. 8 August, 1892**

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Vol. 3,

AUGUST, 1892.

No. 8.

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**NEBRASKA BEEKEEPER**

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Official Organ of the Nebraska State Bee-Keepers Association.  
STILSON & SONS, Editors and Publishers.

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### Lessons of the Season.

**O**UR SUBJECT WOULD INDICATE that the Apiarist was a student, which is a fact, and he who refuses to learn is no longer a progressive bee-keeper. Each season brings lessons which are new. Each day brings to light something in the Apiary, a little different from that of the day before.

And even the *oldest bee-keeper* often sees conditions and things as he never saw them before, while the new beginner is too often brought in contact with that which is entirely new to him and not always laid down in the text books.

As apiarists we have all of us been brought to face conditions different from ever before. The spring opening late, cold and wet, gave our bees little chance to build up early, then when fruit bloom came, continued wet prevented large secretions of honey, and even what little was secreted by the flowers, could hardly be gathered for want of sunny weather in which the bees could work. This left many colonies of bees in starving condition just when they should have been building up fast.

With June came brighter skies and the one who had fed his pets through the gloom now saw them begin to get down to steady work. From early morn till late at night pollen and honey was being brought in by the tireless work-

ers. White clover bloomed in greater profusion than we ever saw before and now we have had an uninterrupted honey flow from it for over sixty days. During this entire time we have had but three or four days in which the bees did not work on account of bad weather. Such a honey flow we never saw before.

Two and three-frame nuclei colonies have built up into good colonies and have filled 8-frame hives with brood and honey in two and three weeks.

Surplus cases have been filled, while swarms have come and gone earlier than common, in fact so early that few were prepared and consequently many an apiarist had his dish wrong side up while it was raining honey.

From these facts what have we learned and will we profit by this season's experience.

It is said, experience teaches a dear school and that some people will learn in no other. How is it with us who are willing to take heed and get ready for the honey flow, by having our colonies strong? Has not the increased amount of honey stored this season paid for the little feed the bees were given earlier?

There were also other ways in which we were not ready for the present honey flow. When swarms began to come, too often there was no hive to put them

in. Old colonies filled their hives and no surplus cases had been purchased. Off the bee keeper goes to the supply dealer for supplies. Here again the same thing confronted them. The demand, thirty days in advance of previous years, found stocks incomplete. Hives had to be made to fill the orders, and already the local dealers have more than doubled any previous years' trade. Those who have made a specialty of raising queens and bees for the trade have been crowded to fill orders, more enquiry being made for good queens and bees by beginners.

So far, we have had a prosperous year, although it was dark and rainy and bees were starving, but "every cloud has its silver lining," so we all hope the silver may line many a purse as the pay for the honey comes in.

### Bee-Keeping Notes.

**M**RS. General, one of Dickens' characters, taught her pupils in etiquette to say "prunes and prism" in order to put the countenance into a pleasing state of calm. I do not know of a business that requires a greater control over the emotions than bee-keeping; and not only is a formula for the preservation of the outward calm required, but also one that will keep the inner man unruffled. A nervous, excitable man can never do anything with bees, unless it be the "tame" kind, which by the way, I take but little stock in. I believe that a colony of bees that permits the combs to be overhauled by the bee-keeper without a lively protest, will be too sleepy to defend itself from robber bees, and in the spring and fall, when honey is not to be found in the fields, will fall an easy victim to its neighbors who possess more "get up."

I know one bee-keeper who starts up a good old long meter Methodist hymn whenever he enters his apiary, and keeps it going till he leaves; not so

much with a view of charming his audience as to having his movements unconsciously adapt themselves to the slow time of the tune.

A hive of bees should never be approached from the front, but always from the rear. The sense of smell in bees is very highly developed, and a person who is perspiring should take extra precautions while near the hives. Sweating horses are particularly subject to attacks from bees, yet, I believe the bees are first attracted by the salty perspiration (salt water being a tid-bit to bees), and are led into stinging the horses by the stamping, switching and otherwise excitable demeanor of the animals.

