

# The Southland queen. Vol. II, No. 3 July 1896

Beeville, Texas: The Jennie Atchley Company, July 1896

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# The SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, July, 1896.\_

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# The A. I. Root Q., Medina, O.

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

# The Southland Queen.

Monthly.

Devoted to the Exchange of Thoughts on Apiculture.

ST.CO

Vol. II.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, JULY, 1896.

No. 3.

We are very dry here at this time, July 2, still the bees are getting some honey from Mesquite blooms.

We hear of a terrible drouth in most all parts of our country, especially North and East of us to Arkansas and Louisiana.

The bee-keepers of this and adjoining counties are well pleased with their honey crop, and it is spreading like wild fire, and this time next ye'r will see twice the number of a piaries that now exist, or that's our opinion.

We did not get to go bee-hunting, as was proposed, on account of sickness in our neighbor's family, where the Editor has been assisting in the sick room. We did get to visit a neighbor bee-keeper, though, and we had not been there but a shoot while till their boys drove up with a big load of water melons, and what a time we did have. This neighbor waters his bees from a fountain, made in the shape of a large jug, which has a lip, or pan, made on one side at the bottom, and when the jug is

full, the water will only fill the pan. It was real amusing to see the thirsty little fellows drink at their sparkling fountain.

To the would-be bee-keepers, that see this paper, we wish to call their attention to a few facts, which may be of benefit to them. Those of you that live near us, and are taking the bee fever, please bear with us just a little, when we tell you that you had better look a little out when you are spending money heavily on the start, in the bee business, as it looks easy to you to see us raise honey by the ton, but when you jump too far the first jump, you may lose some money, as it takes a long line of experience to run 100 colonies of bees successfully, and you had better start with three or four colonies, and let the bees and your knowledge of then grow together. Please do not think us selfish in this, as we would like to see you succeed from the very start, but wish to caution you, for fear you lose your money, and at the same time depreciate the prospects of this fine honey country. Time and patience, then comes success.



#### Concerning Poisonous Honey.

By T. S. FORD.

Written for The Southland Queen.

Some months ago there was a publication in an Eastern paper, stating that two persons in New Jersey had died from eating honey that was supposed to have been gathered from the bloom of the mountain laurel; this article was reproduced in American Bee Journal. Knowing that there was an abundance of the Kalmia (which I believe is the scientific name for mountain laurel) in my own vicinity, and that my bees frequented it, and that the honey extracted during the season of the blooming of the Kalmia is perfectly wholesome, I wrote an article for the A. B. J., challenging the truth of the inference that death could have resulted from nectar gathered from the flowers of the mountain laurel. Since then the subject has been discussed in several numbers of that periodical, by gentlemen whose contributions have been of great interest and value. In view of the fact that some of the text books on Bee Culture assert that honey gathered from mountain laurel, and yellow jessamine, is poisonous, and both of these are Southern productions, and are common in our forests, and it is a matter of vital interest to know the truth of this matter, I venture to bring the subject before the readers of The Southland Queen, in the hope that those who have had any opportunities for observation, and those who have known any instances of poisoning from the use of honey, will give the facts to the world, through the columns of this monthly, so that an intelligent conclusion may be arrived at on this important question.

My own conviction has been strengthened by the article written by Prof. Cook, whose education, ability, and special training as a naturalist, give peculiar value to his opinions. But, at the same time, it is impossible to refuse credence to some of the observers, who have reported serious disorders following the eating of certain kinds of honey. Just after I had written my first article for the A. B. J., on this subject, a gentleman whom I have known all my life, told me of an instance well known to him, of two men being fatally poisoned by eating honey taken from wild bees. A careful investigation into this occurrence has made clear some facts that afford a clue, which may lead to the truth. My informant tells me that the bee tree was cut in the Spring, some time in the month of April, as well as he remembers. That there was very little honey in the combs,

that very dark. And finally, that the sick men admitted that they swallowed a great deal of the "beebread." May it not be true that the pollen gathered from poisonous plants has been the cause of the casualties that have followed the consumption of the alleged poisonous honey.

Perhaps I am as prone to the infirmity of jumping at conclusions as any body, and if my preconceived opinion, that a honey bee's instinct was enough to protect it from storing poisonous honey, was incorrect, I am willing to yield to the truth. It seemed to me that Providence, in the creation of this insect, so manifestly designed to minister to man's enjoyment, would have endowed it with the power of descerning nectar that was wholesome for man, from that which would be poisonous to him. I still adhere to that opinion, but am prepared to surrender, provided any well authenticated instance can be found, where sickness of a fatal character occurred from the consumption of honey only. I believe that the accidents that have occurred from eating honey will be found in every case to have resulted from eating honey in the comb, and in that pollen was eaten with the honey. Every bee-keeper has noticed that it is not uncommon to find cells filled with pollen, and nicely sealed over, scattered at random among the sealed cells of

honey, if the sample is from near the brood nest.

I am hardly more than a novice in bee-keeping, and would like to hear from those who have had wider opportunities for observation, and for knowing what is the truth in regard to this matter; and the management of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN could hardly find a more important subject to give their space to than this. It is to be hoped that encouragement will be given to those among its readers who can give us facts pertinent to this inquiry, and that every reader who knows of an instance of poisoning from eating honey, will make inquiries, and ascertain whether it is not true that comb honey, containing pollen, eaten, and was the cause of the mischief. That is, if it is really true, that people have been poisoned from eating honey.

Columbia, Miss.

## Reply to John Orval.

By L. L. SKAGGS.

For The Southland Queen.

I see in May number of The Southland Queen, that John Orval says that I am a theoretical bee-keeper. Now, Bro. Orval, do you mean that I just write on theory, without any practice? How are you so wise as that? I don't suppose that you ever saw me, if so, I don't know it. If you will

come to my place I will show you that I do practice what I preach, and have success too.

