

## The Southland queen. Vol. I, No. 10 February 1896

Beeville, Texas: The Jennie Atchley Company, February 1896

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# Southland Queen.

Beeville, Texas, FEBRUARY, 1896.

Established 1884.

## J. M. Jenkins, Wetumpka, Ala.

Steam Bee-hive Factory.

Full line of Bee-keepers' Supplies.

Italian Bees.

60-page Catalog tells you all

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## THE A. I. ROOT CO., MEDINA, OHIO.

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

## THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

MOTTO: FAIRNESS.

Vol. I. BEEVILLE, TEXAS, FEBRUARY, 1896.

No. 10.

Our bees are working nicely on wild current now.

There is lots of room here for the right kind of bee-keepers, and lots of honey wasting, that is as fine as any produced in the world, and a good home market.

We notice in the American Bee-Journal, that two Northern beekeepers seem dissatisfied with Bee County. These two, both draw fat pensions, and neither got any honey at home, and may not get any here. It is those that depend on bees for a living that do well in Southwest Texas.

Bro. Hasty has tried, in the Jan. '96 Review, to apply the definition rod to the "Queen," and failed. Bro. H., you may never be able to make it fit, as the "Queen" has no pets, is for no special click or clan, non partisan, and is not sectarian in its make up. She is a Journal by bee-keepers and for bee-keepers, and will come out every time as full of information for them as her pages will allow. All bee-keepers have a right to the "Queen," and we think enough of them will fly to her rescue, when there is danger

of her contracting the chicken pox. Bro. H. thinks we have too many irons in the fire. That may be true, but when they get too hot, we will try to hit them a "Hasty" lick before they burn. Bro. H., we do not lack for plenty of good matter, as we have nearly a hundred good articles now wanting space.

R. & E. C. Porter, Lewistown, Ill, of bee-escape fame, have kindly sent us two of their new bee-escapes, which are designed for the freeing of honey houses and other rooms of bees.



[The new "Porter" Bee-escape.]

These escapes look as the 'they may do their work as perfectly as the original "Porter" does in freeing supers and other honey boxes of bees. We have used and sold the "Porter" escapes for a long time, and they have given perfect satisfaction. The A. I. Root Co., of Medina, Ohio, have the exclusive right to them.



#### LESSON NUMBER 7.

MRS. ATCHLEY:-

(1.) I see in the "Queen," June No., page 16, in answer to W. D. Keys, New Albany, Ind., you say: "Your bees are afflicted with that well known, nameless bee disease, known as dysentery, spring dwindling, or paralysis."

Haven't you got things just a little mixed, or didn't the printer or some one else make you say what you did not aim to say? I think it a clear case of paralysis, from the description given of the disease. I also thought paralysis and dysentery were two separate and distinct diseases. Am I not right about it?

Then again you say, on page 17, same issue, in answer to C. F. Owens: "Your bees have a touch of dysentery, and we think will get all right, as dry, warm weather appears."

Now, I am very positive that is another case of paralysis, and something any bee-keeper may well dread in this climate, from the past five year's experience I have had with it.

(2.) And again on page 20, of the July No., in answer to G. W. Wilson of Hylton, Texas, it seems that you think (from the answer given) that bees always gather some honey from the same plant or blossom that they are gathering pollen from. If such is your idea about that, how about bees working on meal, flour, etc., collecting it as pollen, as you have seen many time, no doubt? I think bees always carry honey enough with them sufficient to moisten

the pollen while working on blossoms that furnish only pollen, and I am very sure we have many plants that furnish only pollen.

(3.) Again, on page 6, Aug. No., in answer to Noah Rector, of Grand Prairie, Texas, where he asks: "Which does the queen prefer to lay in, new or old combs?" You say: "I am forced to say I do not know," etc. Now, Sister A., I am surprised at this answer. I thought it a settled fact that the queen always prefered old to new comb to lav in, at least such has always been my experience, and I have tried it several times. Now, suppose at swarming time next spring, you try hiving a few swarms on combs, say half the combs to be new, that has never had brood in them, the other half to be old, black combs that has been in use a long time. Now, put half of each in a hive, (of course both sets of combs to be sweet and clean) and if the queen doesn't deposit eggs in the old combs first every time, I'll confess that your queen acts very different to mine.

L. B. SMITH.

Lometa, Texas.

#### FRIEND SMITH:-

(1.) You are likely not aware that there is no name at all, as yet, for any of these diseases. The terms or names we use are only picked up and virtually mean one and the same thing if we mistake not. You likely know that horsemint, sage, cat-mint, and in fact all plants with square stalks belong to the mint family, but appear in a little different dress. Well, beeparalysis, disentery and spring-dwindling are exactly the same family of diseases, only in a little

the case. If we are not mistaken, these diseases are one and the same thing, and really have no name.

- (2.) In regard to pollen-bearing plants, some of them you say, do not furnish any honey, but we had this same question up many years ago, and after it went the rounds, the majority took the stand that any plant that furnished pollen, gave some honey too, even if it is only a very little bit, and as we took the majority as being correct, hence our reply. We must confess that we never gave that much thought, but one thing we do know, and that is, bees may be gathering pollen and starve to death, if no honey is coming in. We have noticed this a few times in life, but in a majority of cases we find some honey coming in when pollen is gathered in abundance.
- (3.) As to queens always prefering old combs to lay in, we do not think she has much preference in the matter, as she is always controlled by the bees, as far as we can see. If the bees form a nest, warm up the old combs, and clean them up first, the queen uses them first, if not, she uses the new ones. queen prefered new combs, but hold the combs straight, and in a

different form. Some times the when we come to look at it in its bees may be only slightly affected, right or proper light, we always and soon recover, others die out found the bees working out those entirely, owing to the severity of new pieces of combs, and of course the bees have these combs warmed up, cleaned and in simple terms, enlarging the brood nest, and the queen follows them up, and naturally deposits eggs there. knows what the queen's preferences are, any way?

MRS. ATCHLEY:-

In your next article please tell us something about transfering colonies, and when is the proper time. Do you think the old fashioned gum is as good as the framed hive? I transfered two colonies from the old gums to framed hives last year, and both died. They seemed to be dissatisfied. Each colony swarmed out several times and tried to leave. They built but very little comb and finally died. Each colony had a thrifty queen, and there were larvæ in the comb when they died. How can colonies be fed without fighting?

