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## The bee-hive. Vol. 4, No. 3 September, 1889

Andover, CT: E.H. Cook, September, 1889

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THE



**THE BEEHIVE**

PUBLISHED FOR AND IN THE INTEREST OF BEE-KEEPERS, BY ONE OF THEM.

VOL. 4.

ANDOVER, CONN., SEPTEMBER, 1889.

NO. 3.

Written for the Bee-Hive.

**A BEE'S SOLILOQUY.**

BY JOHN JAMIESON.

Boil down, boil down, the critics say,  
 'Till often nothing 's left but whey;  
 Perhaps all thro' that 's all that 's in it,  
 Well let some sister Bee now spin it.

To some sweet kisses now I fling,  
 And others I would gladly sting.  
 To all the messenger will come,  
 And Bees and keepers cease their hum.

The longest life is very short,  
 Nor Bees nor men much time for sport;  
 The hoary-headed and the young,  
 Alike will soon have silent tongue.

You're welcome to your "Happy Land,"  
 I do not want to be on hand,  
 Just leave me out, here let me stay,  
 Save me from man's despotic sway.

We have not lived on earth in vain,  
 We filled our niche with constant pain;  
 The human people pleased with sweet,  
 And often left with none to eat.

'Tis hardly worth while being born,  
 From short-lived joys so quickly torn;  
 Our winter stores we put away,  
 But of us few will see sweet May.

Had I my life to live again,  
 I would not toil for selfish men;  
 But let kind Nature's sweets remain  
 Upon the trees and flowery plain.


But no use talking, were it so,  
 The sweets as usual we would stow;  
 Our natural instincts would obey,  
 And gather every sunny day.

Farewell! farewell! both foe and friend!  
 To all my kindest love I send;  
 To generations yet unborn,  
 Let love your characters adorn.

To spin this yarn, to me was fun,  
 Now with this verse my song is done;  
 So now I bid you all good-bye,  
 Just double up, and droop and die.

**The United States Apiarian  
 EXPOSITION AT PARIS.**

(Continued from August number.)

 **U**ITE a variety of queen excluding slatted honey-boards are shown. These boards, which are scarcely known over here, seem to be in very general use in the States. Dr. Tinker shows some in which the perforated zinc has the greatest number of holes to a given space that we have ever seen. We should like to know where he gets it perforated, as it is quite the best yet produced. The other perforated queen-excluding zinc shown is evidently pierced either by A. I. Root or D. A. Jones, as we believe no others in America have machines which will do this work.

Mr. James Heddon has his Heddon hive, which has been so well ventilated in both the American, Canadian, and English bee journals, thanks principally to Mr. D. A. Jones. It was going to sweep every other hive off the face of the earth, but, though warmly upheld by so eminent a man as Professor Cook, it has not as yet made any headway, especially over here.

G. B. Lewis & Co., of Watertown, Wis., show their unequalled two and four-way one-piece sections, and for an article that is produced by the million, they cannot be surpassed. We are not surprised to learn that now they practically control the whole European trade in sections.

W. T. Falconer, of Jamestown, N. Y., who we notice has converted his business into a company, has the big-

gest and best show in the collection. Everything is got up in splendid style, and is clear varnished. He shows the Falcon hive, which is on similar lines to Root's lawn hive. The Chantangua [intended for Chautauqua probably] hive, named after a noted holiday resort near Jamestown, which is adapted for storifying, and can be used with either deep bars, shallow bars, or sections, is a capital hive. The hive shown has five stories. Mr. Falconer also shows his well-known one-piece section, and some good and cheap crates for shipping comb honey.

In addition to this large exhibit on the floor-space, there are four large glass cases, but in only one do the exhibits much interest bee-keepers. This case contains a vast variety of small articles, of which the following is an abridged list: Van Deusen hive-clamp, Gray's covered bee-feeder, Jones' bee-entrance guard, Parker fixer, various bee-escapes for getting bees out of sections, etc.; Alley's drone-trap, in which the drones are led by a conical arrangement into a box, from which they cannot return, while the workers escape through perforated zinc; Mr. Root's well-known shipping cages for  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. and 1 lb. of bees; a large display of queen-cages, Peet's figuring prominently; smokers, honey-knives (apparently English make), Carlin cutters, gloves, veils, foundation (by Root, Vandervort, Dadant, etc.), and a collection of honey cakes and confectionery.

The show of honey itself is not good. The season was bad last year in the States, as elsewhere, and Professor Riley, who is the courteous Chief Commissioner of the Apiarian Department, told me that some of the best comb honey had got broken in transit over here. There is not a really well finished section in the whole lot. J. Bull, of Seymour, Wis., has the best display in comb, and Mr. Knickerbocker, of Pine Plains, N. Y., of extracted, in

square bottles. The remainder is hardly worth notice.