I see in the June number of THE QUEEN that you claim to be good at exposing frauds; if so, you are the most useful writer I know of. Please tell us of all the frauds that write for the queen; tell us which ones are good and which ones are frauds, none excepted; tell what me and you are first. First thing, be sure you are right and then go ahead. You asked me to come and eat honey with you, and never said where you lived. If you will let me know where you live, and promise not to feed me on honey that you draw from the barrel that you stir queens in, with a spade, I will try to come. I like nice, clean honey.

Too dry in this part of the country for honey. I got about 25 lbs. surplus to the colony. The most of bee-keepers here got lots of swarms, but no honey. The prospect was good, in April, but we haven't had any rain since. timber is dying for the want of rain. My bees are in good shape for the Fall flow, if it comes, always try to keep my bees from swarming, as much as possible, and I find it pays. I bought a Carniolan queen last year, introduced her to a strong colony of bees, had a light honey flow in the My Italians gained 10 lbs. to the hive, on an average, and

the Carniolans gained 2 lbs., and this Spring they came up just the same. They breed up very well, no better than Italians, but no good for honey, and no good to fight robbers, for that was the way they went two weeks ago, one day while I was gone from home, and when I opened the hive they would cut the cappings so bad that you could see it dropping like meal from an old fassioned steel mill. Please allow a little on that for it is not quite so bad as I stated. If the queen I got was pure, I don't want any more, not as a gift. can't see much difference in the Carniolans and the common blacks.

If you have the veneer, wood base foundation to sell, please send me a sample. I would like to have enough to try it, then I can report its merits through The Queen, soon as honey comes in so I can give it a test.

Click, Texas.

### Over In Arkansas.

By W. H. LAWS.

Extracts from a private letter.

It has now been two days past nine months since my bees stored a pound of honey; for six weeks they have had the wolf at the door, and in some cases it has entered. You may say, feed; well, I have fed, but it's no small job, expensive and otherwise, to keep up 130 colonies and over 100 nuclei.

But for the past two days I see a little new honey coming, and oh, how my hopes revive-for a month the majority of my bees have been entirely broodless. Of course queen breeding could only be kept up by close watchfulness and judicious feeding. My bees went into winter unusually well supplied. and they wintered well, coming out strong, and I never saw my Goldens rear such large and populous colonies. During this dearth of honey the bees litterally tore up the black berry crop for a sustenance, but I notice, today, they've nearly quit the black berries for something better, perhaps the black sumac.

I have my bees in three apiaries; 60 at home, all Goldens; 40 South, two miles, leather colored, from Imported stock, and five miles North, in what is said to be the finest locality for honey, from July I until frost, in all this country, I have placed 30 colonies. on a beautiful lake, 10 miles long, and from 1/2 to 2 in width. At present it is one of the most beautiful sights I ever beheld. Its edges are skirted with button willow, a great bee plant, now coming in bloom, but the surface of the lake is densely covered with a certain kind of pond lily, now in full bloom, and at first sight it looks like a star-bedecked Heaven; the flowers are as large as the top of a quart cup, and very fragrant. In pushing our little boat through these lilies, I found a number of dead bees, clinging to the blooms, also a few live ones at work, but they seemed only to be gathering pollen from this large, beautiful flower.

After going over my bees, a few days since, and feeling quite blue, I decided to take a little swing around among my neighbor beekeepers, thinking of the old adage that "Misery loves company." I found them all in about the same plight as myself. I visited six or eight bee-keepers, representing over 400 colonies. They reported only one swarm, and one I had myself are the only swarms I have heard of in this county.

When I read of 75 pounds per colony already taken by Willie Atchley, and my bees starving, I feel considerably like migrating, but now that honey has begun, I look for honey in every thing until frost. Our main, and best honey plant (cotton) is just beginning to bloom, and the farmers have in a large acreage. \* \* \*

Lavaca, Ark.

### Something About Conventions.

By C. B. BANKSTON.

Written for The Southland Oueen.

The object of Bee-keepers' Conventions is to elevate the industry, and to create a market for our product; to teach eachother how to

manage our bees in a way to secure the best results, for the labor and capital invested. The main object is to get a collection of valuable ideas about bees, which you can scarcely obtain elsewhere. Every bee-keeper goes to these Conventions full of bee talk, ever ready to convey the very information a beginner is seeking. During the regular proceedings, hundreds of things are mentioned on which a beginner has not previously formed an idea. Every body goes home from a Convention better prepared to meet the many obstacles which confront us all along the line.

Texas bee-keepers should support Texas institutions, so far as they could. All first class organizations have an organ, through which the sentiments of its members can be expressed. The industry which we, as an association, have the honor to represent, requires no small amount of intelligence to carry it to success, and in order to obtain this intelligence we must have the views of others. How are we to get them? Through some practical journal, published in the interest of the industry, managed and edited by parties who are thoroughly versed in that line of literature. We have such an editor, and have the institution established; does it not occur to you that it is our duty to stand by it, and give it our support? The

publication to which I refer is THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN. It is worthy of all we can do for it.

Remember, that the Central Texas Convention meets at Cameron, on the first Friday and Saturday in August. I notice that The QUEEN puts it the 4th and 5th, but it is the 7th and 8th. This will be the largest meeting of the kind ever held in Central Texas.

Chriesman, Texas.

[Thanks, Bro. B., for kindly expressing your self as to The Oueen's mission.

We note the error we made, in giving the date of your next meeting, and have made the correction.

Willie intends to be with you at Cameron.—Ed.]

#### A Few Fairview Flashes.

By G. F. DAVIDSON.

For The Southland Queen.

I do not know of any thing that would be of more interest to the readers of your valuable paper, than a report of my work, and crop of honey for this year.