MRS. EMMA RICHARDSON. Florence, Texas, Jan. 31, 1896.

Mrs. R .: - You likely transfered your bees when there was a scarcity of honey. It may be you mean that you only transfered the bees. and not their comb and honey. What we term transfering, is taking the bees, brood-combs and honey from the old hive or gum, and place the combs in your frames, and fasten them in by tacking narrow, thin strips of wood across the combs, and place the strips or clsps We have often thought that the on in such a manner that they will

few days you can remove the strips and you have your combs nice and straight, just as the bees would build them. This is what we call transfering, and if the bees have enough to live on before, they will also have it after transfering. best time to transfer is about fruit bloom time in the spring, and by no means transfer when no honey is being gathered. Putting the bees out into a clean box, with no comb, is what we used to term driving them, and they are as apt to leave your new hive, the same as a natural swarm hived on empty frames. It was not your framed hives that caused the bees to die, or leave, but they could not gather a support and became discouraged. Of course framed hives are best, as one cannot handle bees to any advantage in old boxes or logs. If you will feed just at nightfall, the bees will take the food all in and store it in the combs during the night, and next morning will be in shape to defend their stores, and less robbing will be the result. I would make a syrup of common sugar, a little thiner than for table use, and pour it into the combs, and hang the frame with the food right close up to the cluster, and they will take it in most any kind of weather.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY CO:-

Please send me The Southland Queen. Will you please give all the suggestions you can for one who wants to start a small apiary, on a small scale—30 or 40 colonies? What name and style of hive is the best? How would it do to buy bees in box or log hives, and transfer them to framed hives?

Answers to these questions will be greatly appreciated.

A. T. REED, M. D.

Doctor:-We stand ever ready to impart information, and we are always willing to do the best we can for bee-keepers, as well as others. You have struck a good plan to start cheap—buying bees in boxes and logs, and transfering them. We had given this same advice to a great many before, and some of them had no experience whatever with bees, and they made failures in transfering, and we had concluded to advise beginners to get a few colonies in framed hives to start with, and learn the habits and ways of the bees somewhat, before they undertake the job of transfering.

We presume from your remarks, that you have had some experience with bees. The 8 framed Simplicity hive, taking the Langstroth frame, is the most popular hive of the present day, but your question of what is the best hive, is a pretty hard one. We do not fall out with, or argue the hive question with any one, but by all means start with a movable comb hive, one not too large or too small, and be sure to have all hives, frames, etc. uniform, or you will have occasion for

regret. We would advise the 8 or 10 framed simplicity hives, taking the Langstroth frames, as these two sizes of the same hives are what we term the standard. In transfering, we would caution you to be sure honey is coming in at the time the work is done. One good and sure way, is to get your bees in boxes and logs, let them swarm, hive the swarms in framed hives, then in 16 days transfer, and you have no brood in the way, and at such times honey is likely to be comeing in.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—As I now have the right to ask questions, being a student, I will be pleased to have some questions answered in the "Queen."

How much drone comb ought each colony to have, and what part of the brood nest ought it to occupy?

Will drone comb do for starters in brood frames?

J. D. SMITH.

Decatur, Miss., Jan. 20, '96.

I have often experimented on this very point, trying how near I could come to telling whether or not any drone comb was necessary, and I believe it is best to allow each colony as much as one fourth to one half frame of drone comb. If you don't, the bees will build some drone cells in nooks aud corners any way. I have tried giving new swarms all full sheets of worker foundation, and they would always find some place to build a few drone cells, but an over production of drones can be prevented

by using full sheets of brood foundation in all the frames, for I have tried it. It is nature's way for them to have some drone comb, and I would let them have it. and it ought to occupy the outside of frames, unless you want early drones and plenty of them for queen rearing, and from a choice queen, then place a drone comb in the center of the brood nest and you will get drones quicker. abundance of sealed drone brood is a sign of swarming. I would not use drone comb for starters in brood frames, as it would make a little patch of drone brood in every frame, but it would be at the top, and would do no particular harm, but I have tried it and don't like it. It is owing to the likes and dislikes of the different apiarists, though, and if you have an abundance of drone comb that you would like to use for starters, try it and report. The bees will build worker combs onto them, and if you only use small pieces it will be all right. If honey is comeing in freely, and you put drone starters in all or any of the frames, the bees may fill some of the frames with drone combs clear to the bottom.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—I claim to be one of your scholars. I am well pleased with the "Southland Queen," and will ask some questions.

How do you apply salt for bee paralysis, or what is best for this disease?

What color are Holyland bees, and

are Cyprians the same as Holylands? Are Carniolan bees hardy?

I use the 8 framed hives. I have never used the V hives, but think I would like them.

L. E. M. PAYNE.

Cokercreek, Tenn., Jan. 1, 1896.

FRIEND PAYNE:—I used to apply salt by lifting the covers of the hives and sprinkle the salt right down among the bees, and all over the hives inside, and the salt will work its way down through the bees.

Holyland bees are a grayish blue color, with 3 narrow yellow bands, much narrower than the vellow on Italians, the third band not showing very plainly. No, the Cyprians are somewhat different from Holvlands. The Cyprians came from the island of Cypress, and the Holylands from Palestine. The ones we have came from Jerusalem, and are the best strain of Holylands we ever saw, and as gentle as Italians. The Cyprians work and act very much like Holylands, but they are, as a rule, worse to sting and fight, but are, in our opinion, as fine bees for work as ever came to America.

Yes, Carniolans seem to be as hardy as Italians, are good workers, and quick to build up, and get strong in bees quicker than any bees we ever had, but in this country they want to swarm too much, and do not stop breeding as long as they have a drop of honey, and sometimes starve to death before you know it. These are the only

objections we have to them. They are gentle, and quiet to handle every way, and stick to their combs as well as Italians when being handled. This is one proof that they have no black or native blood in them, even if they do resemble our common black bees.

Yes, we think you would like the V hives, as they are self cleaners, and the best hives for queen rearing we have yet tried. The moths are bad on weak colonies in this country, and any trash or comb, cut down by the bees, lodge on the bottom boards and makes a good nest for the moths, and soon they take the colony unless you are cleaning the hives continually, and when the V hives are used, all the trash falls down and out, and is blowed away by the wind. This feature alone is worth a heap for us in queen rearing.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—I am very much discouraged with my sections, as my neighbors say bees wo'n't work in them, yet, if you will tell me how to manage them I will give them a trial.

