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T H H

National Bee Journal.

DEVOTED TO THE CULTURE OF THE HONEY-BEE.

Vol. III. JANUARY 13, 1872. No. 2.

[From the Chicago Tribune.
The Apiary.

Having Bees in the City—Bee Pastureage in California—Honey-Dew Produced by Insects.

RURAL HOME, Ill., Dec. 10, 1871.

During a short visit to Chicago recently, a lady-friend was giving me a history of her family's experience with bees in the city. I was especially amused at her account of having natural swarms. They have one strong swarm, that has thrown off three natural ones past season; and they have the entire four in good condition up to the present time. One who has never seen bees hived in a large city can have no idea of the excitement which attends it. The first swarm that rushed out of my friend's hive this summer was the signal for immediate action on the part

of the owners. The daughter hastened to summon the father, who is an amateur in bee-keeping. She waited not for the car, but hurried along Madison street and across the bridge to her father's office, while people gazed wonderingly after her. Had they known her mission, it would have caused some smiles. The father found quite a crowd of neighbors assembled to witness the novel performance of hiving the bees. There were the bees clustered on one of the topmost branches of a tall shade-tree, an apparently lifeless mass. Mrs. S. thought she had done much toward saving the swarm; for had she not drummed long and loud on a tin-pan, while the bees were in the act of departing for parts unknown? This she had done, too, amid the smiles and ridi-

cule of the passers-by. And, in spite of all that I could say to the contrary, she still firmly believes that this is a sure and effectual means of "settling the bees." The audience waited in silence, watching the operations of Mr. S., wondering how he was going to transfer the bees from the tree to the hive. But he was equal to the emergency; for his younger days had been spent on a farm, where bees were considered quite indispensable. He had in reserve a vacant hive, and proceeded in a very simple and scientific manner, to the work of securing the swarm. Attaching a string to the limb on which the bees were resting, and quietly severing it from the tree, he lowered it down from the tree to the hive. And very soon the colony were safely housed, and seemed very much pleased with their new residence. The neighbors dispersed, thinking they had witnessed quite a wonderful performance; for many had always lived in the crowded city, while others had not seen a swarm of bees for years. Although Mr. S. has to purchase his hives at the retail prices, and has other expenses which the farmer beekeeper has not, still he gets his honey much cheaper than those who buy it at the gro-

cery. He lives on the West Side, where his bees have to journey a long distance to the vacant lots near the city limits to gather their stores of honey. And Mr. S. has had honey sufficient for his family use, and has given to his friends, and sold some. It certainly is profitable to keep bees in the city.

BEES IN CALIFORNIA.

A lady, writing an interesting bee-letter from California, said she was sorry "Ella" did not go further West, and seek a home for her apiary in the State of California. That country, says the lady, seems to her to be the place of all places for bees. In the beautiful Valley of the Sacramento, they have an abundance of bee-pasturage every month in the year, except November and December, and even then the bees are self-supporting; and, in January and February, they gather nice honey from the flowers of the manzanita tree. She goes on to enumerate the variety of bee-pasturage in their valley:

It is then the almond puts on its beautiful robe of white flowers; and then all the other fruit-blossoms follow in nice order. Then, we have wild flowers in countless numbers, which give the valley the ap-

appearance of one vast flower-bed; but one, the loving daughter of the sun, a meek-eyed little flower, called *fillasce*, which will not open its eyes until the sun shines bright and warm, is a particular favorite with the busy honey-bee. It blooms throughout March, April, May and June, covering the ground almost as thickly as white clover, and is nearly as fragrant.

And she says furthermore that they have plants that will bloom for months without a particle of moisture perceptible to the eye of an observer.

This certainly is an advantage over Illinois, as far as bee-pasturage is concerned. Their best honey-producing plant during the summer droughts is tar-weed, so called from its resinous odor. It blooms from July to October, and the bees are constantly seen on it while in bloom. The honey and comb made from it are beautifully white, and of good flavor. This lady speaks of the large quantities of honey-dew that collected on the leaves and twigs of the oak trees, and which is very abundant during August and September. She inquires

WHAT PRODUCES THE HONEY DEW?

There is a small class of insects called *aphides*, and there

are countless numbers of these that collect on the oak trees during the warmest part of the year. They are not always so abundant in Illinois, as the summer seasons differ in degree of warmth; but in California they are, very likely, always seen in large numbers in the summer months. The *aphides* are commonly called plant-lice, and suck from the leaves and twigs of the tree the sweet juices. And it is known by the name of honey-dew. That which is deposited upon the leaves retains its freshness longer, and does not dry so soon as that on other parts of the tree. It is not only sought by the honey-bee, but ants are likewise very fond of it, and will take much trouble to obtain it. The ants protect these little *aphides* from their enemies, which is a kind act, although prompted by a selfish motive.

ELLA.

It is found that the larger the cakes of wax are, the better it keeps, and the higher price it brings. Also, that the more gently it has been boiled, the better it likewise is; for too hasty boiling renders it hard, and this increases the difficulty of bleaching it.

"Triumph" Bee Hive.

DESCRIPTION.



Messrs. Editors and Bro. Bee Keepers:—According to promise I give you a description of the "Triumph" hive, with cuts to illustrate the same.

The above cut represents a front view of the hive, which is 24 inches long, outside measurement, by 16 inches wide, and 10 inches deep. The frames are hung upon either the rabbeted edges of the brood chamber, or upon strips $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch square, tacked on the inner edge of the brood chamber, $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch from the top. The frames are hung the narrow way of the hive, instead of lengthwise as in the Langstroth; the advantage is that in handling new combs, filled with brood and honey, there is but little danger of the combs falling out of the frames, as is frequently the case with longer frames. We use from 10 to 14 of these frames, as circumstances require. We have a partition board in either one or both ends of the hive that fits close-

ly in the chamber, yet is perfectly easy to slide either back or forth, for the purpose of contracting or enlarging (at will) the brood chamber.

The frames are made of strips $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch thick; the top piece is $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches wide. We cut $\frac{3}{32}$ of an inch off both edges of this top piece, commencing $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches from each end; this is to let the bees pass into the surplus chamber above. The end pieces are $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches wide, and $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches long; the bottom piece is $\frac{7}{8}$ wide; the end pieces of the frames have a little cleat or block, $\frac{1}{8}$ inch square and 1 inch long, tacked on to their bottom edges, or both sides; this prevents the frames from touching each other, excepting at these points, and at either end at the top. The frames are thus made to fit up close against each other at the points named, yet leaving space for the bees to pass above, between, and all around them. We now slide our partition board up against them from either end, placing wedges behind it. The brood-chamber is thus formed, and by so arranging it, we secure the frames in such a manner as to be able to ship the hive, filled with bees and comb, to any part of the United States or Canada, without any danger of the combs being broken down.