I started in with 100 colonies, sold 20, increased to 165, have sold 2,234 pounds of extracted honey at 5 and 6 cents per pound, which has brought \$126.75, sold 564 pounds of comb honey at 7 and 8 cents, brought \$43.27, making \$170.02 in all. I have on hand, 2,500 pounds extracted honey, and I think that much in the hives yet to be taken. This does very well

as to quantity, but as to price, or amount of money realized, it is not enough.

Say, I wish you would turn the QUEEN into a political paper till I could take the kinks out of Barfield. He knows that bee folks are not lazy, but work ever so hard, and we have hard times. Tell him (Barfield) to quit planting buckwheat and clover, and come where we get honey without planting any thing, and the dryer it gets, the more honey we take. This may seem strange, but it is a fact.

Well, the artist did not come to take our picture, as I thought to send you a picture of the apiary, but will have to content myself with this batch of scribling. If I can get time in the future, I would like to give you a write-up of Southwest Texas, Bee county, and eleven years experience in the apiary.

Fairview, Texas.

#### If There's Sunshine In The Soul.

By JOHN ORVAL.

Special to The Southland Queen.

Vell vah, dat vas so. Editor York, of one of THE QUEEN'S "exchanges," was just about to hatch, but the old nest was too dear to him, and he didn't hardly make it. In calling "John" to taw, he says:

them (speaking of frauds) in the North, he'll have no trouble in finding at least one in the South. Wake up, John, and show it up."

That I will, George, and the very one that you have been cutting at with those spiteful, schoolboy personals, too, even if you did not name the person, as I urgently requested.

Now, dear readers, ninety per cent of you can "read between the lines" just as well as I can, and can see that Mrs. Atchlev is the party that Mr. York, in a round about way, calls a fraud. Many of us see it that way, any how, and I want you to follow me back over a little history, then we will reason a little, together.

Go with me back to 1893 and 1894, and what was the drawing card for this "exchange?" It was Mrs. Jennie Atchley. Don't you remember how the-well, this "exchange" spread itself because Mrs. Atchley was one of its contributors? Was she a fraud then? Not by any means. But when did this change come? It was when THE SOUTHLAND took her flight, and since then this "exchange" has been "piping" continually, as though "she" expected THE QUEEN to supersede her. Don't be scared, Bro. York. this QUEEN has a colony of its own. and while it may work in your pastures, there is plenty of stores for "While there may be plenty of both-lots going to waste, and if your colony is industrious it ought to build up, and work in the fields, and not take the paralysis because a neighboring nucleus is doing good work.

That "personal" of some weeks ago was a direct thrust at Mrs. Atchley, as she had sold 5,000 queens in one season. Then it seems that Mr. Atchley and Mr. York had been corresponding, as will be seen from another personal on page 393 of this "exchange," in which he, York, digs at Mrs. Atchley again, by italicizing the words "them" and "two women."

In my spat with Bro. York, I am going to make two assertions, and if the first is not a fact, neither is the latter. The first is, that in the year 1893, Mrs. Jennie Atchley sold 5,000 queens, and the second is that George W. York & Co. publish the American Bee Journal. York claims that Mrs. Jennie Atchlev did not sell the 5,000 queens, simply because she was not a lone woman, doing her own cooking, washing, ironing, grafting queen cells, making nuclei, caging the queens, keeping the books, etc. Now, I say that Geo. W. York & Co. do not publish the A. B. J. if Mrs. Atchley did not sell the 5,000 queens, simply because York & Co. have to have help, as did Mrs. Atchlev.

In a recent communication, Mrs. Atchley says: "Friend Orval, you must not be so hard on York, he

will likely get all right after a time." That he may, but we readers of THE QUEEN and the A. B. J. want Editor York to hatch and get off the nest now. When I say that, I am speaking the sentiment of hundreds. Most of the readers of the A. B. J. are friends to Mrs. Atchlev, and it would be so much better for the A. B. J., if York could show that pleasant, appreciative, whole-soul disposition that Ernest Root does. Why can't he? Of course we all know that THE QUEEN is profiting by it, and I am glad to see her booming, but, at the same time, it would be so much more pleasant if Editor York could be agreeable, instead of sulky and cross grained.

Now, Bro. York, if Mrs. Atchley is not one of the "two women" in question, please name her, then go around to Sunday School and get yourself in a proper fix to sing "Sunshine in the Soul,"—you'd feel better, and I will keep on saying "cute things," and by and by we can have a regular old time camp meeting, with our old friend, A. I. there to hollo Amen.

### Getting Rid Of Ants.

By JACOB MOORE.

For The Southland Queen.

I have just received the June No. of The Southland Queen, and have been reading up its pages. I must say I like it, it has

such nice, large print I can read it swarms, and some of these have without bothering to hunt up my glasses, and another thing, it is not always harping about "large or small hives," and other subjects over and over till I get weary in reading-no fault to find. I tell you, the May number was a compliment. \* \* \* \* \*

Now, I want to say, right here, that I have often seen it asked. what to do to get rid of ants in an apiary. Well, I think I have lit upon a cure, and I would like for others to try it and report through THE QUEEN. I set my apiary right on an ant hill, not thinking they would molest the bees, but I soon learned otherwise. Spring, in taking my bees out of the cases, where they were packed in chaff. I saw that where the chaff was on the ground no ants appeared. I was not slow at taking the hint. I then went to putting clean chaff under the hives, about 11/2 inches deep; the result with it is that ants are hardly ever seen. I keep all the grass cut off close for two feet around the hives: this is good employment at 4 a. m.

I may say, Basswood is vielding auspiciously in nectar. We, in this locality, begin to think something about the old times we read about. I started with 34 colonies, there were 4 of these very weak, but the 30, last Spring, were in fair condition, most all in ten frame hives. I have had a little over 30 the second super on. I wish all who read this, when telling about putting supers on, would say "my supers contain 12 sections, or 24 or 36," as the case may be; the last is what my supers contain: on my 8 frame are 24 sections.

