

The progressive bee-keeper. Vol. VII, No. VI June 1, 1897

Higginsville, Mo.: Leahy Mfg. Co., June 1, 1897

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JUNE 1, 1897.

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We will send the Progressive	Bee Keeper with
The Review	
Gleanings	
American Bee Journal	1 00 1 35
Canadian Bee Journal	1 00 1 35
American Bee Keeper	50 85
Colman's Rural World	
Journal of Agriculture	1 00 1 35
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BEE BOOKS.

No bee keeper can afford to be without a library of bee books. A book costing from fifty cents to one dollar is worth many hundreds of dollars to one who would succeed. Every beginnershould have a book suitable for beginners, (one that will point out the road), and those more advanced will need something more scientific as a reference book. We will here give the names of such books as we recommend, and will be pleased to furnish you, sending them by mail at the following prices;

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A Year Among the Bees,-by Dr Miller; price, 50c.

Manual of the Apiary,—By Prof. A. J. Cook; price, \$1.25.

The A, B, C of Ree Culture, by A. I.
Root; price, \$1 25.

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

Address,

Leahy Mfg. Co., Higginsville. Mo.

FREE

A copy of Successful Bee-Keeping by w. z. Hutchinson. and our 1897 catalog for 2-cent stamp, or a copy of the catalog for the asking. We make almost everything used by Bee-Keepers, and sell at

asking. We make almost everything used by Bee-Keepers, and sell at Lowest Prices.

N POLISHED SECTIONS are warranted Superior to All Others.

OUR FALCON POLISHED SECTIONS are warranted Superior to All Others. Don't buy cheaply and roughly made goods, when you can just as well have the best, such as we make,

THE AMERICAN BEE-KEEPER, (monthly, now in its 7th year.) 36 pages, 50c a year. Sample Free. Address,

W. T. FALCONER MFG Co., JAMESTOWN N. Y.

A Tested Queen For 50c.

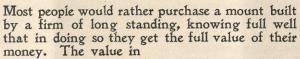
As usual, I am requeering my apiary this spring with young queens selling the tested

gueens, that are removed, at \$1.00 each. These queens are fine Italians, right in their prime, being of last year's rearing. I am also starting a large number of nuclei in which to test queens, and can soon give purchasers their choice between queens of this or last year's rearing. You ask, where does the 50-ct queen come in? It comes in right here. To every one not now a subscriber who will send \$1.00 for the review for 1897, I will send one of these tested queens for 50 cents.

There are thousands of bee-keepers in this broad land, who, if acquainted with the Review, would read it year after year, and it is to once get it into such hands that this special offer is made. I will also send the Review one year and 1,000 strictly first-class sections for only \$2,50. Or a Bingham Conqueror smoker and the Review for only \$1.75.

W. Z. Hutchinson, Flint, Mich.

A GOOD BICYCLE IS KNOWN BY & IT'S NAME & & &





is unquestioned. Such rare mechanical skill as in the 1897 Waverley has never before been put in any bicycle. THAT IS WHY THE PRICE IS

\$100

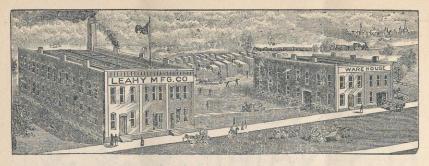
IT IS THE ONLY BICYCLE WITH TRUE BEARINGS.

There is another Waverley Bicycle—the same that carried off all honors last year. It has been greatly improved, and as no new machinery was necessary to continue its construction, it will be sold at

\$60 A POPULAR PRICE \$60



INDIANA BICYCLE CO., INDIANAPOLIS, IND. & Catalogue Free by Mail.



The above cut represents the Factory that has been running night and day for the last month, turning out car-loads of the "Higginsville" Supplies, yet we could not supply the demand for these unique goods. As we are now getting pretty well caught up, we will be glad to hear from our friends who are in need of the best goods at lowest prices. Our Extractors and Smokers are becoming quite popular. See what one of our California customers has to say:

PENROSE, CALIF., May 3, 1897.

LEAHY MFG. COMPANY, Higginsville, Mo .:

GENTLEMEN—The goods came to hand all O. K., April 27th. The four-frame Extractor is a Jim Dandy—the best I ever saw. It is just worth two of the four-frame Cowan's that are for sale in Los Angeles at \$25 apiece. We used it all day May 1st. I think, with proper help, we can throw out two tons of honey in a day with it. Your Smokers are excellent. Many thanks for your promptness. Very truly yours, J. C. BALCH.

Catalogue free. Address.

Leahy Mfg. Co., Higginsville, Mo.

PRICES OF Bingham Perfect Bee-Smokers and Honey Knives.



All Bingnam Smokers are stamped on the metal, patented 1878—1892—Knives B. & H.

The four larger sizes have extra wide shields and double are an AMAZING COMFORT—always cool and clean. No more sutty nor burnt fingers. The Plain and Little Wonder have narrow shields and wire handles. All Bingham Smokers have all the new improvements, viz: Direct Draft. Movable Bent Cap, Wire Handles, Inverted Bellows, and are ABSOLUTELY DEPERCY.

Par Fifteen years for a dollar. One-half a cent a month.

Dear Sir:—I have used the Conquerer 15 years. I was always well pleased with its workings, but thinking I would need a new one this summer I write for circular. I do not think the four inch "Smoke Engine" too large. Yours.

W. H. EAGERTY.

Corning, Cal., July 14th, 1896.

I have used Bingham Smokers ever since they first came out. Working from three to seven hundred colonies twelve months in the year. I ought to know what is required in a smoker. The Doctor 3½ inch just received fills the bill. Respectfully,

Mt. Pleasant, Mich., Aug. 7th. 1896.

Dear Sir—Smokers came O. K. They are the best I have ever seen; sell like hot cakes,
Respectfully, WM. BAMBU.

With a Bingham Smoker that will hold a quart of sound maple wood, the bee-keepers' trials are all over for a long time. Who ever heard of a Bingham Smoker that was too large or did not give perfect satisfaction. The world's most scientific and largest comb honey producers use Bingham Smokers and Knives. The same is true of the world's largest producers of extracted honey. Before buying a smoker or knife hunt up its record and pedigree

Please mention the 'Progressive."

T. F. BINGHAM, Farwell, Mich

THE PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER

🌫 A Journal Devoted to Bees, Honey, and Kindred Industries. 50 Cents a Year,

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY LEAHY MFG. CO.