Many inquiries come to me in regard to the value of a swarm of bees. There is as much relative difference in the worth of bees as there is in horses; ranging from less than nothing up to a considerable sum. One man in Massachusetts values a single queen bee that belongs to him at \$100. Two hives of bees in my apiary, standing side by side seem outwardly to be of about equal value, but one will make close to 150 pounds of honey this season, and the other will barely have enough to winter on. A good average swarm should be worth \$5 at least, but the selling of bees is so easily open to fraud for the reason that buyers are usually new to the bee business that they should be bought only of parties known to be responsible.

"Sunflower honey" is a term wrongfully applied to bitter, strong and ill-flavored honey in the state—and there is lots of it, too. Sunflowers yield no honey. Bees work on sunflowers for pollen to feed brood, but there is not a particle of nectar in this species of flower. The bitter honey mainly comes from May weed, fire weed and ragweed on which bees work when there is nothing better in bloom to keep them employed.

Kansas honey enjoys to some extent

the same reputation that Kansas butter used to hold. Anything that was greasy, and dubbed "butter" by its maker, was butter, and went into the antique barrel reserved for butter, along with doubtful wads that came in dubious looking cloths and natty little rolls adorned with pine apple stamps. All brought the same price and most of it went out of the state for soap grease. "Honey is honey" to a great many, and they are just as apt to buy, if it is cheap, a black, oozy compound of bee bread and brimstone, sailing under the name of honey, as they are to buy a neat white section of the most delicious flavored nectar ever made. The people need educating into a liking for the best grades alone; all inferior honey should be fed back to the bees, as its sale to a grocery will not only lessen the demand for, but lower the price of good honey.—*James Burton, Jamestown, Kan, in the Kansas Weekly Capital.*

### Large Colonies.

Several years ago I secured 566 lbs., of honey from one colony of bees, and reported the same to several different papers, especially those devoted to bee culture. This was considered a large yield at that time, and is still so considered by those who have not kept posted along the lines of large yields since then, yet many of our best beekeepers believe that it is possible to obtain 1,000 pounds from a single colony; in fact, nearly or quite that amount has been reported by two individuals, while reports of 600 pounds or more have been quite frequent. However, as some are skeptical on this point of large yields, believing that they are more fallacious than otherwise, perhaps a few words about how it is done will not be amiss.

In the spring of the year above alluded to, I selected an ordinary colony of bees and set it apart for extracted honey. This colony was no better than one-third of my apiary would average,

and was not helped in the least from any other colony. I built them up as fast as possible by the plan known as "spreading of brood," being very careful that I did not go too fast in the very early part of the season, for at this time there is danger of chilling the brood by this process, unless much care is used. By the time apple trees were in bloom, the queen had brood in 12 frames, and from that source I extracted 16½ pounds. A few days after this, the 12 frames, bees and all, were set into a hive four feet long, and a division board placed at the rear of the combs. Once a week two more empty combs were inserted in the center of the brood nest until the hive contained 20 combs well filled with brood. As white clover was now yielding honey, the hive was filled out with frames of empty combs, which numbered 32. I did not expect that the queen would occupy any of these last 12 combs, but in this, I was mistaken, for before white clover was through yielding honey, I found brood in every one of the 32 combs, which, if placed compactly together, was fully equal to 15 frames full of brood. Each frame gave 100 square inches, and each square inch gives 50 worker bees; hence there were 5,000 bees to hatch out of these frames every 21 days, or 75,000 from the 15 frames. The average life of the worker bee, in the working season, is 45 days; hence it will be seen that the queen can place two and one-seventh generations of bees on the stage of action, to where one generation dies off. Two and one-seventh times 75,000 equals 160,700, as the number of bees in that hive during basswood bloom. It was a sight worth beholding when they were just starting out for the field in the morning, for they would rush out like an army, and then, later, the entrance would be one living mass surging to and fro. From clover they gave 186 pounds; from basswood 287½; and from buckwheat 76 pounds, making 566 pounds in all.