I wish to say to you, of the South, that the prospects for fruit are excellent here. A bountiful crop, and peaches and apples are near at hand, if no preventing Providence intervenes. Wheat is poor, perhaps Michigan will vield half a crop.

Iona, Michigan.

#### THEY HAVE AGREED.

For The Southland Queen,

For the benefit of those who expect, or want to attend the meeting of the Southwest Texas Bee-keepers' Association, at Beeville, on Sept. 16 and 17, I will say that I have made arrangements for a one and one-third fare for the round trip, over the lines of the Southern Pacific Co.-Atlantic System: the Texas and New Orleans Railroad Galveston, Harrisburg & San Antonio R'y, and the San Antonio & Aransas Pass R'v.

Write for further information. together with a program for the first day. Now is your chance to visit Beeville. No hotel bills to Be sure to come.

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



#### THE NON-SWARMING HIVE.

CAN SWARMING BE PREVENTED BY RAISING NO DRONES?

By W. K. MORRISON.

From Gleanings in Bee Culture.

This article is for the veterans only: others will please look on. The average bee-man looks on a non-swarming hive as a madman's dream; but the veteran, looking back over the achievments of time. will look with some degree of anxiety to see if the long-looked-for has come at last. My belief is that the thing is within our grasp-almost here. Watt built his engine on Black's "Theory of Latent Heat:" Columbus discovered the New World on the theory that the earth is round; Maxwell's theory of electricity is at the bottom of all the electrical science of the present day; so it becomes me to have a theory too. The theory is simply "No swarming without drones." Now, this does not mean that one or two drones may be permitted. Mr. Doolittle savs. "Raise a few drones." My dictum is, "Raise none-not one." Now, this is not so difficult as at first seems to most of your readers. The present spacing of frames or combs from center to center is 13% inches. This has been decided on chiefly because it is Nature's spacing. But what do we wish to copy Nature for? Our entire system of bee culture is the most unnatural thing out. People who wish to follow Nature's way had better let their bees go wild. The great sign of swarming is seeing drones about the hive, either hatched or in the cell state.

Can we stop—in fact, absolutely prevent—the building of dronecells, and so put it beyond the power of bees to swarm at all? for I conceive that it would be impossible to make bees swarm unless drones were in the hive, in some condition. They seem to say to themselves, "No chance for the young queens to mate, unless drones are in the hive." Mind, too, they do not know that other hives may have drones—they only know what is in their hive.

All the spacing of combs in a natural hive proceeds on the idea that room may be needed to make drone comb whenever the bees are so minded. Do we need to follow this rule? Certainly not. The Brittish bee-keepers follow 11/4inch spacing for brood combmany do this, I believe, and find it profitable. This does not absolutely prevent the building of drone comb, although it does to some extent. The best authorities say a brood comb is 78 inch, and in actual practice it certainly is not more than this, as we shall see presently. I have spaced to some extent as

close as 1½, and yet the bees suffered no inconvenience—not the slightest; and by making the width of the frame ½, one can see that the comb is even less than ½, and the bees have room to move up and down, back to back, at 1½ inches, center to center. This spacing insures beautiful combs, flat as a board—nothing but worker comb.

Yet there still lingers the possibility that drones can be raised around the bottom of the comb. oreven in a corner. The only way to prevent absolutely a single drone-cell coming would be to adopt some sort of backing, say wood, for our foundation, and so prevent this undesirable possibility. Gleanings contained an account not long ago of foundation that had a wooden backing. This sort of thing ought to be encouraged. We could, by this means, render the production of drones an impossibility.

One easily sees the immense importance of this matter. Complete control of our bees would then be possible. Some of your correspondents talk of hives that secure to them complete control of their bees. They surely do not mean it, as the bees get up and swarm, or raise drones, whenever they are so minded. This question will have to be looked at squarely, and conscientiously worked on by a number of good bee-keepers, to secure tangible results. If the experi-

ment stations would try something of this sort they would deserve more fame than they now receive.

All these discussions about burn and brace combs simply show that the hives containing such are improperly constructed. Thick top bars are only a makeshift. your combs close enough so that the bees do not have to build bridges across to the next comb. Some people think that a bee can reach over about 1/2 inch. I can handle my frames with the same facility that a person handles a book. Formerly I needed a screwdriver to pry every frame apart. It seems to me the whole question of hivemaking rests on accurate measurement. People think they are wonderfully accurate when they get down to 1-16 inch; but is it not possible that a bee looks at 1-16 with the eye we do a yard? My measuerments of the comb are something like this: Thickness of comb. .85 inch; space required for the body presence of two bees, .35 in.; added together this makes just 1 1-5 inches. The bees are wonderful economists, and they abhor more space than this unless drone comb is intended. Finally, if you do not desire swarming (and who does?) don't raise a drone.

I will defer the account of my experiments in this line to a future period, hoping that some of your readers will test the matter fully, and report.

Devonshire, Bermuda.



Mrs. Jennie Atchley, - - Editor.

— Assisted by —
Willie, Charlie and Amanda Atchley.
E. J. Atchley, - Business Manager.

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BEEVILLE, TEXAS, JULY, 1896.

Reduced rates.

Beeville, Sept. 16 and 17.

G. M. Doolittle writes, under date of June 30: "Little or no honey yet, basswood just opening, the next three weeks will tell the story as to honey."

Before this number reaches you, Willie and Leah will be in Dallas, where they go on a visit, and to look after the sale of three tons of fine honey, which Willie has just shipped there.

We know that the prices on honey are ruling low, but when we look around us, and see the products of our farmers going at half price, compared with what they brought a few years ago, we try to content ourselves, with the thought that we are not alone in a low price for our product.