J. T. PARKER.

Eden, Texas, Jan. 29, '96.

FRIEND PARKER:—I would not pay any attention to what my neighbors say, but go right ahead and put my sections on the hives, just before your honey flow begins, and if your bees get honey enough to store a surplus, I will guarantee you get some section honey. You may have a strain of bees that are

slow to enter the sections. If so, use wide frames filled with sections, in the upper stories, raise up two frames of brood from the brood nest, put a wide frame of sections between them, keep the queen down by a queen excluding honey board, and I will "go you a nickle" you get some section honey if there is any honey to be had. When the bees get well started in the sections you can drop the brood back to the brood nest. If you let the brood combs remain till sections are finished, it will cause them to be a little dark, as the bees scrape around the brood combs and use bits of dark wax that make the sections colored. But I hardly think it will be necessary for you to go to all this trouble to get section honey. Watch your seasons and have your sections on at the proper time, and I think you will get section honey.



#### VIRGIN QUEENS.

[Written for The Southland Queen.]

"What advantages is there in using virgin queens, and what is the best plan for introducing them?" has been asked me, and I have seen some questions of the same nature asked others, which has prompted me to take this plan of answering them.

In order to find if there were any advantage in using virgins, I did consider-

able experimenting along this line during the last season. The first thought came to me in what way can I use virgins to any advantage, and it came to me; if I could, by any means use virgins instead of cells, I might save some three or four days of time to my nuclei, from which I take queens to send to my customers, or for other purposes. I first reason this way. If I use a cell, it has to be used on the ninth day after grafting, which would make it from one to two days before it hatches, and to use the cell immediately after taking away the queen, I would necessarily have to use a protector, and then there would be some risk of not hatching, and I have had the bees go up through the opening to the protector, and cut through the cap and destroy the queen, so in such cases there is a great loss of time and labor to the operator, besides the bees are queenless from six to nine days. Now, by the use of virgins, if I can use them at once after the bees are made queenless, or as early as a cell, there would be a saving of time, of from one to three days to the queenless bees, as the queen is already hatched. The only question as to an advantage in using the virgin queens, is a plan to introduce them as safely as cells.

Now for the introduction. All persons who are familiar with the habits of bees, know that there is a time two or three days after the bees are made queenless, that they will receive any thing that resembles a queen, so at such time I found it very easy and convenient, by Mr. G. M. Doolittle's plan, to daub a one to two days old virgin in honey, and drop her in, and was uniformly successful. This, I prefered to the cell plan, but this did not satisfy me, as I now have to wait for the bees to get in the proper condition, or my queens were more or less balled to death, or if not killed outright were injured so they

were of no use, so I set to work to find a plan that would be more satisfactory, if possible, thinking if I could devise a plan by which I could hold a virgin queen right among the bees for from 12 to 48 hours, and then let the bees release her themselves, that she would be more readily received, so I went to work and made a cage by cutting a piece of wire cloth four inches square, and cutting an inch square from each corner of the large square, then raveling a half inch out all around the large square, now bend the sides down all around, and you have it made. To use it, I took my nursery cage containing my virgin, and went to the colonies that were in the best condition to receive a virgin, and opening the nursery cage, let her run on to one of the combs from the colony to which I wanted to introduce her, using one of the combs containing honey and hatching brood, then placed my new cage over her and some of the bees next to her, being careful to have some honey and brood under the cage, pressing the cage just hard enough to hold it in place, then hanging the frame and all in, and closing up the hive, left it till the next day, on opening the hive and looking, found her released. I was so encouraged with my first two or three trials, I made quite a number of them, and to my delight, I did not lose more than 3 or 4 per cent of them. After using this plan for some time, I concluded to go further. I commenced giving the queen earlier, but at first I only gave the queen one day earlier with the same result, except I pressed the cage a little deeper into the comb, so they would be longer releasing her. I kept on experimenting along this line until I would have my virgins ready, and carry them with me when I would go to cage queens to send out, and would introduce them at once. The difference in introducing as soon as the laying queen was taken

out, was, I would have to put bees that had just cut out in the cage with her, for older bees would bite and tug at her, and cause the outside bees to ball the cage, and to be sure to press the cage deeper into the combs, so they would be longer cutting her out. After using this plan so successfully, I found I could have a laying queen in a colony from 5 to 6 days from the time it was made queenless, whereas, by the cell plan it would be from 11 to 15 days.

W. H. WHITE.

Blossom, Texas.

#### INTRODUCING VIRGINS.

Reading Mr. White's article led me to say a few things along this line as to introducing virgin queens. Will say that I have had a lot of experience along that line, and as to a safe plan to introduce virgins, I don't think that there is any, that is, a plan that you can get them introduced without being injured. or balled, but at certain times of the year I have found that I can introduce them and get at least two thirds of them accepted, or, may be a little more. I find that to take a very young virgin, one that is not more than 6 to 12 hours old, it is as good a plan as any to just turn them loose among the bees, without caging them atall, as my experience is, there will be as many accepted as if introduced in a cage, as I have introduced virgins to nuclei in this way, at the same time I caged the queen, and be accepted all right. Again on

the other hand I have introduced virgin got balled by the bees, or them with cages like Mr. White has mentioned, also with regular mailing cages, and have had them killed. I find that in certain colonies are classes of bees to which it is almost impossible to introduce a virgin in any way, while to others it is no trouble. I have seen some bees that would scarcely fight a queen atall. I differ with Mr. White in regard to prefering virgins to cells. He says he had rather have virgins to give to his nuclei than cells ready to hatch. I had rather have cells every time. but he says that he moves his cells on the oth day after grafting. I don't, I move mine on the 11th day and sometimes on the 10th, but had rather have them within a few hours of hatching. I believe that all the way through, it is the quickest, for when you introduce a virgin it seems to give her a stunt, or set back, and they do not lay as quick as one hatched in the hive. I have had some to lay within six days after giving the cell. Now I do not say that it gives all virgins a set back to introduce them, but as a rule I believe it does, as I have tried it thoroughly. I have introduced a lot of virgins to nuclei, and gave a lot of cells to others at the same time, or on the same day, and the ones that hatched out of the cells would lay as quick as the ones that were introduced, and some times sooner, especially if the

injured in any way. I also got more laving queens out of the same number of cells than I did from the virgins, as there were more virgins killed and injured than there were cells that did not hatch.