Now, supposing that instead of securing this large amount of bees in one hive I had paid no attention to them, but had left the bees to take care of themselves, as the most of the doubting ones do, what would I have had? The queen would have only laid moderately, so that by the time the white clover had begun to yield honey, they would have had only about from 25,000 to 30,000 bees. At about this time the bees would have swarmed, thus dividing their numbers, while there would have been no laying queen in the hive from which the swarm issued to lay eggs for the basswood and buckwheat workers for nearly three weeks. Besides this, there would in all probability have issued one or more after-swarms, thus dividing the bees still more, and defeating the prospect for any honey at all from the old colony; so that, were we to call 20,000 bees an ordinary colony, as kept by the majority of beekeepers, we would not be far out of the way. This would give us about 71 lbs., per colony had my bees had my bees been divided up in that way; so that, in reality, what would be considered by many a big story, when brought down in this way to its proportion according to the number of bees there were in the hive, is nothing very great after all; for no one would call 71 pounds of extracted honey per colony in a good season an exaggerated report. The main point that many of us should learn is, that it is bees which gather honey, not the number of hives which we have standing in the yard. The outside elements do not have that chilling effect on the hive of a populous colony that they do on a hive with a few bees in it. Thus more bees go to the field, and all work to better advantage. The main secret in securing a large yield of honey is to get plenty of bees just at the right time to take advantage of the honey harvest. If gotten too early they are of little use, and if too late they only

become consumers instead of producers. Where any person thoroughly understands their locality and works so as to have plenty of bees at the time the honey-producing flowers open, they will have no cause to complain of their yield if these flowers secrete honey. On this one thing depends our success more largely than on anything else connected with the apiary.—*G. M. Doolittle, in The American Farmer.*

### The Foul Brood Question,

and Chas. Whites' say.

I am aware that the statements I am about to make are a little wild, after so much has been said by our professors and others high in authority.

It is possible that the cases I have had to handle were very mild, if they were not, then I will say it is not such a terrible pest as has been supposed. I have never had a case of it in my own apiary, but have tested several colonies that were badly effected and in every case have made what seems to be perfect cases.

I treated eleven colonies in June that were so bad, that they were reduced in strength that I united them, making six colonies out of them. They all have plenty of young bees and their hives full of healthy brood, with not a sign of the disease to be found.

Here is the treatment they got: I started with one new hive, shook the bees from the frames of two of the diseased colonies in front of the new hive destroying one of the queens. The new hive had been prepared with starters in the brood frames, the starters being  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch wide. Then we took the diseased hives and boiled them about ten minutes each, then that gave me clean hives to transfer in and as fast as the hives were emptied they were boiled. Each hive that we used had starters in the same as the first, except one colony which was a little stronger than the rest and I gave them full sheets of

foundation. The colonies were all fed twice, about one quart at each feed of syrup made from granulated sugar with about one ounce of Salicylic acid to 50 pounds of syrup. I sprinkled the bees with this preparation in hiving them, and placing a Hill feeder full on each colony, refilling them the third day. I removed the brood frames from the five colonies that had the starters replacing them with new frames and starters, leaving the one that had the full sheets of foundation. They were all fed alike and are all apparently rid of the disease.

After making the transfer everything that had been used about the diseased hives were either boiled or burned and cleaned up thoroughly, the work taking about half a day.

I have been making an experiment with a diseased colony, treating them without removing the combs. There were three combs that was badly diseased, I sprinkled them with thin syrup with double strength acid and fed them about one quart a week of syrup prepared the same as the first. That was a month ago that I commenced to treat them and at the present time there are no signs of foul brood in the hive and the diseased combs are all cleaned up in fine shape. Will report on them again.