When any of our readers catch onto some new kinks, in the way of managing bees, please let us know about it, and we will be glad to give them to our readers. We think, as a rule, bee-keepers are generous and open hearted, and imparting to others, what we learn, will eventually help us all as well as the inventor.

The cry of hard times comes from all points of the compass, regardless of place or distance. We will suggest, as one remedy, that beekeepers stick close to their business, and use the best economy possible, and when this is done, we venture the assertion that beekeepers, as a rule, will come out at the end of the year in as good shape, financially, as people engaged in other persuits, and in many instances, better.

Some part of friend Morrison's theoretical speech (page 68) may be all right, but we must inform him, as well as the bee-keepers of our land, that his theory on nonswarming won't work in this part of the country. We don't wish to be understood as simply taking Mr. Morrison to task, not at all, but we mean to make this paper a medium through which the general bee-keeping interest will have protection, and when any thing is advanced that we are satisfied will not prove for the general public good, we will point it out. When this same theory was put forth by some one, in some of the bee papers, in the year 1884, we set apart three colonies to test the matter. One Cyprian, one Black, and one Italian colony was placed on full sheets of Dadant's foundation, and not allowed to rear a single drone, and just as soon as conditions were right, here came the swarms just the same; they did not only swarm. but they second-swarmed. In latter years we have further tested this matter, and our own experience is that it will not prevent swarming. It might turn out that excessive swarming would be kept down by the no-drone theory, but we doubt it. Bee-keepers that follow out Mr. Morrison's theory, on the non-swarming term, will, in our opinion, lose their time. Mr. Morrison asks the question:

"But what do we wish to copy

Nature for? Our entire system of bee culture is the most unnatural thing out. People who wish to follow Nature's way had better let their bees go wild."

Our experience is that you may work bees as you please, and you cannot get them out of Nature's ways. The workings of the honey bees are simply Nature, her self, at work, and no man has the power to make any change. The nearer we can follow Nature's ways, and protect her in our manipulations with the bees, the more money we can have for our labor. Mr Morrison's spacing theory is another won't-work one, and Bro. Root says to "turn such out." Our advice is, do not try these things, as we have done so for you, and we want to save you the loss.

We may lead bees from Nature's way, But, as a rule, it will not pay.

Did you read the account of W. Z. Hutchinson's trip to Philadelphia? It begins on page 192 of the Review, and we consider the report of that trip worth at least the price of that paper a year—\$1.00; you ought to read it. For a copy, address, Review, Flint, Michigan.

We have had it hot and dry for some time, but had a refreshing rain on 8th Inst., and every thing looks better.

Come to the "bee-meeting," on Sept. 16 and 17. Don't forget it, do you hear? If you want to see this, get right at it. If you are a bee-keeper, be at Beeville on Sept. 16 and 17.

Mrs. Sallie E. Sherman, of Dallas, Texas, has begun a series of articles in the American Bee Journal, the first appearing, with her picture, on the first page, July 2. Her experience is quite interesting.

Doolittle's argument, on page 419, A. B. J. of July 2, is clear and concise, and his conclusions reached. He says that 1½ inch spacing is right for brood combs, and his tests and experience prove it so in his case, which is exactly in accord with our own.

The mission of this paper is to bring bee-keeping to a higher plane wherever it goes, and to do this, we mean to deal in nothing but real facts, and leave aff the fancy part till we have accomplished our mission. When you read the QUEEN you may expect solid information.

We are still flooded with letters, asking information about this country, and will only add here, in as few words as we can, that we do not know but little about this country as a farming district, but we again reassure you that this is one of the finest bee countries in the United States. Yes, there is plenty of room for bee-keepers here, and the right sort can make a good living here, and have some left.

We think the hardest match we ever heard of is the "marriage" of the Bee-keepers' Union and the North American Bee-keepers' Association. The supposed, or intended bride says yes and no, and the groom says the same, so how can we expect a "wedding?"

We think it nothing more than right that we tell you, and especially those of you that live near us, that we have a firm in our little city, that can make as good honey cans, and are as reasonable in their charges, as any house we know of. That firm is W. O. Potter & Son. They are well equipped, and thoroughly understand their business, being old tinners, and when you wish honey cans or other tin work, give them a call; they will treat you right.

We have just been honored by a visit in the person of M. M. Faust. and son James, of Floresville, Tex-The latter came to remain a month, and take lessons in queen rearing and general bee-keeping. Mr. Faust is one of those wholesoul bee-keepers, that is ever ready to impart to others what good things he has learned, and later on we hope to hear from him through the columns of the QUEEN. He has now something over 100 colonies of bees, and expects to make the business a specialty in the future. Come again, Bro. Faust.



#### LESSON NUMBER 12.

As I am one of your scholars, I wish to ask a question of you.

(16.) I have a queen that is in a strong nucleus, has plenty of honey, is about 60 days old, and lays eggs, but not one has ever hatched a larva; she is large and well developed. What is the matter?

T. A. ELLIOTT.

Hagansport, Texas.

#### FRIEND ELLIOTT:-

(17.) If your queen is laying, and no brood in her hive, it must be a failure on the part of the bees to nurse the eggs, or little larvæ, and they all perish. Try your queen in another hive, and if she turns out the same, send her down and we will see what we can get out of her. If you conclude to send her, let us know and we will send you a cage, ready for mailing her. If you do not care to introduce her to another colony, send her down, and we will test her and report through the School, what the result is. It may be by this time all is going well and her eggs are accepted.

As I belong to your class of beginners, will you please answer the following questions for me?

(17.) How do you manage to keep

drones all the year, to mate your queens to?

- (18.) When there are two or more queen cells on one frame, how do you give them to different hives? Do you cut out a piece of comb with each cell, like Benton recommends?
- (19.) Does a drone visit any other than his own hive?
- (20.) Will a purely bred and mated, three band queen raise bees with both two and three bands?