WILLIE ATCHLEY.

#### HINTS TO BEGINNERS.

By W. H. PRIDGEN.

If you have had no experience in "artificial" queen rearing, wait until settled warm weather before you try your hand, and have every thing as near right as you know how to fix it, or you may meet with several failures and become discouraged. Make some cell cups and experiment some in transfering the bottom of the cells or cocoons from old worker comb, a la Atchlev, before transfering the larva, or preparing a set to be completed by the bees. About a week before you want to commence queen rearing, put a second story over a strong colony, with a queen excluder between; fill the top story with combs of brood and adhering bees, from other colonies, being careful not to put in a queen. If, on examination a week later, you find cells on the comb, (which should be removed) it may be that they will accept and complete your prepared cells. But if the first sit is not accepted, just put the top story -which will have but little if any unsealed brood by this time-in the place of the bottom one, and set the bottom one off a few feet, and wait till the next day to give them another set of cells, which no doubt will be accepted if properly prepar-In 24 hours more the queenless colony may be put back over the one containing the queen, by placing the latter in its former position, with the excluder between. The same operation can be repeated as often as a batch of cells is completed and disposed of, and, as soon as the cells are accepted the second time, and every time thereafter, remove the outside combs, slide the others each way from the centre, and place on each side of your cells, a comb containing just hatched larvæ. The combs removed are generally filled with honey, or syrup fed to the queen rearing colony, and are just right for nuclei that need feeding, or to store away for that purpose. I usually have the eggs laid in the combs used as above stated, by queens I am testing, as a good one will fill an extra comb every four or five days, and, by removing them as soon as the eggs begin to hatch, you keep the queen laying all the time, without taxing the bees to feed the larvæ. Examine the combs last given, every time you remove a batch of cells, to see whether there are cells on them. Instead of putting the hive containing the cells back over

the excluder, you can have them built by queenless bees. you remove the first batch, give them another set of prepared cells, (or a comb from your breeder's hive, with the comb cut away at the bottom, to the just hatched larvæ, if you only want to rear a few queens, and do not care to bother with cell cups.) In 24 hours exchange places with a strong colony. and the young bees from it will be uniting with your queen rearing colony for several days, and will improve the quality of the queens. This can be repeated every time a batch of cells is disposed of, by exchanging with the same hive, or another one, and giving the combs of brood as recommended in the first case.

I prefer having my cells built on sticks, as per Doolittle, except that I use a stick inch longer than the brood frames, inside; saw a notch in each end bar about three inches from the bottom, to hold the stick in place, without having any comb below it, but down to it all the way above it. I can slip one out and another in, and let the frame used for the purpose stay in the same hive all the time. The bees will remain on the cells, and protect them for hours if necessary, or they may be placed in a warm box made for the purpose, if the weather is at all cool or windy.

For the benefit of the many new subscribers to the QUEEN, I will

repeat some of the advice given to beginners in the August number, which is as follows:

"To secure the best queens it is possible to rear before settled warm weather, make the colonies containing your breeders queenless and allow the bees to build the cells to suit themselves. They will beat you in selecting larvæ of the right age."

To secure the very best queens at all times, allow your breeder to swarm, return the swarm without the queen, and save the young queens and cells immediately when the swarm issues the second time. with a virgin queen, return the swarm the second time, and cage the queen or queens that left the hive with it. Now, break up the colony and form nuclei, by adding a comb of honey to those having none, thus forming as many nuclei as your hive contained combs, which will be ready to receive one of the young queens or a cell, as fast as formed. When a swarm issues, if you find any sealed cells you will get good queens by hiving the swarm in the ordinary way, and cut out the cells in five or six days. If you have a very old, choice breeder, that you allow to swarm, be sure to examine the hive as soon as the swarm issues, as they often supersede such queens at swarming time. The cells must be saved at once. If you find a cell open or hatched, you may

know what is up, and you will have a lively time saving a lot of the very best queens.

I practice introducing all queens as recommended by Judge Terrell, page 9, Jan. QUEEN, with the exception that I roll the wire cloth around a lead pencil, and then pull the inside of the roll out on the outside, which makes a nice fitting round tube, stop one end with a cork and the other with candy, and let the bees release the queen. first commenced introducing this way because I did not want to put the bees from a distance into my hives. It is best to place the cage containing the queen to be superseded on top of the hive as recommended by him, and then put the queen to be introduced into the same cage. Have the end containing the candy stopped with a cork also, until the queen to be introduced is put into the cage.

Southern bee-keepers can use fig leaves as smoker fuel with good effect when uniting bees.

Creek, N. C.

During the last few weeks we have had so many calls for sample copies of The Southland Queen that we have run out of the August, September, October, November and December numbers, and are about out of the January number, and as we are constantly receiving subscriptions that call for all the back numbers we will extend your subscription one month for each of the numbers named, that are returned to us in good order. Who will be first?

#### THE SOUTHLAND QUEEY.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY, - - EDITOR.

— ASSISTED BY —
WILLIE ATCHLEY, CHARLIE ATCHLEY, AND

MISS AMANDA ATCHLEY.

E. J. ATCHLEY. - BUSINESS MANAGER.

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THE JENNIE ATCHLEY CO., Publishers,

Entered at the postoffice in Beeville, Texas, as second-class mail matter.

BEEVILLE, TEX., FEBRUARY, 1896.

Bro. Hasty, in January Review, hits us a lick about introducing, and the care of virgin queens. Bro. H., in speaking of these thing we do not mean to be asseverate, but speak as a rule. We have had virgin queens sent to us by mail, over a thousand miles, and introduced them and they did all right, but as a rule we do not now cage virgin queens any more than we can help, and we will take as a choice, those that have not been caged at all.

As soon as we can find space, we want to start a "clippings" department, as we note many good things in the different bee-papers, that would be libely to interest and instruct our readers.

Since our last issue, we have received catalogues from Cleveland Bros., queen breeders, Stamper, Miss.; Page & Lyon Manufacturing Co., bee supplies, New London, Wis.; The G. B. Lewis Co., bee supplies, Watertown, Wis.; John Nebel & Son, agents for The A. I. Root Co., High Hill, Mo.; Huffstedler Bros., queen breeders and supplies, Clarksville, Texas.