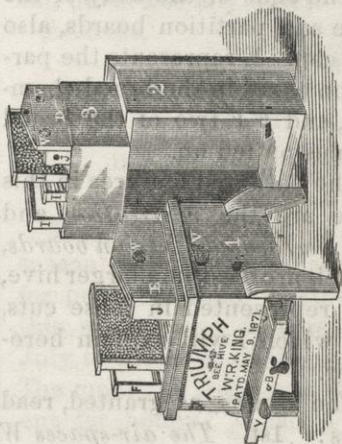
In November last I shipped forty-three colonies from Mil-

ton, Ky., to this place (over two hundred miles, by boat fifty miles, and by railroad one hundred and fifty), and were hauled one mile on wagons, and not one comb was broken down; besides there were not more than one fourth of a pint of dead bees in all the hives put together. I simply pressed my wedges in tight, putting a nail in each one of them, to keep them in place; there were no frames to be nailed. One dozen "Triumph" hives can be prepared for shipping in the same time you would be preparing one of any other kind differently arranged.

We use the hive both with and without a wire bottom. The wire used is No. 8, and is tacked to the sides and ends of the hive, $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch from the bottoms of the frames, covering the whole bottom. Underneath the wire bottom we have a drawer, or receiver, to receive all the chippings of comb and filth thrown down by the bees. This drawer has strips of tin, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, tacked on to its edges all around, extending over on the inside. (*This is our moth trap.*) Of course, there are many worms that pass into this drawer, and unless it is cleansed at least once in ten days, they will accumulate until they fill the drawer to the wire above with web, and then they can return to the brood chamber. I would ad-

vise any one who will not look after his bees, to use the hive without the wire bottom and drawer; but those that will cleanse it, will find that it is of great advantage, as by means of it we keep the bottom of our hive perfectly clean, without interfering with the bees; we can more successfully ventilate the hive, as will be seen by examining the following cut.

SECTIONAL VIEW.



This cut shows a sectional view of the hive, with Fig. 2; the cap off Fig. 3 represents the surplus honey chamber resting on top of the cap, with three of the surplus frames (I I I) pulled up in it. This chamber has a partition board (D) with wedges I; the frames in it are only $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep, but are the same length of those in the brood-chamber, and can be used in the brood chamber for feeding purposes. These surplus frames fit closely in the

chamber, being suspended on its top edge, and lack $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch of being as deep as the chamber, thus leaving $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch between their bottoms and the tops of the brood frames, when the chamber is in place. We use no honey-board, so called, *excepting in winter*.

This cut represents the drawer B as partly removed. V represents the ventilators on the front of the drawer, as well as in the ends of the body of the hive and partition boards, also the cap. E represents the partition board in the brood-chamber, and F F two of the brood frames pulled up.

The patented features in this hive are the *ventilation* and the *perforated division boards*, which are used in a larger hive, not represented in these cuts, but which I will explain hereafter.

The claims, as granted, read thus: 1st. *The air-spaces W W, and ventilators Z Z, arranged in either end of the hive with air space W, and ventilator Z of the upper chamber, substantially as herein set forth.* 2d. *The perforated division boards H H, arranged in either side of the center of the chamber A (brood chamber) and the metallic cut-off I, arranged to operate as and for the purposes set forth.*

In the first claim the objects set forth are that we may *effectually* control the ventila-

tion of the hive, and at the same time we prevent others from securing the frames in the hive in like manner. The air spaces W W spoken of, are the spaces between the partition boards and the ends of the hive, both in the brood-chamber and surplus honey chamber.

The perforated division boards are used in a hive 40 inches long outside measure, and exactly the same depth and width as the one above described. This hive has three entrances; one in the center, and one six inches from either end. We form our brood-chamber in the center of this hive, by putting in fourteen brood frames; on both sides of them we place one of these perforated division boards. These boards are made of four strips of plank, $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch thick, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ or 2 inches wide. We form a sash of these four pieces, *exactly* the size of our partition board. We cover this sash with a sheet of perforated tin, the holes in the tin being *exactly* $\frac{5}{8}$ of an inch in size. We now tack on two strips, $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch square, near the edge of the perforated sheet; these strips are rabbeted sufficiently to let a solid sheet of tin slip down behind them, thus covering the holes in the perforated tin; these solid sheets of tin are movable after getting these in place, one on each side of the brood chamber. We put in five surplus frames on each

side of them, then comes our solid partition boards and wedges, which close it up.

As soon as the honey season sets in, we stop up the outside entrance to the brood-chamber (the middle one), and remove one of the movable sheets of tin (cut off); thus we compel the bees to work through one of the surplus side chambers. As soon as they have fairly started in it, we stop up its outside entrance, and remove the sheet of tin between the brood chamber and the surplus chamber in the other end of the hive, compelling them to work out through it. As soon as they get well to work in it, then open the other two outside entrances.

We also use a surplus honey chamber above the brood chamber.

By using the perforated division boards, with the holes $\frac{5}{32}$ of an inch, we *effectually* prevent the queen from entering these side gathering chambers.

After the honey season is over, we close up the middle entrance, and winter two colonies in one hive.

We always turn the jagged sides of the perforated tin inward; then you may be sure no fertile queen will attempt to pass through.

We have now fully described the "Triumph" hive, and if any practical bee keeper wants a

hive *on trial*, without a farm right, we will sell him one at the price we sell to those owning a farm right. Remember, we make the small hive, both with and without the wire bottom, and drawer; also, the side gathering hive, with and without the wire bottom and drawer. Send for circular with price list.

If you once use the "Triumph" hive, you will adopt it, and never use any other.

Address,

WILL. R. KING,
Patentee of "Triumph" Bee Hive,
Franklin, Ky.

[For the National Bee Journal.

Bees.

Messrs. Editors:—The past season has been remarkable for protracted dry weather in this section—no flowers from July to the close of the season. The month of June was excellent for honey. I had a new swarm put into a large-sized American hive on the 10th of June; on the 17th it was full of honey from top to bottom.

I, too, am in favor of a weekly JOURNAL; think it the very thing we need; hope you will soon be able to give it to us. What is the prospect?