VOL. VII.

HIGGINSVILLE, MO., JUNE 1, 1897.

NO. VI.

JUNE.

BY WILL WARD MITCHELL .

O, the days of June, with the beauty of the

clime Mythological Elysia, evanescent summer-

When the air is scented softly with the roses

as they blow, Sweet as unforgotten kisses or the dreams of long ago;

When the emerald of forest and the amethyst of sky

Blending perfectly together charm the sati-ated eye.

And the music of the woodland, and the kisses of the air, Soothe the weary-hearted toiler like an an-

swer to a prayer;

And the rippling brooklets flowing, ever flowing to the sea,

Lift their silver, singing voices in exquisite melody;

While the happy nesting song-birds with their music thrill the air;

Till a holy peace and gladness seems to linger everywhere.

It is good to be a-living on a laughing sum-

mer day, While the sunbeams and the shadows in their wanton lightness play, And the zephyrs wander freely o'er the blad-

ed, growing corn, While the wheat aglow with emerald sparkles

in the sunny morn.

Sweet the scent of blooming clover, musical the hum of bees

Flitting through the shine and shadow; cool

and soft the southern breeze: Pleasant in the shady forest surely it must be to lie

Listening to nature's music, feasting soul and ear and eye.

Restful all and yet unrestful, as through interlacing boughs,

Scurrying onward snow-white cloudlets hasten, and the aching brows Ease at last, and lull the senses, till in slum-

ber-land we stray, Dreaming that the world forever is a June's

unending day.

O, the summer's fairest daughter, decked in roses, azure skies. And divinest glory, truly, 'tis a kiss of Para-

Given when heaven bending softly seeing if

the earth's in tune.
Clasping, holds her for a moment—and we call the moment, June.

Higginsville, Mo., May 29 1897.

WAYSIDE FRAGMENTS.

SOMNAMBULIST.

LORIOUS JUNE! The month of all months for the bee-keeper. Her longest days are all too short. Supering and swarming hustle even the slowest. Would that her days numbered sixty instead of thirty. In fact, they are the most hustled.

Where's the time to give the bee journals even a passing thought, much less to read and digest their contents, or write for any of them? What a pity I didn't think of this state of affairs in the mid-winter, and write up an article for the June number.

It never rains but that it pours, and here is the "Busy Bee" demanding attention-the Nebraska Bee-Keeper, in a new dress, E. T. Abbott having shouldered the responsibility of editor and proprietor. Knowing this, it's not surprising to find it strongly smacking of the practical. In stating his aim, among other things, we find: "Believing, as the editor does, that the massing of so many people together in large cities is one of the mistakes of the age, and that there is no more honorable and elevating occupation than progressive and intelligent agriculture, he will endeavor in every number of this paper to magnify and exalt the calling of all of those who are faithfully, and to the best of their ability, following any rural pursuit in order to obtain a living for themselves and those dependent upon them." And on another page, he characteristically strikes out boldly in this wise: "Our system of education needs to be given a more practical turn. We should study more about what is, and less about what has been. It is about time that farmers' children be taught something about the possible means of securing a livelihood, and less about the islands and rivers of distant climes, in which they have but little interest, and a knowledge of which will be of but little practical utility to them." Can it be possible that the mantle of our beloved brother, B. Taylor, has fallen upon this man Abbott? Mr. Taylor's last years were devoted to solving the unlimited problem of securing a livelihood from the very smallest conceivable portion of mother earth. Grand conception! City life, regardless of all its surrounding grandeur, narrows or contracts the soul. The masses actually grow less and less free, or more and more slaves, until they at last fail to do their own thinking, but depend upon recognized leaders to whom they look with that reverence due a god. Said leaders, in spite of their high, dignified and responsible positions, are but human, and temptation too often proves stronger than they. Then there is a fall of one or more of the idols, but their places are quickly re-filled, the gap, or failure most carefully concealed, and the poor, toiling dupes again led on to slaughter. The past contains no lesson for them, because they have so long been confined between high walls, their very souls. as it were, been encompassed about with walls, that they no longer take the time or liberty to think for themselves. They simply follow their leaders like flocks of sheep.

I hear of a colony, 2,000 strong, of these poor slaves, fully as much slaves as any southern African ever was, going to Utah to engage in agricultural pursuits. These go under Eugene Debs. Most probably he has learned this to be a more direct route to liberty than through strikes. And he may yet further learn that giving them room to move, breathe and *live*, will open their eyes to the fact that they have opportunity and *room* to do their own thinking, when he will not fail to realize the crumbling beneath him of that throne now so secure and solid.

What has this harangue to do with bee-keeping? Bee-keeping is one agricultural pursuit that leads thought upward.

While engaged in a pleasant stroll and chat among the bees, an aged and intelligent German made the remark: Give me country life all the time. What is city life, with all of its amusements, theaters, balls, and fashionable resorts? When you've seen one, you've seen all, whereas, nature ever has a secret hid away for you to discover."

I most emphatically agree with E. T. Abbott that education is at fault, and were we thoroughly conversant with all that is going on round about us and at our very feet, would there be time for much of the very fashionable foolery now in vogue? I wonder with the schoolgirl, if "one head could contain all?" Speed the day when everyday knowledge shall be dispensed with a more liberal hand, and shall be received and recognized as the one thing needful. A cultivation of the love of home and one's own business, is greatly needed.

"By industry we thrive," is a motto seized upon by "The Busy Bee," but as its editor stole that sentiment from our pets, he cannot get a patent on it, and we can all use it just as much as we please. Pity but that it were a part of the very nature of every human being, just as much as 'tis the distinguishing characteristic of the bees. If the bees did naught else but furnish this everrepeated example, directing us over the only safe route to thrift, they would have earned their right to existence. And is not that more than can

be said of some human beings within our knowledge?

If the old saying, "A swarm of bees in May is worth a load of hay", is true, then I find myself much better off at the end of May than at the beginning.

A young man, not especially noted for being made up of "working timber," recently remarked in my presence: "There's nothing exciting in getting up in the morning at four o'clock, and going out and milking a dozen cows." I replied inaudibly: "Young man, you're not up to snuff!" The excitement comes in in making those self-same cows pay their way—in getting all there is in them out of them.

That young man would most probably have not felt cause to have made that same remark in connection with beekeeping, more especially could he have witnessed seven or eight swarms in mid-air at once, with beekeeper scurrying here and there, for the time being seemingly having lost all control of the management.