The inscription on the top of the large stand is in letters constructed out of four-piece sections, and is very pretty, and in good taste. It reads thus: "*Les insects nuisibles et utiles,*" and the remaining three glass cases are filled with the specimens of the useful and harmful insects of the United States.—*British B. Journal.*

Written for the Bee-Hive.

## How to Reverse Frames.

BY H. L. JEFFREY.

Experiments With Various Appliances For Reversing.

HOW I am going to tell you that if I should see that remark in the BEE-HIVE again, that you made regarding the reversing of frames as being "a harmless lunacy," I shall be tempted to light on you with but little mercy.

Reversing the combs was first practically suggested to me by a tinsmith, Mr. J. C. Mayne, in Woodbury, in either 1878 or '79, while explaining to him the difficulty of getting the bees to work in the sections, after there was two or three inches of capped honey under the top-bar. And to carry out the trial, he gratuitously made me a number of outside folded tin frames, that were put on to the frames in the same manner as the Heddon reversal frame, and a  $\frac{3}{8}$  small screw went into the center of the end-bar. These would have worked very well if I had not been in the vicinity of thousands of cedar, hemlock, and various gum-producing trees, which gave the bees a chance to so strongly glue the tin case to the frame, that continual cleaning was a work of necessity; therefore they were discarded.

Then a sheet-iron corner, just like the Johnson reverser, was used with a better result, so far as gumming was concerned; but it was more work on the whole to reverse. Then a strap-

iron hook, and, perhaps twenty other devices, were all on trial at the same time by several of us.

Among other things to make the whole hive turn over, the top and bottom-bar extending  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch, and portable rabbets were used top and bottom. These I thoroughly tested with both the L. and the 4 5-16 deep frame. With the portable rabbets the frames could be taken out either side up. Where brood was in the lower half of all of the L. frames, the reversible hive was No. 1; but if perhaps the four center combs out of eight, only had brood in them, reversing of the hive, in nearly every case, gave us a set of combs of solid honey; therefore the reversible hive was a failure, in perhaps seventy per cent.

#### The Way to Reverse and How it Works.

With the A. I. Root reversible wires the thing in a great measure took a jump, because it was tried by taking an outside comb, full of honey, shaving the cappings off for three or four inches on the lower half, then placing this comb in the center of the hive, when it was emptied so far as it was shaved, and eggs were put into the cells. While they were in the larval stage I reversed the frame between two frames of brood, and was surprised to find out that the honey in the combs on each side was taken out, as had that from the lower half of the comb reversed; this started another trick.

While the lower half of the reversed comb had larvæ and eggs in it, it was again reversed, and the reverse sides of the combs on each side were turned towards the larvæ. This move gave us three frames nearly solid with brood and the honey in the sections, and also accomplished three objects: gave us more honey in the sections; set the bees at work there, and made our stocks a great deal stronger; therefore giving us enough bees to gather more than the amount of honey moved

out, and comparative records told the tale of over one-half more honey.

The experiment had been tried some before the coming of the Root reversing wire, but it did not practically prove to be profitable, because of the manipulating being too slow, or the reversing attachments too costly. Since the reversing wires of A. I. Root's make have come into practice, the reversing of the brood-frames has been a blessing and a profit, and I wish to go on record as saying that reversing is as practical as is the movable come hive, and *it is equally as essential to perfect success and profitable comb honey production.*

Now, Mr. Editor, will you please oblige by pointing out even the *appearance* of "lunacy." Twit me of advertising the wares of A. I. Root gratuitously in your columns, if you like. I have taken crates of honey that by no other method known to the apiarist could I have obtained, nor could I have obtained the strength of stocks to be reared for our fall bloom in any other way. I have resorted to the extractor, but it did not nor can it ever do what reversing has shown positively practical.

Reversing can be made a damage, but will not the blockhead and the willful going-to-have-his-own-way man, make a failure and a curse of almost any thing? Study the governing laws and then work with them, not against them, and success is yours every time.

New Milford, Conn.

Aug. 2d, '89.

[If our remark was the incentive that brought out the valuable ideas on this matter of making it a paying business to reverse the brood-frames, then we are not a mite sorry—no, not even if you do come down on us "with but little mercy," friend J. We have so much faith in Mr. Jeffrey's plan of reversing that another season we shall give it a thorough trial, and we hope that some of our readers will do the same. The past poor seasons, with their short and irregular honey-flows, show that the most skillful handling is required to secure a fair crop of honey. There must be no "guess-work" about any part of the business where a sure plan can be found.]

Written for the Bee-Hive.

## Introducing Queens.

BY E. L. PRATT.

A Sure Thing in This Line.