J. W. JOHNSON.

Shelbyville, Ill., Nov. 17, 1871.

We will say to our friend that the JOURNAL is both increasing in interest and circulation.—Hope to hear from him again.—ED.

[For the National Bee Journal.]

The Queen.

Messrs. Editors: — A while back I gave you an instance of a queen which, after being absent three days from the hive, returned of her own accord, and was received. As showing the caprice of the “little pets” I propose giving you two other instances where bees that had no queen did not accept one so kindly. Early in the season one of my nurseries lost its queen, evidently on her nuptial flight, which fact was not discovered until I wanted the queen for use, when I found them very scarce of bees. I supplied a cell just ready for the queen to emerge, and in due time they had a fine laying queen; but in this time they had stored so much honey and polen that space for eggs was quite limited, and in a few days I noticed that she went over the combs; she kept on depositing eggs in the cells until in some cells I counted as many as six eggs. To give her room to lay profitably I took one of the frames and, after brushing off the bees, exchanged it for an empty frame from another queenless nursery. In due time I noticed the young bees beginning to emerge from the cells, and needing them worse in the nursery so long queenless, I again exchanged frames. Noticing that most of the bees

on the comb taken from the queen were those just emerging from the cells, I did not brush them off, trusting to the old bees returning home. I was careful, though, to see that the queen was on the opposite side of the remaining frame from the one I put in with the strange bees on it. Feeling a little doubtful of the propriety of the step I opened the nursery, about sundown, and at first did not find my queen, but just as I was about to replace the cover I noticed a pretty compact squad of bees on the underside of it. I brushed them onto the frames and watched her go down between them. On opening it again, in the morning, the first thing I saw was my queen in a squad of about a dozen bees at one end on top of the frames. While looking to see if there were any signs of animosity toward her she took wing and I watched her circle round until out of sight. I at once ran for a cage, and, coming back soon, heard the peculiar sound of her flight, after hovering over the frames and making two or three attempts to alight, she settled on a rose close by. I at once captured and caged her—evidently the bees on the frame that I had returned, although they had no queen at home, had attacked her, but her own subjects had thus far been able to protect her from harm.

To enable you to understand my second case I must describe my nursery, or hive, for queen raising. In my apiary I use only the Langstroth hive, with ten frames eighteen inches long by nine inches deep. My nursery hive is a little wider than the others and has three division-boards, one-fourth of an inch thick, dividing it into four compartments, giving room for two frames of same size. When done raising queens for the season I lift out these frames, bees and all, and make a hive of it, giving them a queen for winter.

When commencing to adjust one of my hives for winter, Nos. one, three and four had each a queen; number two had been some days queenless. I cut a small passage in the division between two and three, just under the cover and above the frames, and took the queen from number one; two days after, finding the bees passing and repassing freely, and the queen all right, I made a similar passage between one and two, but the bees from one had to pass through two before they could get to the queen in three. I neglected to state that I had a fly hole in each side and end, so that the bees from each compartment had their own separate passage. I had closed the fly hole one and two so that the bees all had to pass through number three where the queen

was to get out. After number four had been queenless three days, finding my queen all right, I made a passage between three and four, but left the fly hole of four open some of the days during the time the bees did not fly. At the end of three days I opened number three to look for my queen, but did not find her there, or anywhere, but found them busy constructing queen cells. Evidently the bees from number four had gone in and slaughtered her. I immediately transferred the frames and bees to another hive, gave them a young fertile queen caged, which was duly liberated and accepted—it was necessary to feed these some to enable them to get through winter—and the queen went to laying, which she continued until the middle of November. In preparing the others for winter I caged the queens, a practice I shall pursue invariably in the future.

In the last few days I hear complaints of the great quantities of dead bees about the hives. The past terribly dry season there was nothing, except the linn, that yielded any honey of account, and there was but little surplus stored. Bees quit brooding generally a month or more earlier than usual, consequently went into winter quarters scarce in numbers, and they already old, so that unless the queens are stim-

ulated to commence brooding earlier than they usually do, many, I fear, will run down too low to get up again.

J. C. HELM.

Muncie, Ind., Dec., 1871.

N. B. Please notice that it is Indiana, not Iowa, where I reside.

J. C. H.

[For the National Bee Journal.

Apiary of S. W. Co'e.

	HIVES.
Commenced in the spring with two-story Langstroth hives, of 21 frames of comb.....	8
Single hives of 10 frames of comb.....	17
Nucleus hives with 4 & 1 frames	2
Making in all.....	25½

One hive was found queenless in the spring—leaving for effective force 24 good hives.

	HIVES.
Increased to two-story hives of 21 frames of comb each.....	36
Single hives of 10 frames of comb each.....	16
Total.....	52

Each hive has 10 frames of all worker comb in brood department and 25 pounds sealed honey.

EXTRACTED HONEY OBTAINED.

	POUNDS.
Shipped to C. O. Perrine, Chicago (loss by leakage 20 lbs., sold at 13 cents).....	960
Sold in Jackson, Tenn., at 14 & 15 cents per pound.....	2111
Used in family and otherwise disposed of.....	316
Have on hand of extracted honey.....	300
Have on hand of sealed honey in second stories of hives—net.	259½

Whole amount of honey obtained..... 3946½

Andrew Chapel, Tenn.

We would like to hear from Friend Cole often—such facts are beneficial to the public generally.—Ed.

[For the National Bee Journal.

Comments.

Messrs. Editors:—The season here has not been quite as good as last year for gathering honey, but I have taken out over half a ton of cap honey, pure and white. The month of June was cold and wet, and a poor month for bees. My bees did not swarm till the third day of July, when the honey season was part gone. There were the usual number of swarms in this section, but the honey season closed before the latest swarms stored enough to carry them through the winter. The buckwheat did not yield the usual quantity of honey this season, and my bees did not gather much.

The Syracuse market quoted honey at eighteen to twenty cents per pound; last year at twenty-eight to thirty cents per pound.

A correspondent wishes to know why I like the "Eureka Hive" better than the "Langstroth Hive;" it is a larger hive, and double, or a hive within a hive, and will hold from twelve to eighteen caps of five pounds each, and being double will winter on their summer stands better than single hives. It costs nearly double to make them, but I think they are enough better to pay the cost, as they do not need housing.

It is said, and I suppose truly, that an unimpregnated queen can lay drone eggs, and that such drones can impregnate queens; if so, I don't see how the drone part can mix—they are pure Italians or black. I have half-blood workers, but have never seen half-blood drones. The Italian drones are of different shades as well as their queens, and one would call the darkest half-blood, but if any one has tested it that may be a matter of fact. This is my belief, but not asserted for fact.