When June and July shall have passed, I wonder if there will be anything exciting or gratifying in the contemplation of the masses of white honey that some bee-keepers are sure to have secured?

On the question of excitement being a necessity of life, custom, our largest educator, has again gone wrong. Were it the custom to be so absorbed and interested in our business as to amount to excitement, we would require but little or any help in this quarter outside of our own affairs. If one starts out to run a race with bees, and keep all things "right side up" and "to the mark," or "up to date," they will usually find enough to do to keep them pining for excitement. That some excitement is necessary, I do not deny, but a question naturally arises as to character of excitement, size and frequency of doses, etc., etc. In short, the question of proper education is too broad a one for one poor little paper, and that written, too, for a journal supposedly engaged in education along a particular line—the line of bee-keeping. So I stop before I get too deep.

Just to show Doolittle that he didn't know everything. I tried the plan of contracting an ordinary super to twelve sections, and succeeded with but little trouble, and so far, it works like a charm. Bees actually seem to take hold of the arrangement with greater vim than where whole supers containing twenty-four or more sections were placed on equally strong colonies. As one swallow does not make a summer, I shall test this matter further. I more than half suspect that his is the correct theory, but wouldn't it be fun to catch him-he an acknowledged peer among bee educators? Elsewhere such things have been done, and "what man has done, man can do," so let's try. Something tells me we will be the gainers.

Don't I pity the man with unclipped queens just at this season? Scarcely a day passes, but that I hear the rattle of musketry, tin pans and pails, ringing of bells, and so forth, over in the village hard by. And you should see the smile of satisfaction flit over my face as I softly say to myself, "None of mine." Only today there came two men to where I was in the apiary, excitingly telling me they had discovered two hanging swarms near by. "Oh, yes, I am just waiting for them to come home," I replied, to their utter astonishment. And on another day, having left a faithful old black man in charge for a short time, what was my surprise to find him on my return, with rolling eyes and shining countenance directed upward to a moving swarm of bees, and to overhear him advising them to come "Come back, honies; bettah come back, fer yer habn't good ol' mammy erlong." The tears actually shone in his eyes, and this set me to musing and dreaming of "what is home

without a mother?" and so so. But enough of dreaming.

Naptown, Dreamland.

WORK AT MICHIGAN'S EXPERIMEN-TAL APIARY.

R. L. TAYLOR, APIARIST.

High Temperature in Cellar Wintering.

Bee-Keepers' Review.

A IDED by the unusually mild winter, and by putting a large number of strong colonies in my bee cellar. I have been enabled to some extent to test the effect of a high cellar temperature for wintering bees. I was the more resigned to the risk supposed to be incurred by making such an experiment on account of a belief that a high temperature induces conditions that aid the bees in avoiding much of the ill effects of the common winter disease, the advent of which was anticipated on account of the large amount of fruit juices which was gathered during last fall by the bees. I succeeded beyond my expectations, indeed, beyond my desires, in securing a high temperature, for on several occasions it was with difficulty that I kept it down to fifty degrees by opening the outside door during the night. Even with this free ventilation, it very seldom went below forty-five degrees, and within a few hours it was back to fifty degrees. For a considerable part of the time the thermometer stood a little above fifty degrees, but for the greater part of the time at from forty-eight to fifty degrees.

The bees were put into the cellar comparatively early—from the 5th to the 13th of November. There were 180 colonies, mostly heavy and strong. There were about twenty on L frames, twenty or thirty in single sections of the Heddon hive, and the rest in Heddon hives of two sections. All except

those in single section H hives were stored in the cellar without bottom boards. Notwithstanding the high temperature, the bees remained as quiet as is usual with the temperature five degrees to eight degrees lower. They were also free from any unusual appearance of the winter disease, as well as from excessive loss of bees until about the last of February. From this time there was a marked change in both respects, although the bees seemed to remain usually quiet. number of dead bees on the cellar bottom increased rapidly, beyond anything I had experienced except in one disastrous winter, and about one-half of the hives became more or less spotted with excrement, and about ten per cent especially so.

On the 29th of March, removal from the cellar was begun, and kept up by taking a few out from time to time on favorable days, until April 14th, when the last, a baker's dozen, were placed on their summer stands. The examinations during and after the removal disclosed the following results: Thirteen colonies dead or so nearly so that the bees still living were of no value. I say dead, though three of the thirteen had left their hives and combs clean and free of dead bees and honey, showing that they had each probably united with the colony above or below, the honey being conveyed thither also. Two had starved, two had perished from weakness resulting from queenlessness, one with a bottom board had apparently smothered from the entrance having become clogged, and the rest had apparently died of dysentery. The dead bees from the cellar floor measured six well packed bushels. amounting, I estimate, to a loss on the average of three pints of bees from each colony. Moreover, there had undoubtedly been considerable breeding during the latter part of winter, as was shown by the remains of immature brood and imperfect young bees among the debris that had fallen from the hives. On removal from the cellar, the bees from most of the colonies spotted their hives and surrounding objects on taking their first flight, yet they were clean and seemed strong both physically and numerically, most of the colonies being of about the same strength as when placed in the cellar. In most of the hives also, containing plenty of stores, there were at the time of removal considerable amounts of capped brood, and in one strong colony was discovered a nice patch of capped drone brood.

What the full effect of this cellar breeding will be, remains to be seen, for it is yet too early to pronounce a safe judgment. For a long time I have felt a fear that there was a store of evil laid up in the future for colonies guilty of breeding in confinement, but I have had heretofore no case that would serve so satisfactorily as a test as the present one, and I shall look forward with considerable interest to the outcome.

One other result of warm wintering remains yet to be noticed, and that is the amount of stores consumed. I can only show this result in the case of poor to medium colonies, for those of this class only were weighed in the fall. It is necessary to bear this in mind, because the stronger the colonies the greater will be the average amount consumed. The results in brief on this point are as follows: Eleven colonies in two section H hives, averaging in the fall, shortly before being put into winter quarters, 50.72 pounds, averaged in the spring 35.27 pounds, showing an average consumption of almost fifteen and a half pounds. The heaviest colony of this lot consumtwenty-one pounds, and two others nineteen pounds each. Seven other colonies in single section H hives weighed on the average in the fall 40.78 pounds, and in the spring 29.07, showing an average consumption of nearly eleven and three-fourth pounds.