You will confer a favor by answering the above. MERRILL W. SMITH.

Cuero, Texas.

- (17.) We manage to keep the drones over in queenless colonies as long as the drones will live, but by repeated tests we have found that drones do not live over 70 days in any hive, queenless or not, so we have been forced to bring queens to a drone laying pitch in November, by feeding, if no honey is coming in, and by the time the November drones die out we have new drones in great plenty, the latter part of January. It is but little trouble here to keep drones the year 'round.
- (18.) Where there are two or more cells on one comb, we usually cut around the cells and remove them on the piece of comb they occupy. In rearing queens on Willie's plan, no cutting of combs is necessary, as the cells are strong at the base, and come off the combs easily.
- (19.) Yes, drones will visit and enter neighboring hives, especially if the hives are sitting close to-

gether. We have found drones scattered about in many different hives, that all came from one colony.

(20.) No, a purely bred and mated Italian queen will show all bees with three bands. Some pure queens may not dress all their bees exactly alike, and some of her progeny may show the three bands only when filled with honey and turned upon a window, but all pure Italian bees, according to my experience, show three bands. There has been much said and written on this subject, but after repeated and thorough tests, we find that bees are not pure Italians if the workers do not have three bands, and to breed from queens that make bees with two bands only, will surely result in a very dark race of hybrids.



A Few Observations.

By W. H. PRIDGEN.

For The Southland Queen.

On June 12th I placed a clean comb in a breeder's hive; on the 15th, gave it to queenless bees; the

16th, transferred larvæ from it to cell cups, rejecting the oldest, because they could not be transferred without mashing out the food with my "cocoon-transfer," on account of its abundance. On the 27th I distributed the cells, the same time of day that the clean comb was given to breeder just 15 full days before, and had two queens to emerge from the cells while distributing them. On July 2nd I saw one of the young queens leave the hive, and return after mating.

None of this is guess-work: who can beat it? If the egg was deposited in one hour from the time the comb was given, that this queen hatched from, she mated in exactly 20 full days from the time the egg was laid. Well developed queens, with every thing favorable, hatch on the 16th day, counting the first and last, or, in 15 full days.

Do not suppose there is any thing unusual in the above, but wanted to see how it would look in print.

Every one likes his own inventions, and is to his own notion, as the old woman said when she kissed the cow, but for perfect work, convenience and rapidity, I would not lay aside my "cocoon stick" or "transfer" for any plan yet given to the public, as larvæ of any age, unless too old, or even eggs can be transferred, if needs be. I have had a batch of twenty cells accepted, when only

work can be so well done that bees that do not want to rear queens will rear workers from the larvæ given.

Would like to hear from some of the "Big Guns," if they have tried it, or, would like for them to try it and report, if they have not done so.

Creek, N. C.

#### Holding Queens For Market.

As I have never seen this subject written upon, and as I have had some experience in this line, I thought I would write a short article on this subject.

When I had more queens on hand than I had orders for, and wanted them out of the nuclei in order to make room for cells that I had coming on, I used to just put them in small mailing cages and leave them in the hive until orders came for them, but this didn't work well, as many of them would die if left there any length of time.

The bees would take a queen cell and rear another queen, just the same with their one queen in the hive when in these small cages, but the queen would die, so I tried another plan, which I think will prove to be a success, at least it has with me.

Just take a frame of honey with a few bees and a small patch of brood in it, put them in an empty

that number was given, and the hive or nucleus, stop them up and set them in the shade. Don't let them work any, if you do they will likely get discouraged and swarm out, causing lots of trouble. If you haven't any empty hives on hands vou can make a small box, about 6 or 8 inches square, and have a small frame to fit it, and fill the frame with honey and a little brood, put about a half pint of bees with it, then close the entrance with a strip of wire cloth, so they will not smother, and they can be stacked up in a room or in the shade where they can keep cool. Queens can be kept this way without any loss, because they are not crouded; they have plenty of room and nothing to do, so they have no cause to die. W. A.

> T. S. Ford has an interesting article in A. B. J. of July 2, on beeparalysis. Mr. Ford has quite an experience in that line, and all that have the disease in their apiary should heed his advice.

#### More Back Numbers Wanted.

Owing to the fact that we have run out of the June (1896) number of THE OUEEN, we will, for the next 30 days accept this number. and extend your subscription one month for the same, if returned to us in good order.

Yours Truly, The Jennie Atchley Company, Beeville, Bee Co., Texas.

#### TRAMPS AND ROBBERS.

By G. M. DOOLITTLE.

Written for The Southland Queen.

I notice, on page 13 of THE QUEEN, a little item taken from "Stray Straws" in Gleanings, relative to tramps, and I see that Dr. Miller decides, that when brought down to the final analysis, "tramping is simply stealing," and the editor of Gleanings concludes that "it ought to be as unhealthy for a professional, won't-work tramp to prey upon communities, as for counterfeiters," while the editor of THE OUEEN says they feed them, as they "had rather feed nine unworthy tramps than to let one worthy subject go hungry." This shows a Christian spirit, although it is rather hard work to feed those that won't work. I wish to say that I read those little items with much interest, for, although they take little space on page 13, yet in them are thoughts that measure out into limitless eternity, and for which this nation will have to answer when it appears before the Judgment seat of Christ. Dr. Miller, A. I. Root nor Mrs. Atchley, ever knew of such a thing as a tramp to "prey" upon bee-keepers, prior to 1873, for there were none before that time. How, then, did it come about that bee-keepers are now annoyed by tramps, when formerly they were not? Simply by laws brought into existence through