I like to read the different views of correspondents, I can get information from them, and if any of us have erroneous ideas we can read the views of others, and by practicing may see our errors. All we want is harmony among ourselves.

A. WILSON.

Marcellus, N. Y., Nov. 19, 1871.

[For the National Bee Journal.
Bee Hives.

Messrs. Editors:—In April last there was published in the *American Bee Journal*, by Mr. H. W. Beadle, "The Art and Mystery of Patenting New and Useful Inventions," and which as an expose, and take-off upon some of the management of the Washington institution, I was easily enabled to understand, and appreciate its humor. I was at loss, though, for a long

time, to see its bearing upon, and connection with, the bee keeping fraternity; but thanks to the NATIONAL BEE JOURNAL of November 1st, the light has at last penetrated my thick head, dissipated some of the fog from my sluggish brain, and enabled me to see in the claims, disclaims, and manipulations of the Langstroth patent, the original scenery and incidents from which Mr. Beadle drew his inspiration.

To those of your readers who have not carefully read the article referred to, I would urge a re-perusal, and comparing the similarity of the slight variations in the different claims, with the very slight variation of taking the narrow top bar frame of Debeauvoys's close side fitting frame of 1847, and placing it in the loose fitting case of the same inventor of 1851, or as used by Von Berlepsch in 1845; or in taking the frame of Major Munn, and leaving out his slide, claim a new invention for the remaining frame, with the addition of Von Berlepsch's honey-board, used as far back as 1846.

If any one will take the trouble to examine with care the claims and disclaims of Mr. Langstroth, they will become convinced, as I am, that the only original feature about his

patent hive is the moth catching entrance block, and I believe that is borrowed from other sources, and combined with the old fashion of split elder sticks.

That a patent was granted upon an artfully and mystifying drawn application (fully equaling the Jones and Smith's hog fattening process), shows the correctness and truth of Mr. Beadle's article, and which is well worthy of the endorsement of that old veteran, Samuel Wagner, who published the same: "To enlighten the public to some extent in regard to the worthlessness of many patents actually issued by the office. The mere issuance of a patent is no evidence of practical value, nor does it establish the fact that the owner thereof has a right to use all the features that are described and illustrated therein," etc., etc. [See April number *American Bee Journal*, for remainder of quotation.] — To the truth and soundness of which the history of the Langstroth patent is certainly the best evidence.

While upon this subject, allow me to put in an appearance in defense of Mr. Otis, who, I see, is getting a full share of blame for his course in prosecuting infringers upon the Langstroth patent. He is cer-

tainly entitled to my thanks, and I think the thanks of a large proportion of American bee keepers, for had he not pursued such a course, inquiry and investigation would have lain dormant, and the large mass labored under the hallucination that to the Rev. L. L. Langstroth were they indebted for the practically useful, movable frame bee hive, and of which, I think, at present few can be found. Although I thank him for prosecutions commenced, do not understand me as endorsing what is claimed in some of the bee journals: "That he has threatened suit to compel the purchase and payment for the right from the owners of the Langstroth patent, to use hives patented by other parties." My advice to all so threatened would be, treat the threat with perfect indifference, as all such threats will end in smoke, when it is seen that there is no chance of scaring out a ten dollar bill.

E. J. PECK.

Linden, N. J.

It is really disgraceful for a country like ours to import wax or honey. We ought ourselves to export thousands of tons of each every year.

[For the National Bee Journal.]

Bees in the South.

Messrs. Editors:—I presume a few bee items from this section would be acceptable, so I will send you some. Bees have done remarkably well this season, both in increase and honey, although we had a severe drouth last spring. I had twelve hives, they threw off twenty new swarms, and all are in fine condition; have taken eight hundred pounds of honey, making an average of sixty-seven pounds to the colony, at twenty cents per pound, would amount to thirteen dollars and forty cents for surplus honey alone sold from each colony. We will now reckon the twenty new colonies to be worth two dollars and fifty cents each, or fifty dollars; add this average among the twelve old colonies and we have an average of seventeen dollars and fifty cents per colony. I had one colony that gave me three new swarms and one hundred and forty pounds of honey, including honey from young swarms, one of which stored sixty-four pounds in surplus boxes, and sixteen pounds surplus in hive (80 lbs.);—pretty good for last spring's swarm—and one old colony treated us with one hundred pounds of surplus honey but no young swarms. I find that those

swarms which I gave empty comb to, stored the most honey.

A. H. K. BRYANT.

Clarksville, Texas, Oct. 15, 1871.

A Large Yield of Honey.

A. HART—*Dear Sir*:—Yours received for a report of our apiary for 1871.

June 1st, we had seventy swarms of bees—most all Italians—about ten of them were quite light. We allowed them to swarm natural. The last thirty swarms we made, fourteen out of nuclei, making one hundred and fourteen. Two have since become queenless. Out of them all we got fifteen thousand pounds of extracted honey and a little over one thousand pounds of box honey, and judge from the heft of the swarms, at the present time of writing, that many of them will weigh one hundred pounds; and add to this the worth of hives and material and the reader can readily see the large income from such an apiary of seventy swarms of bees. We have sent statement to *American Bee Journal*. We are sorry that we can not be able to be with you at the Convention at Cleveland.

A. CROWFOOT & BRO'S.

Hartford, Wis., Dec. 1. 1871.

The above was sent us for publication by A. H. Hart, of Wisconsin. Ed.

[For the National Bee Journal.]

Hives Having Two Queens.

Messrs. Editors:—In introducing some Italian queens to black stocks of bees last fall, I found two hives which had two fertile queens each, and both laying at the same time. They were weak stocks in the spring, but became strong enough before the close of the honey harvest to secure plenty to carry them through the winter. Both had old queens in the spring, and both raised young ones to supply their places, as the old were getting feeble, but were still able to lay a great many eggs, but I think that both of them would have died before spring. Now I do not mention these instances because they are anything very uncommon, but simply to show that we do not always know how many queens we may have in one hive.

Two years ago I had a small stock of Italians which had a young queen of that season's raising, and which raised another in January, which I removed, for fear they might kill the old one, and they then raised another in February, which, also, I took away for the same reason as the first; after that they made no more attempts to supersede the old one. I have no reason to give for their acting thus, as their

queen was young and very prolific.

HIVES.