This is a consumption of stores of from fifty to one hundred per cent in excess of anything I have heretofore known when the bees had in my estimation wintered tolerably well. Of course if this extra consumption results in an appreciable advantage to the colonies, it is well, but if it causes also an abatement of the vitality of the bees, it is greatly to be deprecated.

In conclusion, it will be noticed that I took out the bees much earlier than is usually recommended, for there are no signs yet of the opening of soft maple blossoms, the time which is generally set as the most desirable for that operation. The greater my experience, the more I am inclined to the desirability of early removal from winter quarters. When most good colonies stand exposure, without protection, to the weather of the entire winter, it seems that it should go without saying that any colony should stand the vicissitudes of early April without serious injury, and I have found, at least to my own satisfaction, that it is so. There are several substantial advantages in early removal:

- 1. There is much greater comfort in the labor of removal.
- 2. A few only need be taken out on any one day.
- 3. There is little or none of the crazy out-rushing and commingling of the bees of different colonies.
- 4. The bees settle down to honest work more quickly and permanently, and
- 5. The beginnings of attempts to rob are much more easily and effectively prevented, and much vexatious watching is thereby rendered unnecessary.

Lapeer, Mich., April 17, 1897.

ACROSTIC.

Somewhere in the beautiful country,
Out far from the wide-awake eyes
My vision beholdeth a dreamer.
Noctambulist sleeper arise.
Afar in the region of Dreamland.
Midst Naptown's delectable streets,
Bee-keeping he follows untroubled,
Unstung by the storers of sweets.
Like the bees he is busy and earnest,
Indeed the Progressive Bee-Keeper
Sometimes has a doubt of the slumber
The claim of this open-eyed sleeper.

So Rouse from your slumber, nor ever;
We like to go wandering through
The mystical country of breamland,
With the bees, the Progressive, and you.
Doo little to shake off your slumber,
Observer, instructor, and Moore,
But tell of your rambles in Naptown,
Each time more enjoyed than before.
But there, I see Brautigam frowning,
And Cormac is shaking his head,
While Newman and social Miss Abbott
Politely are yawning instead.
And Thorington laughs in good nature,
As Flanagan nods in his chair,
Just Aikin to chastise severely,
Yet too sleepy, and Miller won't dare.
But hither comes Editor Leaby,
And checks this effusion of mine,
But I fell o'er the the printers'—yes, devil—
ES is sqowu q'a' tue' "pi" in ahis ling.
—Will Ward.

APIS DORSATA.—OBJECTIONS TO IM-PORTING THEM.

PORTER A. M. FEATHERS.

March HILE reading Gleanings, I was quite amused, especially while reading on apis dorsata. It seems the question whether or not this strain of bees should be imported to America, has caused considerable argument to arise amongst the be: fraternity. Some say, Let the government carry forward the work, so we as American apiarists can have a strain of bees equal if not superior to the bumblebee in the getting of nectar from red clover, while others have a different idea in regard to the matter. Says Rev. M. Mahin, "It is my opinion that they would not be of any advantage to the bee raiser of America." I do certainly agree with him. He says

further, "If they were capable of domestication, the people of India would have domesticated them long ago." I as one, and not only I, but many, think the India bees have had sufficient test to justify us American bee-keepers to let them be, and that in their own native land. I honestly and candidly believe that those large bees are of no use to the man or woman who runs an apiary for profit. Especially do 1 regard them of no good to the American apiarist. Should they have been a good thing, isn't it reasonable to suppose that we would have known it long long ago? I think so at least, I cannot approve the idea of importing these bees until we know for a certainty that their qualities would justify us in doing so. To know these bees would meet our general favor would be beyond reason I think, for their being in our favor in some respects, while in others they would be to the contrary. Brother Root just took the very words out of my mouth that I was going to say. He says, "There are plenty of things we need at the hand of the general government much more than the importation of apis dorsata." Let evervone interested just think for a moment, count up the cost, and see what they would lose by doing so. Look at the change that would have to be made in the construction of a hive suitable for these bees. Being so large, we would have to make everything anew. Nothing that is now used would do. I will name a few of the many changes that would have to be made for these bees: Honey boards, bee escapes, queen excluders, sections, frames, extractors, hives. and above all, the drone traps. Now shall we make anything by it? Some will maintain that as they are so large, they will carry in more honey, at least enough more to make up for the loss. I think that is a very wrong idea, but should it be true, we must remember these large bees

would not make as many trips as the common Italians. So you see, brother bee-keepers, we would be all the time losing by importing the apis dorsata. Again, if we should get them over here, it might be years and years before we could get them, as the old saving is "Christianized and civilized" to this country. Dear fellow bee-keepers, should they be as tame as a pet kitten, we must also consider the difference in the climates of the two nations. India and America, for the climate of this country is vastly different to that of India. I do not doubt that if the transaction was accomplished we would lose by it. I think I would be safe in saying not only would we lose both time and money. but would, I fear, sadly regret that we had taken them out of their native land, and brought them into a strange land. for things that will suit one climate will not suit another. Here's the point: Can we take something that is suitable to one climate, and bring it into another climate where it doesn't suit it, and make a success with it? See the point now? Apis dorsata bees might, however, suit us in some instances better than other strains, while in some cases they would not. Some of the apis dorsata might favor us in some of their qualities, but taking everything into consideration. this strain of bees is most certain to lack enough of good traits to cover up all their favor. So I think we had better let these big bees stay in the country where they deservingly belong. They would be like the English sparrows, no good to us as bee-keepers, or to this country.

Mr. David N. Ritchey, of Blacklick, Ohio, says: "I do not believe there is a bee in existence that can gather honey from red clover, except the bumblebee." I am sorry indeed to know that a bee man of thirty years' actual experience conveys such an idea as that. I wonder if he does actually mean what he says about the matter? I suppose

he is just talking that way to get some "fellow" to argue the case with him, when away down in his heart he thinks differently, for sometimes a fellow only talks from his head, you know. I have been in the pursuit of apiculture only seven years, and I have found, according to Dr. Miller, that there is a strain of the American-bred Italians that will gather honey from red clover. I speak from actual experience, for I think I have a strain of bees that can't be beat in that respect. I have known them to work better on red clover than on white, which I noticed during a very hot spell in the summer of 1895. At this time the bees would hardly notice white clover at all. I would like to ask Bro. Root and Dr. Miller, especially, why it was the bees noticed the one in preference to the other? I drew this conclusion: It was because the red clover secreted a kind of moisture that caused it to yield nectar, while the white clover failed. In this season I had a good honey flow all through the drouth from the clover spoken of. Mr. Ritchey. I think, will now change his opinion that there are no bees in existence that can and will gather honey from red clover. He seems to think, or approve of the idea, that apis dorsata strain of bees would be a good thing. Well, I can't object to him having an opinion of his own, for we all have a right to believe as we think, and as that is his opinion, I don't think he and I will fight over it. Ha, ha. Now, Bro. Ritchey, can't you be made to believe there are bees, even in America, that will work and do well on red clover, besides the bumblebee? I believe you will. Wishing Bro. Ritchey. also the rest of the "bee generation," success the coming season, and hoping to hear from someone else regarding the government carrying on the work of importing apis dorsata, or the "big bees," from India to this country, I am fraternally yours.