Chas. White says it takes a third more honey to winter bees outdoors than it does in the cellar. Those in the cellar use one pound of honey in fifteen days, or very near that, while those in single walled hives, out of doors, use a pound in ten days or about that average for ninety days.

Bee culture has more public encouragement in England than here. The reports show that about \$3000 has been appropriated by the government to provide free teaching in practical bee culture.

### Nebraska Italians.

Dr. Miller, July 5th, says: "Do you want company and comfort in your misery? Well, here I am this 5th of July with 130 colonies (if some of them didn't die last night) left out of 289, some of them mere nuclei, and not a bee working in supers, and some hives with not a drop of honey to be seen in the brood combs. But it might be worse."—*Marengo, Ill.*

The company we had when the above was written, were all who kept bees—the comfort was the fact that three out of every five colonies were storing surplus honey at that that date, and white clover at that! We like to brag while we can, so score another point for our "Nebraska Italians."

Sealed Covers and Absorbents still occupy considerable attention in bee periodicals. Bees must be kept dry, in a warm, dry cellar, with the hives raised from the bottom boards, it matters little, so far as the bees are concerned, whether the covers are sealed or not. Out of doors the covers must be protected if they are left sealed, then they will be warm, and there will be no condensation of moisture over the bees; it will take place at the sides and corners of the hive, or near the entrance. If the cover is removed, and the bees covered with some porous packing, the moisture will pass up through the packing and condense above it. Packing should never be used with the intent that it should absorb and retain the moisture. There must be abundant ventilation above the packing to allow the excess of moisture to pass off.—*Bee Keepers' Review.*

In the region of the dead lakes in Florida there are 2,500 colonies of bees, and the apiary of Alderman & Roberts contains 1,300, which is the largest in the state and excelled by few in the United States or in the world.



—THE—

**Nebraska Beekeeper.**

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

Subscription Price, 50 Cents per Year.

STILSON & SONS, Editors and Publishers.  
York, Nebraska.**Conventions.**

North American Bee Keepers Association. President, Eugene Secor, Forest City, Iowa. Secretary, W. Z. Hutchinson, Ffint, Mich.

National Bee Keepers Union. President, James Heddon, Dowigac, Mich. Secretary and Manager, T. G. Newman, Chicago.

Nebraska Bee Keepers Association. President, E. Whitcomb, Friend, Neb. Secretary, L. D. Stilson, York, Neb. Next meeting, Lincoln, Neb., Sept. 7-8, 1892.

August 17, Wabash Valley at Vincennes, Ind.; Frank Vawter, Sec., Vincennes, Ind.

Aug. 27, at South Cayuga, Ont.; E. C. Campbell, Sec., Cayuga, Ont.

Oct. 7, at Salt Lake City, Utah; John C. Swaner, Sec., Salt Lake City, Utah.

Jan. 13-14, 1893; S. W. Wisconsin, at Boscobel.

E. F. Quigley, of the Progressive Bee Keeper has purchased the interests of the other members of the Publishing Co., and will now run alone. We wish him success as he is a live man and deserves it.

It sounds a little old fashioned to see in the eastern bee papers, the same old story we heard when a boy, in western New York, when the basswood and white clover blossoms furnished all the honey, except a little occasionally later from buckwheat. Then it was definitely known how much surplus honey we had when these flowers failed, while here our bees are generally in all their glory until frost. Our largest honey flow often coming after theirs has entirely passed, giving us three times as long a season as theirs.

Convention did you say? Yes sir, and not a political convention either, but a meeting of the good men and women, who are interested in keeping bees. It will be held in Lincoln, Neb., Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 7 and 8. The president, Mr. Whitcomb, of Friend, is expected to wield the gavel and expound bee knowledge, wholesale, or until he gets tired, then he may call upon such members of the fraternity, as may seem best suited to him to give practical lessons to the listeners. Now as this meeting is to be held in the Honey Hall on the State Fair Grounds, which is to be twice as large as it used to be, it is supposed that the surroundings will give inspiration to the speaker, and all keep sweet. Don't fail to be there, Whitcomb and the rest expect you, don't disappoint or be disappointed.