I have, until the last year, been an ardent admirer and defender of Mr. Langstroth, but his claims have become so exacting as to shut up all improvements in the bee hive line, or else brand the inventor as an infringer. That is becoming a little too much to be borne quietly by the masses of bee keepers; and now that he has gone into partnership with Mr. Otis, I am glad to see some take the stand they have, and hope they will keep doing so until they, or the people, are beaten so thoroughly as to stop this wrangling of "patent hive" interests, and leave all to their choice of hives without expecting to see the U. S. Marshal after them, unless they have a brass bear on everything they may chance to put bees in, which even allows a few bees to crawl upwards through any kind of space, so as to get above the breeding apartment, for fear they might store a little honey up there where somebody might get it, and thus infringe a patent to their serious inconvenience, if Otis should happen to hear of it.

E. M. JOHNSON.

Mentor, O., Dec. 11, 1871.

INDIGO, bound dry on the wound, is a sure cure for bee stings, etc., says a Mormon who has tried it.

[For the National Bee Journal.

An Explanation.

Messrs. Editors :—The JOURNAL for September 15th, has just reached me. Why it, in company with later numbers, has failed to come on time, I am unable to say. Be this as it may, I am pleased to see it, even at this late date, as it contains an intended reply to my article, commencing on page 263; but as all may see at a glance, it is like all of its predecessors—simply a failure, for the real points at issue have not been touched by Mr. Moon, except with bare assertions. With regard to Dr. Preuss, he again presents to us that gentleman's card, but in a new dress, which is no argument. Besides, Dzierzon, since the statements of Dr. Preuss, declares himself firm in his former convictions, relative to the influence exerted upon the drone progeny of the queen through the medium of her fertilization. Mr. Moon again says, that the microscope is in error. As to the weight of this argument, I leave the readers, who know that the microscope never misrepresents, to judge. He attempts to make it appear as an error, because, he says, he has tested the matter several times, and is satisfied that when the two vital forces of the male and female are brought together, the unity of the two

must of necessity impart to the offspring more or less of their own nature. This I grant as true, for in the case of the worker bee this is proved to be true beyond doubt or question, yet it is no argument in this case, as their forces are not brought together in the case of the drone, for the queen will raise drones without having connection with a drone.

Again, he says, we are told that the Italians are hybrids. I never told him, nor any one else, so; but I did state that they are in their greatest purity more or less dashed with blood from some other variety. This term falls short of the term hybrid, as the latter means half of one kind of blood, and half of another, whilst the former means simply a fractional part, or perhaps one part in fifty,—a mere shade, only occasionally made perceptible.

After this he brings a direct charge against me, such a one as I challenge, dare, and defy him to sustain. What is the charge? He says: "The fact is simply this, my friend has been raising and selling hybrid queens for some time past." Then he wishes to know, if one of the men who have paid for a thing they never got, would upon application receive remuneration of me.

What does Mr. Moon mean by such assertions and ques-

tions? Does he mean to say that one of the regular correspondents to the JOURNAL is a dishonest man and a rogue, and that he is swindling his fellow-man? If so, *let him speak* it in *terms* not to be *mistaken*, and then I shall demand the proof again, as I have already done. And here I request Mr. Moon to state to the bee keepers of the country if he meant to convey this impression to the public mind; and if so, why does he publish my card. It was worded in the office of the JOURNAL, and by one of its editors. I should have written my own card and said, Italian bees in their greatest purity. This would have qualified the language so that a misconstruction could not well have been placed upon it. But what need my card signify when I speak so plainly about this matter.— Why does he refer to this little card, written in his own office, and, for aught I know, by himself. Still, again, he says I ask who the parties are that raise queens that invariably duplicate themselves. This being my question why does he not answer it. I will mention the Gray and Winder apiary as one that he has puffed in the JOURNAL, but he dare not take the stand that they rear queens that duplicate themselves every time, for I have their word that their queens do not do this. Mr. Gray stated to me in a let-

ter, which I can produce when necessary, that he never had a queen that would duplicate herself in every instance. I believed Mr. Gray to be an honest man, and view him in that light still, and regard him as one of the very best and most reliable queen breeders in America or Europe. Messrs. Gray and Winder declare that they can not get queens from Europe that will breed uniform, and are going to that country in search of pure bees if they can be had. I expect to send with them for queens, and hope that many others will do the same thing, and then we will see my statements fully sustained.

Mr. Moon states that among the fixed races of stock, some will have points of excellence over others, but does not say in what respects. Any one will admit that some will be better than others; some more prolific than others, but the color will be the same. For instance, Chester white hogs are invariably white; go among the spotted animals and their offspring is spotted, and so on through the entire list of lower animals. Among mankind, the Indian is always red, the African always black, except it be an Albino. In conclusion I will say, that in entering upon the discussion of the drone question I did not desire to make a single personal attack

upon Mr. Moon, or any one else, and I have lived up to my desires; and I yet hope that there is a mistake about Mr. Moon's meaning in the language he uses in regard to my queens.

I will here offer Mr. Moon, or any one else, one hundred dollars for one case in which it can be made to appear that I ever sold an Italian queen, warranted to produce uniformly three-banded workers, and upon her failing to do so, a refusal or protest was set up by me against furnishing one that would do it. The amount offered, I think, will justify him in pointing out and establishing one case. After bringing the charge against me, he says: "Oh, consistency thou art a jewel!" I hurl it back at him, and ask him, what the drone question has to do with the manner in which I deal with my fellow man in the sale of queens and bees?

In regard to the advocates of the Dzierzon theory, writing over fictitious signatures, I stated that Langstroth, Benedict, or myself, did not write over any but our true names. At the time I did not think of other parties who were writing upon this subject; (Moon can not point out but very few persons that write upon it;) but did I say that Benedict, Langstroth, and myself were all the bone and sinew of the country? No,

I did not; for such a statement would have nothing to do with the drone question, and is no argument on Mr. Moon's side of the question, nor mine. The question at issue is what I propose to discuss, and ask Mr. Moon to do the like.

G. BOHRER.

Alexandria, Ind., Jan. 4, 1872.

REPLY TO DR. BOHRER.

To our many patrons:—We hope you will bear patiently with us, for using so much space in the JOURNAL upon this so-called knotty question (the drone question). Often duty compels us to deviate from the general rule. At the same time, we will try and give facts, not theories alone; endeavoring at all times, to set forth correct and wholesome ideas, whether they shall agree with the microscope, or not.