Whitesburg, Tenn.

STRAWS FROM THE APIARY.

FRED S. THORINGTON.

AY third. I guess my bees are wintered by this time, every one of them. They are all strong, good colonies, and the one that grunted around trying to be sick a few days in early spring is well now, and as strong as any other colony in the yard.

On April 18th, the apricots were in full bloom, and the peach trees had just commenced to bloom out. Following in quick succession came the pear. apple, crab-apple, strawberry, gooseberry, cherry, plum and dandelion bloom, and for a week or more there has been a profusion of bloom that would please the eye and tickle the fancy of all prudent bee-keepers and lovers of the beauties of nature. As my bees were strong in number for the time of year, they have worked with great energy every convenient day. There have been some days that were too cold or rainy.

I placed my bees in winter quarters on the third day of November, 1896. with each an ample supply of good sealed honey of their own getting. They each had a quilt and a covering of paper under their cushion. I left them alone to take their long winter nap, for I think that safe wintering depends largely on keeping the brood nest warm and dry, with a good, prolific queen, twenty-five pounds or more of good sealed stores, and keeping the bees as quiet as possible. Of course if one is obliged to open the hive at any time during the winter months to feed the bees, etc., then do so as quickly and quietly as possible, placing the feed, if honey, in frames at the side and up next to the brood and cluster of bees. Never break the cluster, or spread the brood to give the bees food in winter. If you do, you are apt to have a dead colony in the spring for your trouble, especially if the process is repeated very often. If candy is to be fed, place it on the frames over the brood, or push it down between the frames. But bees should be fed their winter food early in the fall, if they have not enough of their own, thereby avoiding useless tinkering with them in winter, such as opening the hive to give feed, letting out the needful warmth, tearing up the brood-chamber, and doing things that tend to disturb their needed quiet repose. Then, too, this early fall preparation tends to give us strong healthy colonies in early spring, ready to take the advantage of any bloom that comes. Then, too, they are ready to go to work in their surplus chambers much earlier than they would be if they had to be fed and tinkered with all winter and spring until bloom comes.

After I placed my bees in winter quarters in the fall, not a cap or cushion was moved until March 25. On that day the women-folks thought they had found two colonies that were getting short of honey, as the hives seemed a little lighter than the rest. Towards evening they took some frames of honey that had been kept over for feeding purposes, and went to the lightest hive, and removed the covering to frames, (the north four), and they all showed lots of honey along the top edges. Then they took up the outside frame, and it was full of honey, and the one most full next to it. They closed the hive up again, and brought the honey they took out, back, and said it was a complete sell. Wasn't it a happy disappointment? I have that honey yet. No use for any feed so far this spring. The one cap was the only one that was removed until the 28th of April. On that day, two colonies were laying out nearly to the cap. Two cushions were removed, and room to store honey was found to be wanted Four crates were put on, and it rained and stopped work for that day. May 1 more crates were put on, leaving one hive to put crate on, and three to receive frames for extracting. Two were not quite ready yet. May 3. Have put on crate today. The two colonies are not ready. I examined some crates I put on May 1 and April 28, and found bees at work storing honey in them. Most of my crates I gave one or more of Friend Doolittle's nest-eggs. What will the harvest be?

In running for extracted honey. I take a frame or two of brood from the brood nest, if the weather is warm enough to admit, and brush the bees from it, if I use a queen excluding honey board, and place it in the center of extracting frames. Where no excluder is used, I lift up the frame, bees and all. This tolls the bees up in the frames to care for the brood, and they go to storing honey in the empty combs on either side of brood sooner than they would do otherwise. By this process I once obtained 126 pounds honey from a single colony, and it swarmed once during the time. As poor as the season was last year, I obtained nearly 100 pounds in the same way from a colony.

My bees commenced bringing in pollen in abundance to each hive on March 19. There seems to be a great prospect here now (May 13) for all kind of fruit. If nothing happens, we will have bushels of strawberries. The raspberries are in bloom, and the blackberries soon will be, and that means more work for the bees. Then will come the white clover. But let it come. The bees are ready for the feast.

I see that Friend Brautigam has gone to California. Yes, Friend B., we hope you will give the readers of the PROGRESSIVE the results of your experiments as you say without a patent on them.

May 14—A light frost last night. White clover is coming in bloom.

Chillicothe, Mo.

A PLEA FOR PURE COMB.

E. W. MOORE.

BEES have commenced swarming again in Southern Indiana, and are in better condition for basswood and clover harvest than I ever knew them to be in this locality before. The winter losses here have not been more than two per cent, outside of the overflowed districts, but in the Wabash River bottoms the bees are about all gone, owing to the bee-keepers, not beemasters, mind you, letting them drown.

I was running the river during the high waters, and it was no unusual sight to see a bee hive floating down the river, full of honey, and the bees drowned, or compelled to swarm out and cluster on a limb of a tree, to starve or freeze to death. And then this class of bee-keepers is complaining about bee-keeping not paying any more.

In the Progressive Bee-Keeper for May, page 140, our old friend and watchman, Thomas G. Newman, is sounding the danger signal. He says now comb honey is in danger, and every true friend of the pursuit will array himself against the use of the manufactured comb which is so full of danger to the pursuit, and if we are to judge the future by the past, Friend Newman is correct in saying that there is danger ahead for the comb honey producers in using the new comb, for, as Mr. Newman says, adulterated comb and adulterated honey will go hand in hana. Not only will this new comb degrade our pursuit in the eyes of the honey consumers, but it will also, if extensively used, cheapen our products, and cause a great many honey consumers to quit using comb honey, for fear of getting man made instead of bee made honey, and will be more severe on the comb honey producers than the Wiley lie was on the producers of extracted honey. I am in favor of doing away with everything that has any semblance of deceit about it, and give the consumers our honey made by the honey bee, just as it comes from the hives. Pure comb and honey is my motto.