**B**RO. COOK: You say in the last number of your paper that you would like to hear from the *Q. B. J.* on introducing queens. Now I propose to go direct to the BEE-HIVE, and tell what I consider an infallible method

First, *be sure that your stock is queenless.* Leave them in their queenless condition for 24 hours, that is, over one night and well into the next day. Then go to them and insert the queen, *in the cage she was shipped in*, between two combs of hatching brood. The cage can be suspended with a wire or you may drive a wire nail into the upper end, so as to act as a sort of hook to catch on to the top-bars. Close the hive and leave them thus for another 24 hours. This is to give the queen, cage, and attendants the scent of the colony.

About 6 o'clock of the next day go to them again, remove the cage, turn back a corner of the wire cloth, leaving an opening wide enough for the queen to pass, plug this entrance full of candy, made of powdered sugar and honey, hang the cage back, close the hive and go about your work with the satisfaction of knowing your queen is safe and will be laying within 12 hours. There is no need of clipping a cell or even handling a comb by this method, and it is infallible. I used it on a dozen imported queens last month without a failure.

With cheaper queens I generally insert the cage with the screen turned back, after the first 24 hours. Some of the many causes for failure in introducing are the following: If a colony is being, or has been robbed, it will not accept a queen by any method, without the precaution that I will not state here.

A colony that has been queenless

longer than 82 hours will generally refuse a queen, unless you clip their cells and leave them in an hopelessly queenless condition for at least 12 hours.

If a colony does not show their queenlessness by building cells, or by running about the hive, extra precaution should be taken. There are many little points that I could not mention in an article on the subject, that would present themselves in practice. A good stock of sense and a quick, instinctive observation, together with experience, are very handy while introducing queens.

Marlboro, Mass.

Aug. 2d, '89.

Written for the Bee-Hive

## A Tale of Inversion.

A LETTER FROM ENGLAND.

An Experiment That Came Out At the Big End of the Horn.

◆ **KEEP** a couple of stocks of bees in the old-fashioned straw skeps, partly as an ornament, but mainly for "Auld Lang Syne." They cost me practically nothing, as I seldom, if ever, feed them, sometimes I get a swarm or two from them which I place into a bar-frame hive; at others I get a super of comb honey. On the whole they give me very good returns on my original outlay, and it must be a very bad year if they do not earn their "bread and salt."

Early last May one of them showed signs of being very populous, and I felt certain they would soon swarm if left to their own resources, so I resolved to practice "inversion" on them. In the center of the crown of the skep was a large bunghole to allow of its being supered, I took another floor-board and nailed two pieces of wood, about an inch square and six inches long, on the floor-board, in the form of a V, I then withdrew the bung from the crown of the skep, and turning the latter top-side-to-other-way I rested

what was the crown on to this V on the floor-board, and the bees used this in future as their flight hole.

Bishop Butler, who recommended "inversion" 250 years ago, used to place an empty skep on the full one—month against month—and allow the bees to use the flight hole in the middle of the erection he thus had created. But, as you observe, I did not slavishly follow Bishop Butler.

But to return, I next placed on the mouth of my upturned skep an adapting board, of queen-excluder zinc, which I had hunted out from my "limbo of fossilized bee-gear." It is five years since I used a queen-excluder last, and this year has only confirmed my belief in its being unnecessary, as I have not had a single egg laid nor a single grain of pollen carried into a super for a whole season. My reason for using it now was because the cells being in an unnatural position through inversion, I thought the queen might be unwilling to lay in them if she could find others in a proper position in the super.

On the top of the excluder zinc I placed a crate of 21 one-pound sections, in twelve days I found they were nearly all full of comb and were being filled with honey rapidly; consequently I lifted the first crate and placed another, precisely like it, underneath the first and found they soon took possession of this also. On the twentieth day after being inverted they threw a large swarm, weighing nearly six pounds; but they had not finished my 42 sections as I had wished, consequently I took up the queen and allowed them to return; nine days after they again swarmed, headed by a virgin queen of course. This swarm I placed on ten bars full of foundation, I at the same time removed the two crates with the 42 sections, also the queen-excluder zinc, and replaced the skep back in its old original position. I found a cluster of four sealed queen-cells fastened to my sheet of zinc, and

as a virgin queen had hatched and gone with the swarm I concluded they had reared at least one queen in the body of the skep, but to be certain not to leave them queenless I cut off one queen-cell from the zinc and fastened it down in the bunghole at the top of the skep. They two days afterwards threw a second swarm, and I wished then I had not given the queen-cell in the bunghole, as I found it had hatched out when I examined it; but I placed this second swarm also in a bar-frame hive, with some misgivings about depopulating the old stock too much, but they soon got so strong that I feared they would again swarm; consequently I placed a bell glass super over the bunghole, and in a few days they took possession of that also, and it is nearly filled with sealed honey on the date I am writing this. If full it holds 10 lbs. or thereabouts.