On page 358, volume 2, will be found an article of ours headed "Drone Question." The article, it appears, was not received by Bro. Bohrer with that degree of complacency that we would have been glad to see. It would seem, from the facts in the case, that he finds more fault that we have spoken at all, than to what we have said. In the foregoing communication will be found a reply to our above mentioned article, and our readers will observe that he tells them, that it is like all

its predecessors, simply a *failure*. While he tells you that the microscope never misrepresents to judge, the reader would undoubtedly like to know how the Doctor could tell all this, as he does not claim to have used the microscope, or ever having brought that instrument to bear upon the seminal fluid of the male bee. We think, he tells our readers that Mr. Langstroth has done more to prove this drone theory, than even Dzierzon himself. Why? Simply because he had brought the microscope to bear upon this matter.

At the Cleveland Convention, Prof. Kirtland was called upon to make some remarks relative to this wonderful development in the scientific world, relating to the microscope telling or knowing anything about this matter. He told the people it could not be done. Prof. Kirtland is one of the most practical and scientific men of the day.

Here the reader will see that science says: No.

The Professor further told the people, that the impregnation of the drone would impart more or less of its blood to its offspring. Consequently the offspring in such a case must be impure.

Now, kind reader, we can see no good grounds for argument, providing we give our friend the position he has taken.

Why, let us examine the matter. In the first place, if we can judge any thing by the amount of reading matter that our friend has placed before the public within the last year upon this subject, our readers must be led to the conclusion that he is a man of great experience. In our article referred to, we did make use of the words "pure Italian," which our friend will please excuse, as we are informed by Mr. Mitchell, then editor of the JOURNAL, that he made up the advertising card for our friend. Now, this being the case, and our friend knew it, why did he not say to Mr. Mitchell, as he well knew that the undersigned was not here, "You have got my card wrong; I am not breeding what is called the pure Italian bee as a distinct variety," and the Doctor should have said ~~that~~ he believed them to be a *hybrid* or *slightly dashed* bee, with some other variety,—which terms he has used, as we shall hereafter show.

In using the words "pure Italian," we surely thought that we had got the joke on the Doctor, knowing that he had used the pen very often in this matter, and might have got things a little mixed; nor did we even think of casting any reflections upon him.

Mr. Bohrer mentions our friend Benedict; he calls him an honest and practical man.

Very good; this seems to be the report of every person who knows our friend Benedict, that he is both honest and practical.

We also see by his communication, that he tells the people that the drone progeny of such a cross is affected.

Again, our friend makes use of these words: "and they are too plain to be misconstrued, *mark them*;" "and again," says he, "we are told that the *Italians are hybrids*." We never told *him, nor any other one else*, so; but we did state, that they are in their greatest purity more or less "*dashed*" with blood from some other *variety*. This *term*, he says, falls short of the *term hybrid*, as the latter means half of one kind of blood, and half of another. Whilst the former means simply a fractional part, "*or*," perhaps, *one part in "fifty," a mere shade only; occasionally made "perceptible"*. Well, kind reader, this would lead you almost to the belief that you can get some Italians that would duplicate themselves, as you are now informed that it is a shade only occasionally made *perceptible*; this would rather go to show that our friend was getting pretty near the pure Italian "*bee*." This differs from his term of "*hybrids*," and we *will* agree with him on this matter. Reader, please mark his words, as seen.

After this he brings a direct

charge against us, "such a one as I challenge," he says, "dare, and defy him to sustain." What is the charge? he says. It is simply this: Our friend has been raising and selling hybrid queens for some years, etc., and then asks what Mr. Moon means by such assertions and questions, and *he* hurls it back at him, etc. From the first importation of the Italian bee into this country, probably not another man in the whole land felt more gratified than we did; we rested quiet, believing they were in good, experienced hands, and that in a very short time we all would know the true history of this bee, its purity, etc.; nor did we have to wait long, before it was published by many of these breeders, and hardly a paper in the whole country, but what was telling of that wonderful bee, called the "pure Italian." After years of careful breeding, and selling at exorbitant high prices, still they were raised and sold as a pure race of bees, and by the most skilful "*and*" so-called practical bee keepers in the land. In this way they were bred and sold for several years as a pure Italian bee, until quite recently some of these breeders have found out that they are a hybrid.

We would like to ask the question, what our breeders were doing for several years; they were selling them as pure,

for such they advertised them; and now we are told, we can not get queens that will duplicate themselves,—when the reader understands that they were bred in this country for several years, recommending them pure. Is it then to be wondered at that people are surprised, when the breeder that understands the honey bee can tell in one season whether his queens are good and pure. Certainly this matter needs investigation. Why, if the Italian is a hybrid, it must be of the lowest type, if our friend's argument is good for anything. Well, let us see. The Italian bee has been known about two thousand years, or a race that bears their description, and such is the one that we suppose to be now breeding. Here the reader will see, that nearly two thousand years have gone by, and this bee will not duplicate itself, so say some. It will be easily seen that, admitting them to be a hybrid, they, with all the care that has been given them, the high type of purity has not been attained, or even enough to establish the uniformity in color or breeding, or a race of bees that we may call pure.

We are confident that the reader will see the point. During all these many years, the Italian bee has stood high, and as a pure race, bred for years as such. When in one season

breeding several generations, you know whether you get bees of uniform color, or whether they duplicate themselves. Do we wonder if occasionally we find a queen in this country, or in any other country, where breeders have fallen into the Dzierzon theory, viz: the fertilization of the Italian queen by the black drone, that it does not effect the drone progeny; this we will leave for the readers to judge.

But we will now come more direct to our brother's charge, and will give him all the explanation we think he will require, why we called his bees hybrids, and think he will need no further explanation upon this subject, if so, we will endeavor to explain still farther. Mark his words:

Again, he says, "we are told that the Italians are a hybrid." We never told him, or any one else, so; but we did state that they are, in their greatest purity, more or less dashed with blood from some other variety. This term falls short of the term "hybrid," as the latter means half of one kind of blood and half of another; whilst the former means simply a fractional part, or, perhaps, one part in fifty—mere shade only—occasionally made perceptible; and continues by saying, "after this he brings a direct charge against me; such a one as I challenge, dare and defy him to sustain."

What is the charge? He says, "the fact is simply this: my friend has been raising and selling hybrid queens for some time past," etc., and finally asks "what does Mr. Moon mean by such assertions and questions?"