Grayville, Ills.

PATENTS, ARTIFICIAL COMB, ETC.

J. W. ROUSE.

SEE in the May number of the PROGRESSIVE that Friend Doclittle will not father a quotation I attributed to him. as appeared in my article in the April number. Well, Friend D., I will have to eat a little humble pie, and say I humbly beg pardon. I was mistaken in the name of the man. In all my writings I try to be very careful to state what I believe to be facts, and if I make any mistakes, it is of the head and not of the heart, for I serve my heavenly Father, and expect to render a strict account of all my actions:

In regard to what Friend Doolittle has to say about patents, I only partially agree with him. I am not entirely adverse to obtaining patents, but I do think patents in many cases are taken advantage of to extort money from the public. However, by patent protection, it greatly stimulates inventors, and many useful inventions are given to the world in time that would not likely ever have been except for the money to be gotten by the exclusive control of them, but after any person receives a suitable compensation, it seems to me that that should be sufficient satisfaction to inventors.

Patents are not the only things that are abused in this country, but it seems that almost everything has to suffer along that line, except righteousness

and true boliness, or holy living.

I see Friend Flanagan, in the May PROGRESSIVE, thinks that the idea that combs can be filled with glucose, and sealed over, is simply ridiculous. Well, I have not tried the experiment, as I have never had any glucose, but I think I can fill a comb with it. As to sealing it over, I have not learned that process yet, but I believe it can be done when there comes a demand for it. I am greatly pleased with the writers of the PROGRESSIVE, but while I cannot say I fully agree with them in all things, still in most all, if not all, cases so far as I now remember, they all seem to be fair, and while I may differ from them in some instances, I think none the less of them on that account.

Brothers and sisters, I sincerely thank you for your kind words and comments on your humble servant, as contained in the May PROGRESSIVE. I may be a "curious kind of a critter" to some, for while many persons, and some of mature years who may have had years of experience, may claim their methods or ways of thinking are the best, or are the only right ones. still, when I am thoroughly convinced that I am right in anything, I would chose my own convictions instead of all others together. I do not mean by this to be egotistic, or say that I am always right in my convictions, but I think all persons should be true to their own convictions until they see they are wrong-then change.

Mexico, Mo.

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The Exclusive Fruit Paper of America

is a 32-page paper, the reading matter of which pertains to nothing but fruit. It is indispensable to any one engaged in fruit growing. Is a great fruit section, (PORTLAND, OREGON), and costs 50 cents per year. We want every one of our readers to have it on their table and will therefore give it free to all our subscribers who will send their back subscription and one year in advance, or to new subscribers who will pay one year in advance. This offer is good for but a short time.

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We have the following sections that have accumulated on our hands the past season, and to close them out to make room for new goods we will sell these for less than they cost to manufacture them.

40.000 4\(\frac{1}{4}\)x4\(\frac{1}{4}\)x7 to ft. No. 2. 3.000 4\(\frac{1}{4}\)x4\(\frac{1}{4}\)x8 to ft. No. 2.

We offer the above lot in quantities of 500 and up at \$1.00 per 1,000.

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Bear in mind that these will not last long and when they are gone they can't be reproduced for the money asked for these.

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Editorial.



The Progressive Bee-Keeper.

A journal devoted to Bees, Honey and Kindred Industries.

TERMS: Fifty cents per year, in advance.

R. B. LEAHY, G. M. DOOLITTLE, \ - - - Editors

We are glad to note that the health of Bro. Hutchinson's daughter, Ivy, seems to be improving.

titi

Weather fine. White clover in full bloom, and the bee-keepers who "have oil in their lamps," that is, those who are ready for the harvest, are being rewarded for their patience. The honey flow is just wonderful. Supers are being filled almost in a day.

1111

Mr. Doolittle writes under date of May 29th: "It has been bad weather here for bees all through fruit bloom. Freezing nights, and rains with high winds have prevailed so bees have not made a living." How different from there (Borodino, N. Y..) and here.

1111

The "Busy Bee," (successor to the Nebraska Bee-Keeper), a 16-page, monthly bee journal, published at St. Joseph, Mo., is at hand, with the name of Emerson Taylor Abbott at the masthead. It is a neat, well-edited, and instructive journal, and we bespeak for it a cordial reception among the ranks of our fraternity. Here is our Bro. Abbott.

1111

The Executive Committee of the United States Bee-Keepers' Union has selected a General Manager and Board of Directors, as follows:

General Manager—Hon. Eugene Secor, Forest City, Iowa.

Board of Directors—Ernest R. Root, Medina, O.; Rev. E. T. Abbott, St Joseph, Mo.; Dr. C. C. Miller, Marengo, Ill.; W. Z. Hutchinson Flint, Mich.; E. Whitcomb, Friend, Neb.; and C. P. Dadant, Hamilton, Ill.

1111

Prof. J. W. Rouse and his estimable lady paid us a very pleasant visit during the last month. Mr. Rouse reports business better this year than usual, and expects a large honey crop. In looking over our apiary, Mr. Rouse discovered that we had one of the best colonies of five-banded bees he had ever seen. I asked him if he did not think he was mistaken. He said no. he was quite sure he had never seen such pretty bees before. The joke is, we got the queen of that colony from Bro. Rouse two years ago, but I did not tell him so then. Now don't any of you go and give it away.

On account of the large honey crop being harvested here, there has been a larger demand for supplies than we could fill, though we have run our factory night and day, full-handed in all departments, for the past month. Our sales for this year have far surpassed those of any previous year, and the end is not yet. We are now about four days behind, and we think within another week we will be able to ship goods almost by return freight. If there are any sore spots because some have been disappointed in not getting supplies, we beg forgiveness, and promise to do better the next time, as we will be better prepared another year. All of our old and experienced hands have been kind enough to put in fifteen hours a day, and Mr. Gladish and myself have put in nineteen. Friends, we have done the best we could under the circumstances.

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We have received calls from probably more than a hundred experienced and intelligent bee-keepers the past month, and that I might get an expression from them on the manufactured comb, I have shown them the samples of it, and, to a man, they have condemned its use, they believing, as I do, that if the use of this comb is encouraged, it will be only a short time until the complete comb is made, and filled with glucose. And even if this should not be the outcome, the knowledge that the bee can be so nearly imitated will be too great a cause for suspicion among the honey consumers. It makes me feel sad when I notice what arguments are made in favor of manufactured comb. For instance: American people like something to chew on." 'No harm to add twenty per cent more wax." "Will cheapen the price of comb honey to an extent that it will make it unprofitable to adulterate extracted honey." Will cheapen-yes, yes, to our sorrow.