But to return to my original swarm. I found 9 of the 42 sections were not finished, these I placed in a crate and added 12 empty ones to them and placed them on the swarm; a week after I lifted these and placed another crate of 21 empty sections under it—these were all filled in due course.

The second swarm have built out their ten combs of full sheets of foundation and this is the sum total:

- 2 colonies of bees in bar-frame hives;
- 20 combs with sufficient stores for winter;
- 75 1-lb. sections of comb honey;
- a bell glass containing say, 8 lbs. comb honey,

and the old stock in the skep as good as ever. How is that for profit for a hive that claims to give the maximum of profit for the minimum of labor? The bees are the despised blacks, the owner is known as

"AMATEUR EXPERT."

England, 23d July, '89.

[The showing is most excellent, and rather gives you away as an "Amateur," but not as an "Expert" at managing bees.]

## ❖ Beginner's Corner. ❖

**COMB HONEY.**—In removing sections of capped honey much care is necessary not to bruise them by hitting against each other, or by denting with the fingers. Place them the same side up as when in the hive, then should there be any cells not sealed they are not so apt to leak. If honey is piled more than one tier high, sheets of heavy paper should be placed between each tier. Remove all finished sections from the hive as fast as possible, that they may not become soiled by the bees; for though they are very neat, they will make the cappings quite yellow in a short time from traveling over them so much.

**UNFINISHED SECTIONS.**— Those that are nearly full can be used in the family or given to near neighbors as "peace offerings" for any damage the bees may have done them. Those not more than half full can be feed back to any colonies not having enough honey for winter, either by placing a few of them above the quilt, turning back one corner just enough to let the bees up, or by placing a crate of them on the hive, with an empty crate between it and the brood-nest.

**ROBBING.**— Keep the entrances pretty well contracted so soon as honey ceases to be gathered, which may be noticed from the bees trying to enter other hives than their own. The worst case of robbing we ever saw was late one fall.

**WEAK COLONIES.**—All that do not cover well five or six combs should be united at once, and do not be afraid of making colonies too strong; as one strong stock is more likely to winter than two weak ones, besides it is those populous stocks which send out early swarms.

**UNITING.**—If there is no choice in the queens, lay down a cloth in front of the hive to which the other nucleus

or nuclei are to be united. Puff several good whiffs of smoke into the entrances, then return to the hive where the cloth is and shake the bees on to it, then take the frames from the other hives and shake the bees in with these. When all are together place the combs having the most honey in them in the hive, the others can be uncapped and placed above the brood-chamber for the bees to remove the honey below. Do not give these combs to them till the evening following. It is a good plan to do this uniting toward night, and but a few hives at a time if there is much inclination to rob. If one queen is more valuable than the others, cage her for a day or two, and destroy the inferior ones.

## Writing for Bee Journals.

BY H. L. JEFFREY.

Don't Change the Price.—Writing for Publication A Good Educator.

**M**R. EDITOR:—I see that you are going to make a new departure by a reduction in the price of your paper; to that I say, *do not do it*, but just add one or two more leaves of the reading matter, and give us a larger paper. I am positively sure that you can obtain material to fill it, and that which is good, too.

Two pages devoted to real good practical handling, and two more to the facts of breeding, will not make the paper any the worse, besides that, all of our oldest and best writers are on the wane of life, and as there is occasionally a real good young one coming on, that younger one must expect to take the place of the one that is now and then taken from the ranks. It takes years to become a Langstroth, a Quinby or a Doolittle, but they will all leave us one of these days, and who will take their places?

Don't drop off that ten cents, but make a page to call out the boy and the youth in apiculture. Trying to

write an article for publication has two advantages. First, it will make the writer put in on one point his conclusions on that point; second, and most important of all to him or her, it will cause a further investigation on that point in question, and open eyes by criticisms.

New Milford, Conn., Aug. 12, '89.

[See editorial about change of price. Now, friend Jeffrey, as you have brought up the matter of having a page devoted to breeding each month, and as we know of no one better qualified to conduct this subject than yourself, such punishment is accorded you, unless you relent and "take it all back."]

## Reversing.

BY J. M. SHUCK.

The Editor's Scalp-Lock Not Yet Safe.

**B**RO. COOK:—I take the remark in fine print about H. L. Jeffrey's method of inversion to be yours, and you say, "By reversing the whole of the brood-frames the bees simply restore the honey over the brood," etc. Suppose the lower half or two-thirds of the brood-frames are occupied, *with brood*, as you must admit they often are, and all is turned over. Now if the bees remove the honey will they not store it in the sections? Where else can they put it?

"Harmless lunacy" is less objectionable than thoughtless lunacy.

Des Moines, Ia., July 31, '89.