A Houston firm writes that they want to purchase a large lot of honey at once, and we are out and can not find any near here. Some bee-keepers in our county want a better market for their honey. It looks as though some people can't see further than the yard gate. It may be they don't want to though.

No hotel bills to pay at Texas Bee meetings. We claim all attendants as visitors, and it would look selfish indeed, to have a friend visit us and make him pay a hotel bill. Nor Much!

Do not be too hasty in spreading brood, as we may yet have a cool snap in February or March, that would result in great damage if the brood nest was too large.

Please do not forget the next meeting of the Southwest Texas Bee-keepers Association, which meets at our place Sept. 16 and 17.

Say! We do printing!

We have received an electrotype and description of the Conser Non-swarming Hive, and Star Bee Escape, from the manufacturer, John Conser, Sedalia, Mo. We also received one of the escapes, which we will give a thorough trial the coming season. We have not seen one of the hives, but from what we can see of the drawings and description, it automatically returns the young bees to the brood chamber, which have previously been

We started out printing only two thousand copies of The Queen, and have sent out but few sample copies except on call, but our chain is broken already, and we can not fill a subscription straight from the start, but will do the best we can for those wanting back numbers. We are now increasing our numbers every issue, and will continue to do so until all are accommodated who patronize The Southland Queen.



Conser's Non-swarming Bee Hive, and Star Bee Escape.

placed in a separate hatching department. One hatching hive, which is divided into three departments, is used in connection with three colonies. Another feature of Mr. Conser's hive, is a slatted bottom board, which lets all trash and cuttings fall clear below the frames. The dimentions of the hive seem to be standard.

There is music in the air just now, and the bees are making it with their wings, gathering honey from the wild currant, which is producing more freely than usual. The "woods" are perfumed on all sides with currant blooms, and many other plants are most ready to bloom. This is free music, and it pleases us wonderfully.

## THE SOUTHWEST TEXAS BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

[CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE.]
The Association was called to order at 10:25, by the President, E. J. Atchley.

The committee on program reported as follows, viz:

We, your committee on program, report for your consideration the following program, viz:

The best strain of bees: E. J. Atchley.
The best hive and frame: E. R. Jones.
Which is the most profitable, comb or
extracted honey? W. O. Victor.
How can we best tell when a honey
flow begins: R. A. Jansen.
Rearing queens and requeening an
apiary: Willie Atchley.

The production of extracted honey:
W. O. Victor.

Comb foundation and its uses:

J. O. Grimsley.

How to prevent swarming:

R. A. Jansen.
"Selected article:" W. F. Lynn.
Marketing honey: Charles Atchley.
The best way to get bees out of supers:
W. H. Moses.

Artificial increase: E. J. Atchley. Respectfully submitted.

The Committee, By J. O. GRIMSLEY, Secy.

The report was adopted and the committee discharged.

"The best strain of bees" was then taken up and discussed by E. J. Atchley and others. Mr. Atchley said that the Italians were considered by most every one as best. He really considers the Holylands the best bees extant, but on account of their iritable disposition, they are not desirable, especially for beginners. For producing comb honey, he would take a cross of the pure Italians and natives. Italians, as a rule, store more honey in the brood nest than others. Hybrids cap their honey whiter, by not filling the cells too full, leaving the capping raised a little from the honey. For extracted honey he likes the pure Italians. The Carniolans breed up faster, and the queens are very prolific, but they don't seem to observe a honey dearth, and would keep breeding until they used up all their stores. He believes the Carniolans the best for the North.

E. R. Jones said he prefered the Italians. Carniolans were not as good honey gatherers as Italians.

J. O. Grimsley said that from what he had seen of the Holyland bees, they were but little more iritable than Italians, and if they are better honey gatherers than Italians or Carniolans, they are certainly the bees we want.

R. A. Jansen said he prefered the Italians.

Willie Atchley said he had tried Holylands, Italians and Corniolans all in the same yard, and that the Holylands gathered 75 lbs. each, the Italians, 25 lbs. each, and the

Carniolans nothing. For his own use he prefered the Holylands. For a general purpose bee the Italians are hard to beat.

E. R. Jones, in opening the discussion on "the best hive and frame," said he had never used but two styles of hives, but thinks the standard L., 10 frame hive the best. It is very essential to have all parts interchangable. It is less trouble to get fixtures for standard L. hives, and he believes the proportions are nearest right.

W. O. Victor prefers the standard L., 10 frame hive, and wants all his hives after the same pattern. For extracted honey he wants about 3 stories, and wants just 9 frames in each of the upper stories, and 10 in the lower story. When he run with 9 frames in the upper stories he could extract more easily. For comb honey he uses 3 supers.

E. J. Atchley wants the standard L., 10 frame hive for several reasons, but said a man should study his locality and use a hive to suit. One objection he has to an 8 frame hive is that when he needs 10 frames he can't have them, but in using a 10 framed hive he can, by contracting, have 8 frames, or even smaller.

Willie Atchley prefers a 10 frame hive for honey producing, and a 4 or 6 frame for queen rearing.

R. A. Jansen had read up on

hives at the start, and decided in favor of the standard, 10 frame L. hive.

"Which is the most profitable, comb or extracted honey?" was then taken up by W. O. Victor. Mr. Victor thinks they are profitable together. If he could get as ready sale for extracted, he prefers it, but comb honey sells best. He can produce twice as much extracted honey, and thinks he prefers it, as it is more easily taken, don't have to wait for combs to be filled. and can controll swarming better. can handle twice as many colonies when running for extracted, but likes to run for both, as some customers want one kind and some the other.

E. R. Jones said his preferance was comb honey, has had more experience with it and can make it more profitable, but is most necessarily compelled to take some extracted. Sold his first comb honey at 10 cents per pound, while some were selling extracted at 6 cents. Later on he sold at 12½ and 15 cts., and had no trouble in disposing of it. Can always sell comb honey, but extracted has to hunt a market.

Mr. Victor said he could make 25 to 50 per cent more on extracted honey at 5 cents a pound, than comb at 10 cents, the demand being equal.

Willie Atchley agrees with him.

E. J. Atchley said that some seasons it has paid him best to produce extracted honey, and some, it paid best to produce comb honey. A man must be wide awake, and study his market, and take the honey that best suits the market he is supplying.

[CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE.]

## Among Our Correspondents.

ITEMS FROM MISSISSIPPI.

BY NOVICE.

"Gif- gaf" was the old Saxon maxim, and I suppose that it ought to be the motto of that circle of lovers of the honey bee, who read the pages of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN from month to month. Gleanings, The Review, The American Bee-Journal, and all the other periodicals devoted to bee culture, each have a staff of contributors, engaged from time to time to discuss topics of interest to bee-keepers. that we have for the first time a Southern journal, devoted to our favorite persuit, ought we not, as Southern men, come gallantly to the support of the brave lady, who has dared to undertake the enterprise of editing a Southern journal. It seems that her spirit of enterprise, or something she has said or done, has so provoked the spleen of a contributor to one of the above named periodicals, that he was not long since moved to make the charge that this lady has been cribbing from the files of The American Bee-Journal in order to make the columns of her Journal more interesting. Later, he says in explanation, that she has been using in The Southland Queen, some articles that she wrote for the Bee-Journal. Reading these unkind flings, I was moved to wonder if the writer had never fealt, from mother, sister or wife, that love and devotion that once experienced, renders the very name of woman sacred to a gentleman. It must be a task of infinite difficulty to start a new journalistic enterprise, and my hearty sympathy goes out to the lady who undertakes it. would be strange if there was enough money in publishing a monthly, devoted to bee culture, to enable the Editor to employ paid contributors. It is certainly very desirable for Southern apiarists to have a journal devoted to their specialty, and this being true, ought we all not to rally to the support of this sturdy little lady, who is brave enough to start this journal, and thereby benefit us as well as her own household? So let us follow the old maxim, and help Mrs. Atchley and eachother, by swapping through the medium of her magazine, such information as experience shall bring us from time

to time.

I began four years ago with two colonies of blacks, in box hives. Am a professional man, and had in view two things. The first was to find relaxation; the second to ascertain whether there was not a way for me to blaze out, whereby some score of wives and mothers, who go with their husbands to the cotton patch year after year, might see a chance of making a living in a less laborious and more elevated occupation. If I could make honey production a success here, it would open the way for them. Well, I have had the usual luck of a beginner. The books told me that no honey should be left exposed after the honey flow was over, and to beware of getting the robbers started. In the process of transfering, I did on several occasions get the robbers going. I found one effectual cure at last. It was to scent a rag with musk, and drop it into the hive over night that was being robbed. The result was that the plunderers on going home from that hive, were promptly put to death. Transfering, I found to be not always a success. I undertook several times to drive the bees into a hive already provided with frames, setting the new hive over the inverted box hive. Having made several failures by that method, I reverted to the plan recommended by the books, and drove first into a forcing box. Before I began to

transfer, I provided myself with a lot of useless traps recommended by the books in the way of bent wire clasps etc., but found after the comb had been cut so as to fit the frames. that two or three ordinary strings of cotton twine tied around the frames so as to hold the comb in place, were just as good. After the combs had been fastened by the bees, the strings can be clipped where they cross the top bar and be pulled out; and if this is forgotten, the bees will keep gnawing at the strings until they are mere fuzz, and they fly out with them week or so.

The next thing was to Italianize. I had bought the Simplicity hive, and the task of catching a black queen in a ten frame hive boiling over with furious bees was one long to be remembered. My hands were dropsical in appearance until the last queen was caught. I found that if a failure was made in lifting out the two middle frames, and thus surprising the queen, that the only way left, was to smoke the bees till they filled themselves with honey, and then shake off the bees on a sheet in front of the hive, and catch the queen, as she climbed up on the sheet.

I could not stand the idea of wearing rubber gloves in hot weather. After trying various expedients to protect my hands, I finally employed an old lady to knit me a pair of mittens with a thumb. She was directed to get the coarsest and hardest twisted wool thread she could procure, and to knit the mittens very close and tight; the result was the production of something I can safely recommend to bee-keepers, as a perfect protection to the hands, viz, a pair of heavy closely knit woolen mittens. The most ferocious hybrids have to my amusement exhausted themselves in the effort to sting.

Italian queens from every part of the country were bought from time to time, and I settled down on the leather colored as the best. One entire colony was purchased from a prominent South Carolina queen breeder, and with it I made the acquaintance of the disease commonly called bee paralysis, which has cost me more in the way of lost time and money, than I can well estimate. All the remedies recommended in the books and journals for the cure of this disease have been faithfully tried over and overagain, with no benefit. In the spring it seems sometimes that all the bees will die. With hot weather there is an improvement, and in summer it looks like the disease is gone; but on the return of cool weather, it reappears, and perhaps next spring is as bad as ever. It is worse some years than it is at others. It is markedly contagious, and will spread from one hive to every colony in the apiary in a single season. An affected queen will

carry the disease with her, and in its early stages it is impossible to tell an affected queen from any other. I bought a colony from Mrs. Atchley last spring for the purpose of rearing healthy queens with which to requeen my entire apiary. This colony was set off 30 yards from the other hives. There was no indication for some time of disease, but now that colony shows the disease more then any that I have. Robber bees carried the infection.

Last spring I had but little trouble with it. The honey flow was the best that I ever saw, and seventy gallons of fine honey was taken with the extractor from 20 colonies, and I have now 47 hives. I could extract 15 gallons now without going into the brood chamber. A few weak colonies have been strengthened with heavy frames from the richer ones, and if the season is good, and the disease is mild this spring I expect to put some honey on the market.

My best colony has 24 frames. The ten frames hives are ready for the extractor before the eight frame. The honey flow here is from the black gum, holly and poplar. Extracting season begins in April, and I extract every sixth day. The finest honey in this section is from the gall berry. It is of a very light straw color mild and exquisite in flavor with none of the strong taste that our best common honey has.

A reliable gentleman, Hon. M. M. Evans of Moss Point, Miss. shipped some gall berry honey to Cincinnati two or three years ago, and told me, he was informed that it was considered equal to the best white clover. It is my purpose to remove my bees in May after the main honey flow here is over, to the gall berry flats distant about 15 miles and run for comb honey.

In this locality, after the main honey flow, the bees will completely fill their combs with dark honey which I do not extract, thinking that it is mainly from honey dew. It serves a good purpose for wintering.