We are in receipt of the Premium List of the St. Joseph Fair Association. Fair to be held in St. Joseph, Mo., Sept., 13 to 17 inclusive. They offer a fine list of premiums and especially do they recollect the bee keepers with the best line of premiums we have seen offered by any society, and should be well patronized in that line at least.

Prof. Chas. E. Bessey, of the State University is getting up a display of the honey plants of Nebraska, and wishes the co-operation of the bee keepers. If you will help him in making this collection, send him a postal card asking for instructions.

We are after your money, and in return will give full value in good reading. 50 cents pays for The Nebraska Bee-Keeper one year. For \$1.35 we give the American Bee Journal with our paper. For \$1.25 the Nebraska Farmer and our paper. For 85 cents the Breeder and Fancier and our paper. For 65 cents the American Farm and Horticulturist with our paper. If you pay your money, take your choice.

The Annual meeting of the Nebraska State Bee Keepers Association, is held in the Honey Hall, on the State Fair Grounds, at Lincoln, Neb., on the evenings of September 7 and 8th, with day sessions on the 8th as may be deemed best.

## PROGRAM.

### *First Day.*

Roll Call, Presidents Address, Report of Officers, Papers and Discussions.

### *Second Day.*

Election of Officers, Papers and Discussions.

The following persons and papers are designated:

- Where should we market our surplus honey, . . . . E. Whitcomb.
- Queen Rearing . . . . . Chas. White,
- Woman as a Bee Keeper . . . . . Mrs. J. N. Heater.
- Bee Journalism . . . . . L. D. Stilson.
- Nebraska and Iowa as honey producing states. . E. Kretchmer, Red Oak, Iowa.
- Bee Keeping as an avocation . . . . . Aug. E. Davidson.
- Honey producing plants . . . . . A. C. Tyrrell.
- How to begin right in the Apiary . . . . . J. M. Carr.
- Difficulties of a beginner . . . . . W. F. Jenkins,
- The hive we use, and why we use it, Discussion, led by Levering Bros.  
Statistics of the year, Secretary.

We would like to meet every bee keeper in the state at this meeting.

L. D. Stilson, Secretary.

E. Whitcomb, President.

### Personalities in Conversation.

Keep clear of personalities in general conversation. Talk of things, objects, thoughts. The smallest minds occupy themselves with personalities. Personalities must sometimes be talked, because we have to learn and find out men's characteristics for legitimate objects; but it is to be with confidential persons. Do not needlessly report ill of others. There are times when we are compelled to say, "I do not think that Bouncer is a true and honest man," but when there is no need to express an opinion, let poor Bouncer swagger away. Others will take his measure, no doubt, and save you the trouble of analyzing him and instructing them.

And as far as possible dwell on the good side of human beings. There are family boards where a constant process

of depreciating, assigning motives and cutting up of character goes forward, they are not pleasant places. One who is healthy does not want to dine at a dissecting table. There is evil enough in man, God knows; but it is not the mission of every young man or woman to detail or report it all. Keep the atmosphere as pure as possible, and fragrant with gentleness and charity. X

Florists are not like bee keepers. You can't subscribe for the American Florist without some proof that you are already a florist. But bee keepers coax you to enter their ranks.

It is now decided to close the World's Fair buildings on Sunday.

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## The Home and Garden.

### The Pansy Bed.

This is the month to prepare a pansy bed for next year. There are few flowers that give as much satisfaction and enjoyment as pansies, and after a bed is once started you have it for years. Select a shady place—the north side of the house is best. Spade the earth thoroughly and put on a good quantity of cow or hen manure and work it in thoroughly. Horse manure is heating, so only a little of it should be used.