Keep Grass and Weeds Down .-One of the most common things to be seen in many apiaries at this time of the year, where the hives set within a few inches of the ground, as all hives should, is grass and weeds growing up in front of the entrance, with the bees heavily loaded with honey or pollen struggling to reach the hive, first with the wings, then on foot, then taking wing again, or crowding through a tangled mass of stuff that they may reach home with their precious loads, the result often being many loads of pollen left behind when at their very door. This not only causes our pets much extra work, wearing their precious lives out much sooner, but it is a waste of time to them, often amounting to nearly a pound of honey each day, as I have proven to my satisfaction with hives on scales, putting an obstruction before the hive one day, and taking it away the next. To be modest, call the average loss only onehalf pound, and we have fifty pounds as the loss in an apiary of one hundred colonies. This, at ten cents, equals a loss of \$5 a day for every day that grass and weeds remain during the honey flow, to say nothing about the shortening of the lives of the bees, their inconvenience, etc. Reader, think it over, and ask yourself if you can afford it. If not, go right out at once and remedy this matter.

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How Keep Down.—Many ways have been given in the past for keeping grass and weeds down in the apiary, such as keeping sheep and horses there, so they can eat it down; using a lawn mower, etc., all of which require a constant cutting off of whatever grows; but I prefer something more permanent than this, and where possible, something which will stay year after year. The first, and probably the best of anything, where it can be had, is sand or fine gravel, put on to such a depth that grass and weeds will

not grow up through it. This matter is helped very much if the sward or top of the ground is taken off before the sand is put on. Next to the above, comes coal ashes, which can be readily saved for this purpose where the family or any near neighbor burns coal for fuel. As there is little fertilizing matter in them, they are rarely used for anything except to be dumped in the road or drawn to some out of the way place and dumped, so there need be no expense to the bee-keeper except the hauling. The ashes are used in the same way as the sand, and if a quarter in bulk of sand is used with them, the whole will harden down quite solid in time from the storms beating on them. Next to these comes a piece of a pine or hemlock board, or any lumber which will last well on the To keep this board from ground. curling up under the sunshine on one side and dampness on the other, it should be cleated on each end as hive covers are, and if properly done, it will not curl enough to be unsightly. Whatever is used, the alighting board should rest on the material, so that there is vacant space for heavily laden bees, which fall short of the entrance, to drop under, where they will often chill and die on cool days in early spring by the score and hundred. A bee will crawl up an inclined alighting board to the hive when it is so chilled that it cannot fly, and each bee in early spring is worth a hundred or more after the honey harvest is past. If you do not wish to fix your hives thus till fall or early spring, keep the grass down from now on during the summer with a knife, sickle or scythe; any way so that the bees do not keep on struggling with this grass nuisance any longer.

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More About Putting on Sections.

—I see that Somnambulist seems to think that I intended "turning him down" when giving my views on "How

Much Super Room." Not in the least, Sommy; nor am I interested in any "special hive." My only desire is to be of some little benefit to others in my writings, if possible. I am of the opinion that this world would see a great uplifting toward God, toward true happiness and the highest enjoyment, if each one tried his or her level best to make everything, little or big, that comes through their thought or genius, over to the public, free and without price, that others might enjoy it with them, and by so doing help to pay the debt of gratitude they owe to those who helped them up to where they are in the world. How came any of us to know anything? Did we not learn it of others, almost wholly and entire? Who taught us to talk, walk, read, write, make a bee hive, build a house, or anything of the kind? Did we do it ourselves, or did we learn of others? All I know, all that even the greatest, bee-keeper living knows of bee-keeping, has been very largely learned from other men. Then, Sommy, don't you see that I am in debt to my instructors? The pen I write with, the paper I write on, the conveyance that carries this to Higginsville, the types, the press, the engine, the printer, the carrier to the train, the train, the postmaster, and the barefooted boy that will deliver this epistle to you, are all necessary to our advancement in bee culture. do not we owe a debt to all these? shall we not try to pay it by helping others, rather than by saying, "This is my special hive; alone I did it"? Sommy, take a broader view of life. "All we are brethren." But enough of this. My mode of putting on sections is this: As soon as I see little bits of comb being built here and there along the top bars of the frames, or the cells being lengthened out for new honey, if the colonies are strong in bees and brood, I take off the cushion from over the frames, where it has been all winter,

turn back the quilts each way from the middle, and put those three to five wide frames (holding from twelve to twenty sections, the center four of which are always filled with comb left from the previous season for bait) right over the center of the brood nest where the brood comes the nearest to the tops of the frames, when the quilts (or strips of duck, which I mostly use.) are turned right back over the frames not covered with sections, thus closing all tightly, and in scores and hundreds of cases I have the bees working with a will in those sections in less than twenty-four hours later. In from five days to eight later, according to the season, storms or heat, the quilts are rolled back again, and from two to four more wide frames put on either side of the first put on, and as soon as needed, more are put on at either side, thus giving all the capacity for sections, which is about sixty one-pound sections. As soon as the bait sections and the four on either side of them are finished, they are taken off, the rest of the wide frames of sections brought up so as to close this space, and the same number of empty sections with starters put at the outside. Thus you will see the bees are kept working from the center outward, the same as a new swarm always works when it follows its own instinct, and "stretching" never obtains. As the season draws to a close, when filled sections are taken off. those at the sides are brought toward the center, without the addition of empty sections at the outside, till, at the close of the season, we take off the twelve to twenty sections that are left. from right over the center of the brood nest, generally nearly all filled, turn the quilts over the frames as we found them in the spring, then put on the cushion again, when our bees are all ready for winter, after we know they have sufficient stores, which is nearly always the case under this manipulation. Now, how can we thus work with a hive without a cap or hood, and where the super must be of the same size of the top of the hive? I should have said such a procedure would be next to impossible, instead of impossible, as it was printed, for very few things are utterly IMPOSSIBLE where there is a WILL to do it. As you suggest, enameled cloth or duck could be used underneath the part of the super we do not wish the bees to occupy, but how are we to keep them from going sidewise in the sections, except we have division boards in the super? Of course this could be done, but is not as practical as with a hive having a hood. At my out apiary, which I bought, there is nothing but the Langstroth hive, as I bought the whole thing complete, and have thought best not to change. So the reader will see that I use hooded hives at home, and those having no hood at the out apiary. In the latter I do not put on any sections at all, till a whole super is put on; consequently wait a little later till the colonies are strong enough to do the best they can at taking possession of the whole. These supers hold forty-four one-pound sections each, instead of from twentyfour to twenty-eight, as Sommy says "are about the usual size." But I am ready to admit that I did soar a little too high for an average, when I said from forty to sixty, and so ask pardon.