[Your supposition would be correct; but I think you will admit, friend Shuck, that the majority of queens seldom fill the bottom edges and corners with brood, and that the lower half of the outside frames generally contain but little brood or honey (except when the latter is coming in rapidly, when no compulsion is necessary to make them store it above.) Now when all the frames are reversed at *one time*, it seems to me that the bees would have room to restore the honey, without being compelled to carry it into the surplus chamber. See Mr. Jeffrey's article in this number, which explains my meaning more fully on this point.]

In the premium list of the Detroit International Fair, Sept. 17th to 27th, the apiarian premiums offered amount

to \$306.00. What State beats this?

### Fifty Pounds Per Colony.

ABOUT the first of June our bees had their winter stores so nearly used up in brood rearing that some of them starved, and we fed till June 6th, when they commenced on white clover, which has been a continuous flow to date (Aug. 1st)—not a rapid flow but steady.

All good colonies will average at least 50 lbs. of comb honey each. No honey from basswood. The prospect is good for a still further yield from fall flowers.

O. B. BARROWS.

Marshalltown, Ia.

### Only Enough Honey for Winter.

WE ARE getting no honey here this season, it has been very rainy all the spring and summer. I shall get only enough for winter stores. My bees swarmed in May this year, and I only had one out in June.

J. S. HYDE.

W. Kennebunk, Me., Aug. 19, '89.

### Little Honey in Vermont.

WE ARE having a poor season for honey—it rains about all the time and the bees have done little but swarm. This they have done beyond anything "I ever dreamed of."

D. L. HOWE.

Woodstock, Vt., Aug. 7, '89.

### Twenty-Five Pounds Per Colony.

I HAVE 250 colonies; they have made about 24 lbs. per hive now.

G. G. BALDWIN.

Port Huron, Mich., Aug. 9, '89.

WEIGHT OF BEES.—25,000 bees, weighing about five pounds, or about seven quarts, constitute a good colony. They should have about 25 lbs. of stores to enable them to stand the winter.—British B. J.

This paper is only 25 cts. a year.





For the Month Ending Aug. 15, 1889.

**B**EES are very quiet now—working a little on favorable mornings, on buckwheat, and saving their strength for the long cold winter to come.

—ABOUT two weeks ago we moved 30 colonies about four miles, to twenty acres of buckwheat. They are not doing much as yet, however, and may not. Any way, they are there, ready for another year, in a very fine location. We moved them on a hay-rack, with hay on it. They were prepared as follows:—the frames were wedged tight, by slipping a piece between the end-bars of the frames, and by wedging the division-board tight at one side. Then a rim three inches deep, covered with wire cloth, was screwed on top. Not a frame was broken nor a bee made uncomfortable; though some were *were* rather cross, when let out of the hives.

—Two correspondents of the Aug. "Review" mention that C. O. Perrine lost, in his famous Mississippi River exploit, at least \$15,000. You know he attempted to follow the bloom up the river with a large boat, loaded with bees.

—If your honey is nice it is as good as cash, so please *don't* be in a hurry to sell at the first offer. The markets will by no means be flooded with honey, and we ought to get as much as a year ago. Sell all you can at home.

—Now is the time to re-queen your bees. If you are a beginner and have black bees, get an Italian queen or two, "just for the fun of it," not because we consider them so much su-

perior; as in our own yard the blacks have this season done as well as the Italians, on comb honey.

—AFTER actual weight of our crop, we find we have about 2,500 lbs., all told, of surplus honey in the comb; and 500 lbs. of extracted.

—IN *Gleanings* for August first, friend Manum describes his improvement in cell protectors, and in a private letter says: "I can now furnish virgin queens, during the swarming season, for about a cent apiece." Surely, as friend Hutchinson of the *Review* says, good queens will yet be furnished for a *quarter*.

—"THE first requisite in caring for comb honey after it is taken from the hive, is a warm room in which to store it."—G. M. Doolittle. Yes; and this damp summer we have often wished we had a stove in ours, to drive out the dampness on rainy mornings.

—MR. C. A. HATCH, of Ithaca, Wis., writes privately: "I have 10,700 lbs. of honey from 67 colonies, spring count." What a country for bass-wood!


—THE *manager* of the *Api.*, judging from the August issue, seems not to be flooded with articles for publication, as most of it is *editorial*.

—Now, in conclusion, let us give you a little practical advice. Let alone all colonies having good queens and plenty of stores. If compelled to feed, do so as quickly as possible; don't be over three days feeding any colony enough for winter. Do not handle on cool mornings. Follow this advice and your bees will winter *better*.

APIS AMERICANA.

THE FIRST BEE BOOK PUBLISHED IN AMERICA was printed just fifty-two years ago, in Middlebury, Vt., says Mr. Cushman.