A few words of explanation, perhaps, will be sufficient to throw all necessary light upon this subject that the reader may wish, and we will try and state them plain and brief, so that our brother Bohrer may more particularly and succinctly understand them:

First, Bro. Bohrer once believed the Italian bees to be a pure and unalloyed variety, as he has often said; second, after that, and not long since, he published to the world that from all the information he could get, that they are a hybrid, strange as it may appear; third, that we find him in this "wonderful drone question" publishing to the world, that the Italians are, in their greatest purity, more or less dashed with blood of some other variety, at the same time giving the readers of the JOURNAL the difference between the two last named breeds, etc. And as our friend has demanded of us the proof of the assertion, we will give a fact, at least, why he was breeding what he once called hybrids, and when we shall have given him the proof from the written record we hope he will absolve us from anything

wrong on our part as casting any reflections whatever; as to saying anything untrue or designingly to injure his business.

We will now refer our friend to his article on the "Italian bee," as found in the April number of the *North Western Farmer*, of this place, for 1871—he being their regular correspondent. These are the words he used:

"From the most reliable information I have been able to gather, I am of the 'opinion' that the *Italians* are a 'hybrid' from a cross between the Egyptian bee and the common black bee. Indeed we have, aside from the marks, in the two varieties just named—being very visible in the Italians—'strong' grounds for *suspicion* that the latter are an *offspring* from the 'two' races."

We now have given the reader a part of his article, showing what he thought the Italian bee is, or was, in April last. Hoping the explanation will be sufficient to satisfy both our friend and the readers—as they are to be the judges in this matter—I remain

Respectfully yours,

A. F. MOON.

[For The National Bee Journal.

Painted vs. Unpainted Hives.

It will be admitted by all that hives look better and will last longer if painted than if

left unpainted. But I contend that bees will not do as well in a painted hive as they will in an unpainted one. Wherein is an unpainted hive better than a painted one? Principally in this, that if properly covered it will keep the bees dryer at all seasons of the year, and owing to this dryness they are consequently much warmer. As unpainted wood is porous the moisture evaporates through all parts of the hive, keeping the bees dry, warm and quiet, avoiding an undue consumption of honey, as well as dysentery. Three years ago I had a number of box hives, some of which were painted, while others were not. I set them out of the cellar about the first of April; in as near an equal condition as could be. In the morning, after every cold, frosty night, there would be water running out of the entrance of those that were painted, and on tipping them up the combs were found to be quite wet on the outside, while those in unpainted hives were dry and nice; they increased in numbers faster and swarmed from one to two weeks earlier than those in painted hives. I presume some will say use corn-cobs, cut straw, shavings, and other absorbents, to get out the moisture, but still I can not help thinking that hives will

keep bees better if unpainted. Some of these absorbents may be useful in keeping the bees warmer, by thickening the walls of the hive, but the paint is useful only so far as looks and durability is concerned, and is positively injurious, as retarding the evaporation of moisture. This is the result of my observation and experience, and I believe the damage is greater by far than the cost of a new hive occasionally.

G. M. DOOLITTLE.

Borodino, N. Y., Dec. 5, 1871.

Dysentery.

Messrs. Editors: — Please give me, in your next issue, the cause of bees discharging their fæces in the hive, which causes such a smell; also tell me the cause why they desert the hive in the winter.

S. N. REPLOGLE.

Hagerstown, Ind.

We headed this complaint "dysentery," as we knew of no better name to give it, in this, as well as in many similar ones, and it is considered as such by many of our best, practical apiarians of the day; yet I never had a case of it in my life, but have frequently seen it in other aparies, and many swarms are entirely lost by it. The time for this complaint to appear, as

a general rule, will be found in December and January. In the month of February we begin to have a few warm days, which enables the bees to fly and discharge their excrements, which generally will arrest the complaint. Some swarms of bees, after they have been confined for some time in their hives, will evince great uneasiness to come out, and more especially if their food is of such a nature as to physic them. The different kinds of honey may act the same upon the bee as different food does upon man or beast. We do know that a number one honey never hurts the bee, while we also know that poor, thin honey, that will sour and ferment in the combs, is a very poor substitute for bees. The cause of this complaint may be construed to be of a too-fold character, or cause: First, bad honey; second, poor, insufficient and improper ventilation. The first appearance of it will be seen at the entrance of the hive, exhibiting rather a muddy, dark color, which gives the hive an offensive smell. Bees, when suffering from this complaint, I have thought many times lose about all the knowledge they have. Before the disease — if we are permitted to use the term — has gone its length, the bees during this period retain their powers just

as long as they possibly can. The weather being cold, they can not get out, and they begin to discharge their excrements in the hive — then destruction and death commences. Some, however, know enough to come upon the outside of the hive, but can not fly; many of them discharge themselves and return into the hive. Some, however, come out, and, without any apparent knowledge, leave and never return; and frequently so many leave the hive that it causes the destruction of what is left.

The best and most effectual method of arresting the disease is to let the bees have a good fly, and they will empty themselves, which reduces the swelling, and by feeding a little syrup, made from a number one coffee sugar, they will revive and come through all right. If the weather should remain cool, and you are aware they must perish, it would be better to take them into a warm room, with as little jarring as possible, and prepare a wire-screen box, about one foot high; let the bees come out into this for a short time and they will discharge their faeces; darken it and they will return to the hive. I have heard this recommended with good success. Should the weather remain cool for a short time, it would be advisable to feed a little good syrup, as this may change the disease. ED.

EDITORS' TABLE.

To Our Patrons.

Letters come in almost daily from different parts of the country, and some of them containing money, and say, please give me credit for the amount, be it more or less, without even giving their name or address. If any one should not receive the JOURNAL they will be very apt to know the cause. Be careful and give your name and address plain, and we will be responsible for all mistakes. Heretofore we have heard complaints of parties not receiving their JOURNAL. Since I came into the office, and had the handling of the letters, I am not surprised when I hear that some have not received their JOURNAL.

Be careful, write plain and give your address in full, and there will be no mistakes.

Encouragement.

Our readers will be pleased to hear that our subscription list is rapidly increasing, and many of our old friends, who were in arrears, are coming down with the needful aid,—are not only paying up, but are renewing, and at the same time

are sending in new subscribers. Will others do likewise?

We are now entering upon the third year, and hereafter the JOURNAL will appear promptly on time.

Will our friends say to all beekeepers, that for three dollars and twelve cents we will send the JOURNAL one year, and one pure Italian queen bee.

We are determined to place everything in the reach of the bee keepers that will make them successful in the culture of the honey bee.