Those Golden Beauties and Three Banded Italians Ready

The golden strain can not be beaten for business and beauty. Three bunders bred from imported mothers. Also have the Cyprians, but they are mated to Italian drones.

1 L. Frame Nuclei with warranted Queen, \$1.75
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ORDERS filled by return mall or freight for A. I. Root Co.'s goods. Our choice strain of Italian Queens, 1,2 and 3-frame nuclei. If you want good goods at low prices and in a hurry, send us your orders. 36-page Catalog, free. John Nebel & Son, High Hill, Mo

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Wauzeka Section Co.

Wauzeka, Crawford Co., Wis., Jan. 15, 1897

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Friends, I have removed to this place from Pettus. Texas, on account of my wife's health and also to secure a better climate for the production of Queens and Bees, and in this I have not been disappointed. My facilities for shipping from here are also better, and I am prepared to fill all orders promptly, in season. I am also glad to say that I have entirely escaped from foul brood, as there has never been a case in Northwestern Florida, and paralysis is entirely unknown.

quote you a special price of 50 cents each for untested Queens; tested Queens \$1. Special prices in dozen lots. Bees by the pound, 75 cents. Two-frame nucleus, \$2, including a good Queen. I guarantee satisfaction in every instance, and solicit a continuation of your valued patronage. Yours very truly,

> E.L. CARRINGTON, DE FUNIAK SPRINGS, FLA.

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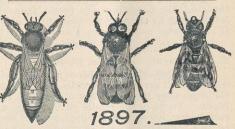
ITALIAN QUEENS. 50 CENTS EACH.

Guaranteed First-Class.

No black bees here, and no disease.

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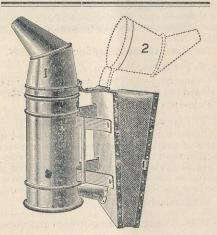
I am now ready to receive orders for May delivery, 1897. Full colonies of three-banded Italian bees in 8-frame dovetailed hives, \$5. Italian bees in 8-frame dovetailed hives, \$5. Strong three-frame nucleus, with tested queen, \$2.75. Untested Italian queens. each, 75c; per doz., \$7.00. Tested Italian queens, each, \$1.00; per doz., \$10,00. Best breeding queens, each, \$2.00, \$2.50,

I know what good queens mean to the producer, as well as how to rear them. Safe delivery and satisfaction guaranteed. No discass

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A Good Smoker for a Little Money.

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

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

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E. T. Flanagan, Belleville, Illinois.

Dear Sir:—The queen I received from you last year beats any queen I ever saw, and her daughters are better than she is, and if they prove as good for comb honey as they are for everything else, it would take a fortune to get her. If I ever need more queens, I know where to get them. Yours truly,

Brentwood, Ark., May 2, 1896. M. SMISCHNY. Dealer in Bees and Honey.

E. T. Flanagan, Belleville, Illinois.

Dear Sir:—The four three-frame nuclei and one full colony I bought of you last May, all arrived in excellent order and have done exceedingly well, considering, they had a journey of over two thousand miles to reach my place in Idaho. Three of the nuclei gave a large natural swarm each, and in addition, stored over 100 pounds of surplus comb honey each. The other one did nearly as well. The full colony swarmed also, and stored over 200 pounds of splendid comb honey in one-pound section boxes. I now have nine good strong colonies with plenty of good honey to winter on, and have taken from them over 500 pounds of choice comb honey. I am well pleased with my venture. Yours truly,

Dillion, Montana, Jan. 5, 1897.

B. F. WHITE.

E. T. Flanagan, Belleville, Illinois.

Dear Sir:—One of the three-frame nuclei I got of you on May 8th, is ahead of anything I ever saw. I tell you they are doing finely. Yours truly,

Baraboo, Wisconsin, June 3rd, 1896.

H. W. SAVAGE.

E. T. Flanagan, Belleville, Illinois.

Dear Sir:—From one of the three-frame nuclei I got of you on May 8th, 1896, I have had five good swarms, one of which got away to the woods. I raised thirteen spendid queens and got 69 pounds of Number 1 comb honey from it; besides plenty of honey to winter on. Can that be beat? Yes sir, I am well satisfied.

Baraboo, Wisconsin, January 10, 1897.

H. W. SAVAGE.

E. T. Flanagan, Belleville, Illinois.

Dear Sir:—The bees and queens I got of you last season were very good and pleased me very much. They are beauties and splendid workers. Respt.

Palestine, Illinois, Jan. 10, 1897

E. C. HASKETT.

E. T. Flanagan, Belleville, Illinois.

Dear Sir:—I have bought bees and queens for the past 24 years from all parts of the United States, and I never received any that gave me greater satisfaction than the nuclei and queens I received from you. I can bank on them. They are gentle and great hustlers, and as long as I am in the bee business I will give you all my orders for bees and queens. You can book my order now for four nuclei, to be delivered the coming spring. Yours truly,

Kingman, Kansas.

J. W. Young.

Mr. Young has bought bees and queens from me for a number of years.

The above are only a few samples of reports from bees and queens I have sold. I have been nearly 20 years in the business, and it is a real pleasure to please my customers.

I raise my queens from the best stock obtainable, among others from G. M. Doolittle, also imported. Send for a catalogue to

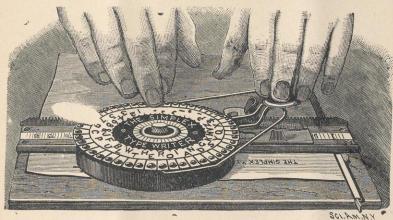
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stroke is made.

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THE MODEL COOP..... Rat, Cat, and Varmint Froof.

One nailed and five packed inside, making six in all, \$3.50. Eggs for hatching from S. L. Wyandotte, B. Langshans, \$1.50 per 13; 26, \$2.50. S. C. B. Leghorns, \$1.25 per 13; \$2 per 26. B. P. Rocks, \$1.50 per 13; 26. \$2.50.

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