## Tabby's Amusing Adventure with the Bees.

 GENTLEMAN in a certain town in America possessed the only hive of bees in the place, and he said that when he got his swarm his old cat's curiosity was much excited in regard to the doings of the little insects, the like of which she had never seen before. At first she watched their comings and goings at a distance. She then flattened herself upon the ground and crept along the hive, tail horizontal and quivering. It was clearly evident that she thought the bees some new kind of game.

Finally she took up a position at the entrance to the hive, and when a bee came in or out, made a dab at it with her paws. This went on for a time without attracting the special attention of the occupants of the hive. Presently, however, "Old Tabby" struck and crushed a bee on the edge of the opening to the hive. The smell of the crushed bee alarmed and enraged the whole swarm. Bees by the hundred poured out and darted into the fur of the astonished cat. Tabby rolled herself in the grass, spitting, biting, clawing, and squalling as cat never squalled before. She appeared a mere ball of fur and bees, as she rolled and tumbled about. She was at length hauled away from the hive with a garden rake, at the cost of several severe stings to her rescuer.

Even after she had been taken to a distant part of the grounds the bees stuck in Tabby's fur, and about once in two minutes she would utter an unearthly "yowl," and bounce a full yard into the air. Like the parrot that was left alone with the monkey, old Tabby had a dreadful time. Two or three days after the adventure Tabby was caught by her owner, who took her by the neck and threw her near the hive. No sooner did she strike the ground

than she gave a fearful squall, and at a single bound reached the top of a fence full six feet in height. There she clung for a moment, with tail as big as a rolling-pin, when, with another bound and squall she was out of sight, and did not again put in an appearance for over a week.—Weekly Telegraph.

A REVIEW OF


## Langstroth ON THE Honey-Bee,

as Revised by

CHAS. DADANT & SON.

[Commenced in No. 10.]

SWARMING.

 HE following tells us how bees act at the time of this important event: "On the day fixed for departure, the queen is very restless, and instead of depositing her eggs in the cells, roams over the combs and communicates her agitation to the whole colony. The emigrating bees usually fill themselves with honey, just before their departure; but in one instance, we saw them lay in their supplies more than two hours before they left. A short time before the swarm rises, a few bees may generally be seen sporting in the air, with their heads turned always to the hive; and they occasionally fly in and out, as though impatient for the important event to take place. At length, a violent agitation commences in the hive; the bees appear almost frantic, whirling around in circles, continually enlarging, until, at last, the whole hive is in a state of the greatest ferment, and the bees, rushing impetuously to the entrance, pour forth in one steady stream. Not a bee looks behind, but each pushes straight ahead, as though flying 'for dear life,' or urged on by some invisible power, in its headlong career."

The idea that swarms send out scouts to find a new home, at the time of swarming, is known to be true.

A statement that swarms may be induced to alight at some selected spot, by placing a black hat or an old dark comb at this point, appears to be a good thing. It is often noticeable that come special tree or other place, frequently attracts a majority of the swarms. By placing a dummy at this place, but little doubt can be entertained that almost all swarms would alight there. Might not some of the swarms that annually abscond, be induced to alight by having several of these imitation swarms hung on the trees near the apiary?

(Continued next month.)

THE

# Bee Hive

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

E. H. COOK,  
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER,  
ANDOVER, CONN.

Subscription Price, 25 cents Per Year  
in Advance.

## Editorial Ink Drops.

All subscriptions will be stopped when the time paid for expires (see notice of same stamped on wrapper) unless renewed before.

We Desire Agents for the Bee-Hive, and to such we offer very liberal inducements. Sample copies and terms on request.

Friend Pratt says that he has a method of introducing queens without opening hives, which will soon be made public.

The Combination Pen we offer sells rapidly, and no wonder, for the rubber stamp alone would cost what we ask for the whole thing.

The Queen Breeders' Journal has sold out to the "Western Apian." It was a bright sheet and we hoped it had "come to stay."

"Amateur Expert," under date of July 22, '89, says: "We have had a moderate season here, the weather has not kept steady for a sufficient number of days to make it a good one."

**Is it a Notion?**—It has always seemed to us that those queen-cells having the best corrugated sides produce the best queens, while those smooth-sided, chunky cells were "no good."

**Wintering Bees.**—"If you or your many readers want to know how I winter bees (haven't lost a swarm for six years), I will report."—W. B. Baker, W. Va.

[Send it right along friend B.]

**Never Shall We** refuse an article because the writer "has a mind of his own," and tells what he believes to be the truth, even if we think him mistaken, for subscribers have a right to judge the matter for themselves.

'Tis Funny, just to think how we offered the BEE-HIVE for 15 cts. during August, and how almost every letter contained 25 cts. We shall try to get even by making the BEE-HIVE as interesting as possible, and as so many insist on paying 25 cents, the price will remain as formerly, except to agents.