Bees are wintered with the extracting super on. Whether this is best or not I do not know. My most thrifty colonies are under a good shelter with a southern exposure.

And now, having at the risk of being charged with egotism, discharged my promise to my good friend Mrs. Atchley, who has my full assent to use her scissors or pencil ad libitum, I wish to invoke from my brother bee keepers all the help they can render the editress in the way of making her periodical a brilliant success. Let us make her magazine the vehicle for exchanging notes and experiences and thus aid her and each other.

And before closing this hurried rambling paper, I will mention that I opened a hive yesterday and found capped brood on two frames over an area as large as my two hands. No flowers in bloom yet, and cotton seed meal the only substitute for pollen yet accessible to bees.

Columbia, Miss., Jan. 21.

MRS. ATCHLEY:-

My report for 1895 is very poor. I started in the spring with 9 colonies and increased to 16. I got 70 pounds of comb honey, which I sold for 15 cents a pound.

I hived a swarm in an 8 frame, dovetailed hive five years ago, and it has never swarmed yet. What do you think of that?

T. R. GREENER.

Grape Vine, Texas.

During the last few weeks we have had so many calls for sample copies of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN that we have run out of the August, September, October, November and December numbers, and are about out of the January number, and as we are constantly receiving subscriptions that call for all the back numbers we will extend your subscription one month for each of the numbers named, that are returned to us in good order. Who will be first?

We wish to say to those sending orders to us from foreign countries, that our nearest International Money Order office is Victoria, Texas. United States Money Orders only, are paid by the Beeville P. O.

Postage extra, (24 cents) on all foreign subscriptions except Canada and Mexico.

DON'T, IT KILLS BEES.

On March 21, 1895, I shipped by Express, four colonies of Italian bees to H. R. Hearne, of Hearne, Texas, (at \$4.50 per colony.) He reports lately that he received them all right and they done well. They swarmed 8 times, and gathered lots of honey, till about the last of August he put out poison on his cotton, to kill the boll worm. The bees were working on the cotton, and in ten days his bees were all dead. The poison he used was Paris Green and London Purple, in a dry powdered state, put on with bellows blowers made for that purpose. The bees all died in the field, never returning home; died where they got the poison. Now he orders 4 colonies more to be sent by Express,

This should be a warning to all bee men to be careful how they use "pison."

Mrs. Hearne writes that the hives were full of nice honey.

W. R. GRAHAM. Greenville, Texas, Feb. 7.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.,
Beeville, Texas.

As I have some bees, I write to tell you that I started out last Spring with 18 colonies and increased to 36, all in good shape at this time. I have them in Langstroth 8 framed hives. I got 1000 pounds of honey last summer, and raised some over 1000 queen cells. I have five banded and three banded Ital-

ians, Carniolans and Holylands. They are all good and I am very proud of them. As you see, I want the best.

John Cairns. Chriesman, Tex., Jan. 18.

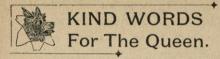
#### DIED.

On the evening of the 13th Inst., little Foster, the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Graham, died at Greenville, Texas. He was born at our place a year ago last Christmas, and was a sweet little baby boy. It will be remembered that Mr. M. R. Graham is the one that put up and arranged our factory, and run it last year. On account of the illness of Mrs. Graham, they thought best to make a change for her benefit, and left for Greenville last summer.

My DEAR FRIENDS:-I know how impossible it is to silence your grief with words. We bow in sorrow at the taking of your little one, feeling that while the ripe fruit may be gathered, it seems cruel the bud should be taken before it has even opportunity to unfold its blossom. But in nature, fruits fall, and so do blossoms and buds. In the ways of nature this is perhaps best, and in taking from your arms this little one, you should try to accept the cross and bear it, believing that the bud will yet blossom and bear fruit in the Angel land, whither the spirit of this pure child has so early flown.

Your Friend,
MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.
Beeville, Texas.

CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF



MRS. ATCHLEY:-

Hoping to hear from you soon, Yours Truly,

JAMES JARDINE.

Ashland, Neb.

DEAR MRS. ATCHLEY:-

Some time ago a number of your bee Journal, The Southland Queen, chanced to come into my hands, and I must own to being much pleased with it generally.

C. C. DOORLY.

Alphin, Va., Jan. 14.

I have been reading The South-Land Queen, and to my way of thinking, it is the best bee paper published. It is not filled up with chaff hives and cellars for wintering bees in.

JOHN CAIRNS.

Chriesman, Texas.

#### STANDING INFORMATION.

We are often asked these questions by so many, and they are so near the same, we have concluded to keep this standing for the information of beginners.

To make a start in bee-keeping, you

will need the following.

Two colonies of bees, in movable comb hives, (better start with a standard size.)
One smoker.

One bee-veil,

Two extra hives for increase, should there be any,

Two pounds brood foundation, One pound surplus foundation,

Two hundred sections,

One honey knife.

We could mention many other useful articles that would be handy to beginners, as well as others, but the above are really necessary, and you will soon learn to add many other things as you go along. We say two colonies for a start, as with only one, you would have no way to compare, and see which is doing best, but of course one colony will make a start.

#### TAR HEEL NOTES.

TESTED or untested, either three or five banded queens, at \$1.00 each. A record is made of every untested queen sold at the above price, and another sent as soon as their bees hatch, if they fail to stand the test, thus giving a purchaser a chance at a

FINE BREEDER Without the risk of having to pay for one that shows in her progeny that she is not purely mated. I have bred my bees up to a high standard; Italianized my neighbors' bees for my own protection, and seldom have a queen mismated. I am well equiped for the business; rear all the queens I sell; do not intentionally send out any except the best, and never sell "culls" as untested queens. The demand from dealers last season was greater than the supply. I give parties buying a few for their own use, the preference in filling orders. Have never seen a diseased colony, or heard of one in this section. If you want to do a square business, and be pleased, try a TAR HEEL QUEEN.

W. H PRIDGEN, CREEK, N C.

NZ

#### Bee-Keepers' Conventions.

#### Texas State Bee-Keepers Association.

Meets at Greenville, Texas, April 1 and 2, 1896, at the apiary of W. R. Graham & Son. All bee keepers invited. No hotel bilis to pay W. H. WRITE, Secy, Blossom, Texas.