After the bed is in perfect condition, sow the seed and next summer you will have a lovely bed of pansies. Add a few seeds or plants from year to year if you desire new varieties. They blossom so abundantly that your house may have a bouquet from early spring until severe frosts come, and the closer they are picked the longer the blossoms will keep,—*American Farm News*.

### The "Bad Lands."

**P**ERHAPS very few, if any at all, ever stop to think Nebraska has one of the grandest natural wonders there is, yet so close by that we do not see it. The "Bad Lands" are a section country near, and are a part of the Black Hills in Northwestern Nebraska and Southwestern Dakota. Whatever gave the country its name, no one hardly seems to know, unless it was on account of its barren, desolate and unsightly appearance. No vegetation grows to speak of, sometimes a stray shrub or stunted tree may adorn the top of a precipice or grow in some crevice, but that is about all. The surface of the ground is very broken, there being high peaks, steep banks, etc.

The wonder of the place is, the way that almost everything turns to stone, or petrifies; fish, turtles, frogs, old

stumps, sticks, etc., are to be found in abundance. In talking with a man who has traveled through this country a great deal, he said: "I could fill my wagon box full of these specimens and wonders in the day's trip that I took in one of the valleys."

The State sent out an expedition this summer, to explore this region, obtain specimens and information about the country, and study it from a scientific point of view, so we may, later on, find out more definite about it. The expedition gathered a car-load of these wonders, and it is expected that they will be placed on exhibition at the State Fair at Lincoln this fall. Reading of, and seeing stray specimens does not give a person much idea of the magnitude and grandeur of the place.

On August 30th and September 27th, the Fremont and Elkhorn R. R., run excursions to this section of country, giving a chance to visit the "Bad Lands," the Black Hills, and the famous Hot Springs of South Dakota. The car fare is one rate for round trip and can stop over on the going trip to look up Government land, take up a Homestead, etc., returning inside of 20 days. No one should miss going to see this country, and see its wonders.

### Handling Garden Crops For Profit.

The only variety of cucumber recognized, whether in glass or field-culture, is the White Spine. It is sold in bushel boxes, and should be of such size that 90 will evenly fill the box. Cucumbers are sold by count, and if the number is short, the trade knows that there are overgrown, seedy ones in the bottom. If the number is more than 90, they are too small to please retail customers. Therefore, a box containing 90 cucumbers brings the top price if they are straight and true in shape.

Asparagus is done up in bunches of one pound each, and exposed for sale in bushel-boxes. The less white found

in a bunch, and the larger the individual sprouts, the better is the price that can be obtained for them. Many find it profitable to make two sorts of bunches, putting the smaller and white stalks in separate bundles, thereby obtaining enough more for the best to return a better price for the gross lot.—  
*American Garden for August.*

### An Idea.

The average farmers garden is indeed a place to be seen. Pa don't have time, ma has so much to do, the boys can't hoe, and so the garden tends itself. It is generally the scratching place for the hens, the rooting ground for the pigs, and kind of a side pasture for the calf. It is most always in among the trees, where the roots take the life out of the ground, and the tops keep out the sunshine; where there is no room to cultivate or tend it by horse power.

The old saying, "What's in a name" may be sometimes well applied, as in this case, it is nice that we can call the patch of "stuff" back among the cotton wood trees, the garden.

The excuse generally given is, "the seed didn't grow." You stop and think, and then ask yourself, what could grow in such a place? A place too poor to grow respectable weeds even.

Now, is it not about time this state of affairs came to a close? Yes, but how? This fall, take some corner of the field, next the house, but away from all trees; Plow it, with a big P, that is, don't cut and cover. In the spring, build a chicken fence to keep the hens in: put the pigs in the "pork barrel," and carry the calf to a butcher shop.

"So far, so good." Now, plow the ground, and harrow it thorough and well, then commence planting. Don't put in early peas and lima beans the same day at least. Let pa take time, make the boys help hoe, and ma, well,

let her cook the vegetables.

A few healthy looking weeds, among thrifty growing vegetables is not to be despised, half so much, as a lot of runty sickly-looking weeds among worse looking vegetables.