"Honey Crop light this year, but we must brace up and get ready for next year. We shall have a better yield sometime," writes friend Bills, of Southington, Conn.

[That is true, Bro. B. "'Tis a long road that has no turn," and when bee-keepers do get where they can see "round the corner," what a happy lot of mortals there will be.]

As a Number of our subscribers have given us the credit (which we consider a compliment) of writing "Notes and Clippings" we think it is high time to give friend Apis the credit—and if we dared would tell you his name, but as it is you must watch his writings very closely and may be he will "let the cat out" somewhere, then you will know who he is.

**Our Remarks on Reversing** brood-frames, in August issue, stirred up a regular "hornet's nest." By another season we shall have several colonies in shape to experiment with, and then should reversing fail to work, won't we just "kick up a row!" Any of our readers who have tried any form of reversing are invited to give their experience.

P. S.—We don't mean their personal experience.

**The First Half of August** was very rainy and the bees could do little but consume the small amount of honey on hand. We found several nuclei with not a single cell of honey, and the bees in one of them had become so hungry that they uncapped a queen-cell which had been given them, to obtain the royal jelly it contained. Poor fellows! Since the 15th the weather has been dry and warm, and the loud roaring, early and late, shows how bees can work when they have the chance.

**Carniolan Bees.**—In answer to inquiries about this race we give as follows: They are natives of the province of Carniola, Austria. In appearance and size they closely resemble black bees, and no one but an expert could tell them apart. In color they are not quite so dark as blacks, inclining more to gray. Great prolificness of the queens, and consequently, much swarming; gentleness in handling; industry, hardiness in wintering, etc., are the chief points claimed for the Carniolans.

Now that so many have invested in this race of bees, it seems to us that some of those who "helped blow the horn," should step forward and give a report of the HONEY gathered by the Carniolans. One wouldn't give a fig for gentleness and prolificness, unless as much or more honey can be secured from them than from the Italians. We have had but little experience with them, and for the present shall stick to the Italians. Our columns are open to any of our readers who choose to give their experience with Carniolans.

**Queen-Cells.**—Dr. Tinker's method of getting cells is to remove all unsealed brood from a colony, supplying its place with frames of capped brood or honey, at the same time caging the queen and placing her on the top of the frames till evening, when she is removed. Fix an empty frame with one or two bars, horizontal with top-bar and two inches apart. Procure a piece of comb about two inches square, containing eggs and very small larvæ, from the queen desired, then cut the cells from one side of comb and slit up the other side into single cells. These cells are to be fastened to the under side of the parallel bars, by inverting the frame and dropping a small quantity of melted wax on them about one inch apart, and then placing a cell on the wax before it chills. After attaching from 16 to 20 cells, place the frame in the center of the prepared colony. If honey is scarce, feed.

We have tried this way with the best results; the cells being large, finely corrugated and of good length—such as delight the breeder of extra fine queens.

I find Ideal Tooth Powder is without exception the best I have ever used. With its aid I keep my teeth very clean and white, which I was unable to do with any other powder I have ever tried before. So says Ferdinand E. Chartard, Baltimore, Md.

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Either of the following engravings, "Evangeline," "Bayard," "Monarch of the Glen" or "The First Step," without advertising on them, size 20 x 24 inches, given with one 50 cent or two 25 cent bottles of Ideal Tooth Powder. These are not cheap lithographs, but works of art. A. D. Bowman, Dentist, Nicholia, Idaho, says, I am using your Ideal Tooth Powder, and find it superior to all others.

The engraving "Evangeline" arrived safely on the 24th of December, making it seem like a Christmas gift. Trusting that Ideal Tooth Powder may flourish, I remain, yours respectfully, Elois Earnest, Denver, Col. One of these engravings without advertising on it worth \$1 retail is given with each two 25 cent bottles of Ideal Tooth Powder.

### Special Notices.

Under this heading advertisements of 35 words will be inserted four times for only 25 cents.

UNTESTED Italian queens, 85 cts.; tested, \$1.25; mated, 85 cts. Our queens are reared from a mother whose progeny need no smoke; good workers. All queens mailed in Peet cages. Stamps taken. S. F. & I. Trego, Swedona, Ills.

THE only Bee-hive Factory in Central Illinois! Bee-hives, brood-frames, surplus cases, shipping crates, sections, chaff hives, etc. Transferring a specialty. F. N. Johnson, box 137, Knoxville, Knox Co., Ills.

CHOICE Italian Queens and Nuclei from imported mothers, also Full Colonies and Tested Queens. Queens by return mail. Send for circular. Simon P. Roddy, Mechanicstown, Md.

GIFTS! To every purchaser of one Tested yellow Italian Queen for \$1.50 after June 10th, I will give a 1-frame Nucleus. Send for price-list. Mrs. Oliver Cole, Sherburne, Chong. Co., N. Y.