the legislation of representatives placed in legislative halls by the votes of bee-keepers and others. But why are the Roots and Dr. Miller making such a fuss about the little bit they give grudgingly, or otherwise to tramps, when these same laws which have brought tramps into our country, have given another class of robbers, who, instead of stealing a few meals of victuals from bee-keepers, WITH THEIR CONSENT, take annually one-third of the wealth of every bee-keeper by robbery? This other class of robbers do not even exercise enough to tramp for a living, but roll in luxury all the year around. They toil not, neither do they spin, vet Solomon in all his glory had not a bank account like one of these. These perform no service, not one single, necessary duty to their fellow men, while they are supported in luxury by the toil of those whose backs are bent, whose hair is prematurely gray, and whose whole life is a constant struggle for a bare subsistence. And yet we bee-keepers make a mighty fuss about the little the tramps take from our honey production, and say not a word derogatory, by voice or vote, against those other individuals who are seeking, not only to make slaves of us bee-keepers, but to destroy the free institutions of this nation as well. Is it not about time we do our kicking intelli-

gently, instead of kicking in the air as we have been doing in the past? To understand "where we are at," it is well to keep in mind that not one single dollar's worth of wealth ever comes into this world except by economic labor, by bee-keepers or others, so the man who has great wealth and never gave anything along the line of economic labor to the world. simply stole the wealth that the labor of others produced. Any system or scheme by which one man or class of men controlls and appropriates the fruits of the labors of others, is robbery. Now then, statistics, which even the most conservative have never disputed, show that of the approximate \$12, 000,000,000 of wealth produced in the United States each year, monopolies, trusts and combines, existing in this country by the laws of the land, take \$4,000,000,000; the waste in the liquor trafic (the liquor trafic is here by our laws) amounts to \$1,200,000,000 each year, and \$1,000,000,000 goes for excessive salaries of officials, and interest on unjust debts; making \$6,200,000,000 out of the total \$12, ooo,ooo,ooo, which is taken away from the people through unjust laws each year, and each beekeeper suffers his or her proportion of this, along with all others engaged in honest labor, which produces wealth. In other words, out of every 100 cents worth of

wealth we bee-keepers produce, we are robbed of 52 cents, and have 48 cents left us to expend on ourselves and families, according to statistics given, which have never been disputed by those having knowledge in the matter. Then how it must appear to those having their eves open, to hear bee-keepers growling over the little they give from their honey crop to keep tramps alive, while with their voice and ballot, they sanction and keep in power that which robs them of one-half or more of the wealth they annually produce. Think of these things, bee-keeping friends, for as I have said in print before, these things are of far more importance to us and our posterity than all of the things which usually appear in our bee papers.

Borodino, N. Y.

### That Bee Bulletin.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL TEXAS BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

Regarding Bee Bulletin No. 1, new series, of the Division of Entomology, "The Honey Bee," I will say that about the 25th of June, I sent to the proper authority, our petition for 22 copies of the Bulletin. I received a long letter from Mr. Benton, stating that the supply at head quarters was exhausted, but he hoped to obtain

them through our Congressmen, as each Senator was allowed 58 copies, and each member of Congress was allowed 27. With Mr. Benton's assistance, I may be able to obtain them by the first Friday and Saturday in August, and will distribute them to the Association direct, at Cameron, Texas. Please remember the date, August 7 and 8 is the time, when the grandest Bee-keepers' Convention will be held that was ever held in the State. I am receiving letters daily, concerning the mistake that THE QUEEN made in Convention notices, which gave the time as the 4th and 5th; this will be corrected in this issue. Notify your neighbors who intend to go, of the correct time and place-Aug. 7 and 8, at Cameron, Texas., and don't forget to be there on time.

C. B. BANKSTON, COR. SECY.

Master Frank, son of Hon. F. R. Graves, of Karnes City, Texas, has been with us nearly four weeks, learning the "bee-business," this being his second term. He returned home a few days ago, where he will take charge of his bees. Frank is a good boy, and we think will raise plenty of sweetness for some young lady, in the future, and some to spare. Our best wishes go with you Frank.

Be at Cameron on Aug. 7 and 8, and don't you forget it.

MR. JOHN ORVAL, who is trying to write cute things in one of our Southern exchanges, says, in referring to our item of a few weeks ago, about someone selling 5,000 queens in a season:

"Say, York, give me the name of that woman that reported a sale ten times too big, and John Orval will show her up in the light she so justly deserves."

We never said a woman herself reported that she sold 5,000 queens in one year, for she never did, so far as we know.

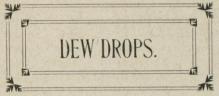
"John" further states that he is "a dandy at showing up frauds." While there may be plenty of them in the North, he'll have no trouble in finding at least one in the South. Wake up, John, and show it up.—American Bee Journal, page 425.

I notice by the American Bee Journal that Bro. York is trying to make out, through an undermining way, that I did not sell 5,000 queens in a single season. Bro. York, I sold the queens, and no "them" about it.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

Again we have a note from Bro. Graham of North Texas, and he says no honey this year to speak of Bro. Givens, 75 miles South of Bro. Graham, says no honey, Bro. Skaggs, of Middle West Texas reports a poor crop.

The weather has been so hot here through June, that several of our weakest colonies melted down; they were not strong enough to keep down the temperature with their wings.



The May number of the SOUTH-LAND QUEEN is a pleasure and a surprise. It is fully illustrated, contains extra pages, and is filled full of bright spicy things. Success to the QUEEN! and may she see many another birthday as auspicious as the first.—Gleanings in Bee Culture.

I herewith hand you \$1.00 to renew my subscription to SOUTHLAND QUEEN. You know how I appreciate your efforts in trying to give us a first class bee journal for the South, and I believe, too, I speak the sentiments of all your southern subscribers when I say this, and the best part of it is, you have succeeded so well in doing it. We think THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN is extra good, especially the last two numbers. was surprised to see so many able writers on bee culture in the L. B. Smith. South.

Lometa, Texas.

THE QUEEN comes regular, with other papers, and I read it first of all. May 17, I took out of one hive, 24 filled one pound sections, and 48, on the second of June, from the same hive.