### Japan Farms.

Land is so valuable that no space is allowed for grass plats. No weeds are to be seen in any of the cultivated plats. Every inch of ground is put to the most profitable use. A few narrow paths are made in the fields where necessary, but there are no roads, and no room for wheeled vehicles or machines. The work of cultivation is done by hand, and the tools are models of simplicity. The tool used for cutting barley or wheat consists of a sharp blade, placed at right angles to the shafting, which is about two feet long. Their corn is cut very carefully, so that the adjoining plants are not injured. There is no room in the fields for drying the sheaves, as the ground must be used immediately after harvest for other crops.

The corn sheaves are tied up in bundles and securely fastened to houses, fences and trees. The ears are always placed downward, so that the rain may run off. During the harvest season the eaves and verandas of every village house are stacked about with neat bundles of grain that will be beaten out as soon as dry. In July the fields are made ready for the rice, after being properly banked up and irrigated. Rice is a staple, but is regarded as a luxury among the farmers, being used only on holidays or in case of illness.

The farms are very small, the average being from one to three acres. A ten acre plat is considered a large farm. The methods of cultivation, the succession of crops, and even the kind of machinery used are the same as they were 2,000 years ago, yet no country produces so much per acre as Japan.

**A Homemade Fountain.**

A fountain is a lovely addition to a bow-window full of plants, and one can be made at a small outlay of money and time. A water tight keg, holding perhaps three pailsful of water, is placed on a stand five or six feet in height. Cover the outside of the keg with shells pebbles, cones, etc., or simply give it a couple coats of paint. Two or three small boxes are fastened about, here and there, on the keg to hold vines and drooping plants. A lead pipe, a fourth inch in diameter, is inserted in the bottom, and fitted with a tap, in case you wish to shut the water off at any time. Below the keg is placed a small tub. The pipe runs down from the keg and up through the bottom of the tub for sixteen or eighteen inches. A thimble is soldered on top of the pipe, and has one or two rows of fine holes drilled around the sides and in the top. This of course, forms the fountain. It must be slightly lower than the pipe is where it enters the keg, in order that the water

may find its level, or force itself up through the thimble. A little rockery built up in the middle of the tub around the pipe, a small water plant or two, and several gold and silver fish, or some common minnows and it is complete. The tub must hold more water than the keg, but one can, of course, suit her own pleasure or convenience in regard to the size of the whole thing. When the water has all run out of the keg it must be dipped back into it again.

"But," says some one, "that's so much trouble." That's according to how you define the word trouble, my friend. Of course it takes a little time, but if you try it, I think you will agree with me that the end justifies the means. From simply reading the description of it one has no idea how pretty a fountain like this is. The moisture it throws out is very beneficial to the plants about it, and it gives a most delicious sense of coolness to a room during the hot days of summer.—M. A. D., in the *House-keeper*.

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## BEE SUPPLIES

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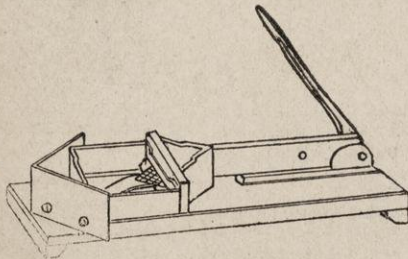
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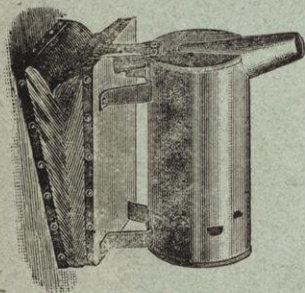
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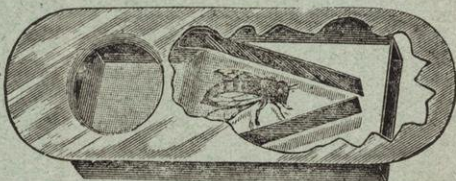
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