Please mention the BEE-HIVE in writing to above advertisers and you will receive prompt reply, and do us a kindness also.

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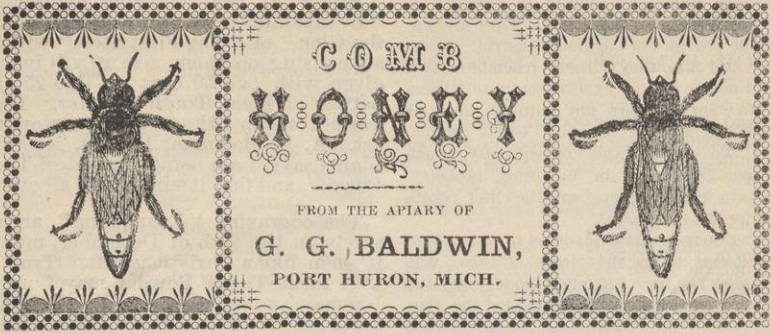
Then of course you will want some neatly printed business cards to hand out among the people who are interested in your business. Well, send in your order and what you want printed on them, and you will be surprised to see what a tasty card (good quality of cardboard, too) we get up for the following very low prices, which includes all postage:

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Oh, yes! If you need any circulars, tags, etc., we know our prices will please you, for they are very low, and we guarantee to give satisfaction.

E. H. COOK, Andover, Conn.

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Henry Alley, Wenham, Mass.



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There are plenty of good queens nearer, but the one I had of you last year exceeded any I ever had before, so I now order of you again.  
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"    Honey-Producer.....m	.75
Gleanings in Bee Culture.....s-m	1.10
A B C of Bee Culture.....m	1.25
Bee-Keepers' Guide.....m	1.25
Revised Langstroth.....m	1.75
Doolittle's Queen-Rearing.....m	.35

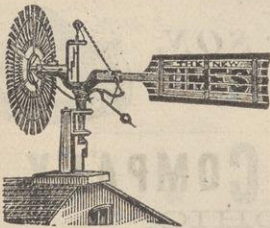
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is what you should see before you subscribe for Newspapers or Magazines, as I save money for every one who orders of me.

E. H. COOK, Andover, Conn.

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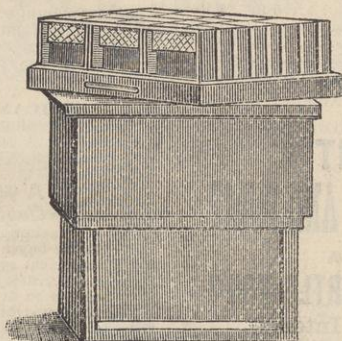
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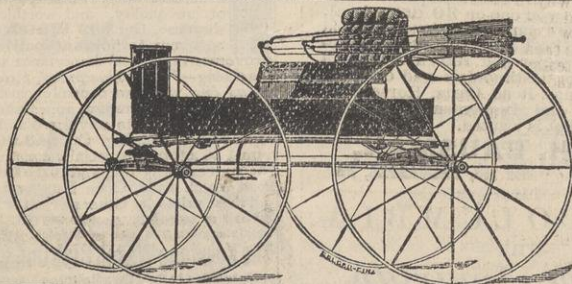
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A sketch of G. M. Doolittle, wherein his Early Love of Bees, Reading Bee-Books and Papers, Influence of the Teachings of E. Gallup, Good Queens, Writing Articles, etc., are interestingly described. Following this comes Mr. Doolittle's Method of Rearing Queens. The first subject treats on the Importance of Good Queens, showing how necessary they are if one would be successful. The Old Way of Rearing Queens is then described and its defects clearly shown, followed by the Method Now Used, and its disadvantages. Eggs and Food are then discussed. The way of arranging and fastening the Queen-Cups is then clearly described and fully illustrated. The Cell-Building Colony is next described, followed by Larvæ for Queen-Cells; Transferring the Larvæ; Advantages of this Method; Points to Remember; Natural Queen-Cells; How to Make the Nuclei; How to Cut Out the Cells, and How to put Cells in Nuclei. This is followed by pithy points gleaned from Mr. D.'s writings, as follows—Honey; Queens; Scraps; Honey-Combs, Reports.

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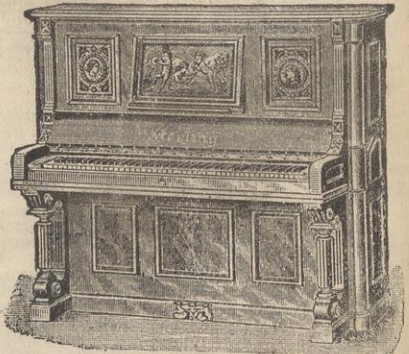
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