DR. W. M. STELL. Jesus Maria, Mexico. We are very much pleased with THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN; send a sample copy to ——, and oblige.

HUFSTEDLER BROS.

Clarksville, Texas.

I am pleased with the improvement in the QUEEN. It is attractive in its get-up, the articles are good, and you have a good proof reader.

T. S. FORD.

Columbia, Miss.

Just as we go to press, we receive the sad news of the death of two daughters of Rev. and Mrs. T. C. Thetford, of Beeville.

Miss Belle Thetford, who had been lingering for several weeks, with Typhoid fever, passed away at 1 a. m., July 15, and her oldest sister, Miss Hettie, who had been sick only a few days, died of the same disease two hours later.

These were two truly good girls, loved by all who knew them, and while they are missed from the family circle, and their seats in Church and Sunday School are vacant, we are glad to realize that they are now in a land of rest.

Many of our readers, who were at the first meeting of the Southwest Texas Bee-keepers' Association, which was held at our place in December, 1894, will remember Miss Hettie, as she was the organist at that meeting.

## Texas Conventions for 1896-7.

#### Central Texas Bee-keepers' Association.

Meets at Cameron, August 7 and 8 1896. No hotel bills to pay.
C. B. BANKSTON, COR. SECV.
Chriesman, Texas.

S. W. Texas Bee-keepers' Association.

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

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

#### Texas State Bee-keepers' Association.

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

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



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CHAS. DADANT & SON, Hamilton, Ill.

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11 1 can now supply Holyland queens, untested, at \$1.50 each, or 6 for \$8.00. Tested, \$3.00 each, or 6 for \$16.00. Breeders, the very best, \$10.00 each.

Wille Atchiey, Beeville, Texas.

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Department of The Southland Queen is under the management of an experienced Job Printer and if you are

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Untested queens of the golden or the leather colored at 75 cents each; 3 for \$2. Tested, \$1. each, 6 for \$5. My custom grows every year, and my queens give satisfaction. I send queens to the leading bee-keepers by 50 and 100 lots. Safe arrival on all queens. Try my beauties.

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WARRANTED Queens by return mail, W 75 cents each. A record is kept of the brood of all Warranted queens sent out, and such as show that they have mismated are replaced. All of my queens are reared from breeders that

## I would not exchange

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

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The best strain of Golden Italian Queens, reared and mated where there is absolutely no black bees, two for \$1.00. Warranted purely mated, and safe arrival guaranteed. Reference, The Jennie Atchley Co.

W. C. Gathright, Donna Anna, New Mer.

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# Atchley.

Queens may be had at the Crescent Apiary, corner Depot and Rose streets, Seattle, Wash., at the Atchley prices.

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Prices of Dovetailed Hives and Sections reduced. We keep a full line of

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#### BEEVILLE, TEXAS, JULY 15, 1896.

## To Our Subscribers.

The time is up, for which many of our subscribers have paid, and we wish to say to those of you that wish to continue with us, that we would like to receive your renewal as soon as is convenient for you to send it in. If you prefer to do so, you may send us 3 new subscribers at \$1.00 each, and your subscription will be continued one year, for same.

new subscribers at \$1.00 each, and your subscription will be contin-(Cut this out and return it to us with the 3 names filled in.) Enclosed find \$3.00 for which send THE QUEEN one year to each of the following, beginning with the \_\_\_\_\_ number. P. O. P. O. P. O. Also extend my subscription 12 months, as per agreement. P. O. If you do not send the 3 subscribers, and wish to renew, fill this out and return it. Enclosed find \$1.00 for which extend my subscription twelve months. State P. O. Our subscribers that are in arrears, would help us out wonder-

Our subscribers that are in arrears, would help us out wonderfully by paying up now. Lots of littles make a heap.

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Adel Queens

My strain of Golden or Five-band bees are of pure Italian origin. For business, beauty and gentleness they are unexcelled.

I also have Alley's famous "ADEL" breeder of last season. This is a strain of yellow banded bees of Carniolan origin. The best workers and gentlest bees known. Price list free. J. D. GIVENS, Box 3, LISBON, TEXAS.

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Conquer	or, 3	in.		"	"	1.10
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Farwell, Mich.

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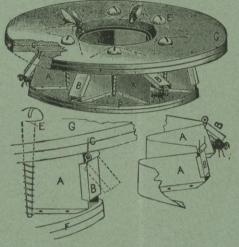
DEAR BROTHER BEE-KEEPERS:-

Let me call your attention to, and ask you to give the new **Jardine** Bee-Escape a trial. During the last two seasons it has been tested and tried by the leading bee-keepers in the United States, and, by them, it is pronounced a success.

This new Escape cannot be gotten up quite so cheaply as some others that are on the market, and for that reason I must sell them at 50 cents each in lots of 12; 55 cents each in lots of 6; and 60 cents for a single

Escape. The rest of the material used with them costs but very little—one cracker box will make four of the boards I use, and as to durability, with care this Bee-Escape will last a life-time.

Take a piece of the board just the size of your hive, and nail a strip 1 in. wide by 3/4 in. thick, entirely around the edge, on both lower and upper side, in order to raise and lower the board from the frames. In the center of this board cut a hole 4 inches in diameter, and bevel back the lower edge about 1/2 inch, so as to give the little doors in the escape perfect freedom in raising and falling. the escape exactly in the center of the opening, and make it stationary with three or



four tacks. Now, be sure your hive is perfectly level, and you are ready for work.

It will be readily seen that in using the Escape, one may remove the honey from the hive or leave it just as he chooses, and the bees will escape just the same.

Every Escape sent out is inspected by a mechanic, and is warranted to do the work as represented or your money will be refunded.

Yours Very Respectfully,

James Jardine, Ashland, Neb.