#### Southwest Texas Bee-Keepers Association,

Meets at Beeville, Texas, on Sept. 16 and 17, 1896 at the apiary of The Jennie Atchley Co. Ail bee keep rs cordially invited. No hotel bills to ray

bills to pay

W O Victor, President Whatton, Tex.

J. O. GRIMSLEY, Secy., Beeville, Texas.

#### Central Texas Bee-Keepers Association.

Met at Mi ano, Texas, Nov 16, 1895.

O B BANKSTON, Secy., Chrieeman, Texas.

We have r ceived no notice of the time and place of next meeting of this A-sociation

#### THE HONEY MARKET.

## Notice!\_

Jennie Atchley Co's. Queens may be had at the Crescent Apiary, corner Depoit and Rose streets, Settle, Washington, at the Atchey prices

C. M. Rivers & Sons.

#### Italian Queens for Sale.

If you want good queens in every respect send me your orders. Warranted Italian queens, 75c-nts each; tested \$1; select tested, \$1.50; breeders-the ye y best-\$2 each. Also bees nuclei, or full colonies. safe arrival and satisfaction quara-ted Correspondence solicited. A. P. Lake, matesburg, S. C.

#### R·I·P·A·N·S

The modern standard Family Medicine: Cures the common every-day ills of humanity.



## Dove-Tail Hives,

SMOKERS.

And every thing needed in the Apiary. Best goods made. Freight saved to all central Texas points. PRICE LIST FREE.

E. R. Jones, VILANO, TEXAS.

## Queens. -

Golden Italian, Three band Italian and Carntolans Send for prices.

The Jennie Atchley Co,

Beeville, Bee County, Texas.

#### Promptly Mailed.

Untested queens in the golden or leather colored at 75 cents each, three for \$2. Tested, \$1 each. 6 for \$5. My custom grows every year nd my queens give satisfaction. I send queens to the leading bee-keepens by 50 and 100 lots. Safa arrival on all queens. Try my beatties

♦W H. Laws, Lavaca, Sebastian Co., Ark.

When writing to our advertisers please mention The Southland Queen.

## PRRIS & CO.

136, 138 and 140 N. Ervay St.,

DALLAS. TEX.

COMMISSION MERCHANIS.

HONEY DEALERS.

By a young man, (23) in either a good apiary, or apiary and small fruit and gardening business combined, preferably, south, and near this state for the coming season. Has already had good experience with bees, and is serviceable and active. Would appreciate a good home and a generous employer. Is an experienced clerk with good references. Address, C. C. Doorly, Alphin, I-ix-tf Virginia.

## COLONIES of BEES,

IN TWO STORY-HIVES, all in good order; a good working strain of Italians crossed with blacks, about 700 straight extracting combs 50 empty hives, good wire cloth house to work in. Stanley theversible Extractor, 2 une apping cans and tools necessary for carrying on the busn ss T is Abnary sin a good locality and there is a home demand for 1500 pounds of honey will take \$350.00 for the complete outfit. the complete outfit Object, removal

Address, H. Gravenor, Cypress Mill, Txas.

## 200 GOLDNIE

I have 200 colonies of bees in ny charge, all in 8 framed hives, all upright, at \$4 each or \$3 50 per c lony for the whole lot. Who wants them? Jennie Atchley, Beeville, Texas

#### RECOMMENDS ITSELF.

Our Foundation needs no recommendaton among those who have used it and as it is given up to be superior to all makes we only ask a trial order, which will give you a chance to become a customer. Honey, beeswax veils, Langstroth on the honey bee and general beekeper's supplies.

Write for catalogue. Chas. Dadant & Son, Hamilton, Ill.

Send Your Honey to Lillenthall & Grant, 107 Main Street, Houston, Texas. They will insure you quick returns and general satisfaction.

We wish to call the attention of the readers of "The Southland Queen" to the fact that we have purchased the

Bee-Hive Factory

we sold to Boyd & Creasy, and are better prepared than ever before, to all your orders We mean to not be

excelled by workmanship in the U.S. Write for free ca alogue, get our prices, give us a trial order and be convinced

W. R. GRAHAN & SON,

GREENVILLE, HUNT CO . TEXAS [Mention the Queen when you write.]

#### Gold Standard Italian

FREE SILVER GRAY CARNIOLAN

QUEFNS will go from now until flost for: Untested, 55c, 6 for \$3; Tested, \$1, 2 for \$1 50. Untested Italian of the 5 banded strain, warranted purely mated

C. B. BANKSTON, Chresman, Chresman, Tex.

#### Mississippi Hive Factory.

Your orders solicited on hives and supplies; 5 per cent discount till Dec. 1st. Roots dove-tailed hives, at Roots prices. Frames with slotted comb, guides and thick top bars. Dixie hives at 10 per cent less than Roots prices on dove-tailed hives. Patronize home enterprise. (Money order office, Byhalia )

W. T. Lewis, Watson, Miss.

THE

#### Commercial Hotel.

W. F. DESHON, PROPRIETOR

Beeville, Texas.

Most centrally located. Headquarters for the traveling public. Bee-keepers in search of locations, are well cared for.

## SOUTHERN TEXAS.

Lands, Homes, Farms, Investments.

### THE SUNNY SOUTHLAND.



Yours Truly,

T. J. Shapps.

HIS is the natural home of the Honey bee, the Grape, the Strawberry, and all the vine crops.

The land of the "BIG WATER MELONS." Fine cattle and horse stock raised and developed here cheaper than any other place on

earth

This is the natural health resort for people from the malarial districts further East, and for the weak lunged invalid from the North.

Positively free from marshes, lakes, laggoons, or any thing of a malarial breeding nature.

BEE County is filling up with a thrifty class of whites, who came mostly from the Middle, Northern, and North Western states; being the more enterprising, and, seeking new and fresher air to breathe than is found in the populous districts back East, be comes to the Beeville region to cast his lot among a thrifty class of people who have preceded him, and who are nearly all strictly a white population.

Bee keepers are no exception to the rule, and they, too, are coming in large numbers, to gather the beautiful harvest of sweet things which await them.

The Texas Coast Country is fast filling np with a thrifty class of people. Fine lands in high, ro ling, healthy, localities Large bodies of improved lands at \$2 per acre. Small farm tracts at \$5 and up. Printed matter free.

## T. J. Skaggs Real Estate Co.,

BEEVILLE, TEXAS.