We announced in our last number of the JOURNAL that all who wished to become members of the North American Bee Keepers' Society, could do so by sending us one dollar, and that by so doing, their names and post office address would appear in the minutes of the Convention, and that each one would receive one copy of the minutes by mail. We received the names of many persons that wish to become members, and request all such that are favorable towards joining the society, to send in their names and money before the minutes go to press.

We wish to say to parties who have written to us for full colonies of Italian bees, that we have sold all that we can spare at present. We will be able to fill all orders, after May or June, to all wanting full stocks of black bees; we can furnish them either by wholesale or retail at reasonable prices. We propose to establish an apiary near this city, of from three to five hundred colonies of bees.

All that are interested in bee culture, passing through Indianapolis, are cordially invited to call and see us, and we will take great pleasure in showing them our little pets, and will take particular pains to show them our plan of raising queens by the thousands, and how we fertilize queen bees in confinement.

Call at our office in Tilford's Block, corner of Meridian and Circle streets.

N. C. MITCHELL.

Peru and Chicago Railroad.

A few days ago, when returning from Michigan by the way of Michigan City, waiting at the depot of the latter city for the arrival of the first train for Indianapolis, I heard some of the passengers talking about a new route. I was about to ask them of what route they were speaking, when I heard the locomotive whistle. Now all was excitement; the big

ones gathered up the little shavers that had been running around loose, and by the time the train stopped, there was a grand rush for seats. When the crowd had about all got on board, the conductor cried out: "All on board for Indianapolis!" just the place, of all others, I wanted to reach in as short a time as possible. But the train seemed to be going the wrong way.

I concluded I would ask the conductor how many changes there were by his train to Indianapolis; he said: "No changes, and time as quick as by any other route." I then concluded that I would take this train, and see where it would go.

At the time I asked the conductor how many changes of cars there would be to Indianapolis, I noticed that he gave me a kind of knowing grin and look, as much as to say, "does your mother know you are out, if she did, you ought to know that the Peru and Chicago Railroad runs through trains from Chicago, via Michigan City, Peru, and Kokomo, to Indianapolis." I did not know at the time what he thought, but I will bet a peck of red onions that he thought I was a brother of the man that arrived in Chicago a few days ago, who had never heard of the great fire;

while looking around among the ruins, he called to some one passing by: "Yearth quake here? When did it happen old hoss!"

Well, no matter what the conductor thought, he was a good fellow, he made every body feel at home; he had a kind word and look for all that spoke to him; every body seemed to be in the best of humor; time sped on, and so did the train, and before I was aware of it, the conductor called out: Rochester. This brought to my mind that a little more than twenty-eight years ago, I passsd through that town afoot and alone, a mere boy in a strange country, and far from home. Never will I forget that long and weary road. I could not help contrasting the present with the past; the traveler then had to tramp, ride, or drive slowly along day after day, even weeks, to reach a certain point that he can now reach by rail in twenty-four hours. While I was thinking of my boyhood days, the train was speeding rapidly along, and before I was aware of it, Peru was announced. I remember passing through this place on my return to Ohio, twenty-eight years ago. I had taken passage on a canal boat, time about one mile an hour. The Indians were thick around

the town at that time. Oh, how I did wish for a faster line, to carry me away from those Indians. I am not certain but that the fear of those Indians have been the cause of scaring nearly all the hair from my head, for I was in great fear, while our boat lay anchored in the canal, that the Indians would raise my scalp. But the Indians have now nearly all disappeared, and the great Wabash Canal, which was then looked upon as being the only outlet to the West, is hardly ever thought of; no passengers now crowd the decks of the boats that occasionally pass through Peru, all prefer to make faster time; it would seem so by the way the passengers got upon the train.

We arrived at Kekomo; here we crossed the Cincinnati and Chicago Railroad; again many passengers got on board.

We arrived at Indianapolis on time; had a good, smooth track, and splendid cars to ride in; and, best of all, a good conductor,—none of your little tight-breeches-legged fellows, who can not turn around for fear of bursting. If there is any one thing that does disgust passengers more than another, it is one of these tight-legged conductors. I mean the kind that the tailor has to throw,

before he can sew his breeches on him. *Poor thing, he is to be pitied.* He does not know what good manners are. His highest ambition is a pair of tight pants, and a conductor's badge, and he is lord of all he surveys. Don't speak to him; don't look at him. He is now what might be termed "full sized snapping turtle." If you doubt my word, speak to him, and if you do not get a snap, it will be because he bursted his pants in turning around. Well, Mr. Tight-Leg, I am done with you at present. Hereafter give me the same conductor that brought me to Indianapolis, or one just like him.

When I arrived at Indianapolis, on my way to the office, the mystery of the conduct of the conductor at Michigan City, when I interviewed him in regard to the movements of his train, was explained; upon every bulletin board I saw posters advising every one to take the Peru and Chicago Railroad, via Michigan City to Chicago and the West. I took my seat at my desk, and from my office window, I saw the large bulletin boards adjoining the *Journal* building covered all over with the same posters. That was enough for me, I understood the look that the conductor gave me when I got on the

train; all was now plain. I could see why every body took the Peru and Chicago Railroad. One word will explain the mystery—they advertise.

The Journal.

The NATIONAL BEE JOURNAL is published semi-monthly, in the city of Indianapolis, at \$2.00 per year. It is a neatly bound volume of thirty-two pages, and will contain choice reading matter from a large number of correspondents throughout the country, and new correspondents entering the list daily; and to see the rapid increase of subscribers to our list is truly encouraging. They have our best wishes and many thanks, and with their aid and assistance we shall be enabled to give the people the JOURNAL filled with choice reading matter, and as soon as the time and things will warrant we will give the readers the JOURNAL weekly. This is what the people need, and the rapid progress of apiculture in this country will soon demand and warrant it; and a word to our correspondents, we can not but thank you for your many articles for the JOURNAL. We hope you will keep doing; we have quite a large number on hand that will have to lay over until our next.

We hope the friends in bee culture over the entire country

will give us the particulars, as brief as possible, with regard to the bees and their condition, etc., so we may be able to give the facts to the readers of the JOURNAL. Don't be afraid to send in the little information, it frequently amounts to a great deal.

Our Fireside Friend.

This is the name of a new eight-page original and illustrated story and family weekly, published by Messrs. Waters, Eberts & Co., Chicago. The paper presents a neat and pleasing appearance, and exhibits much taste in its make-up. Its contents are varied and rich in interest and full of instruction. It contains well-written continued stories of great interest, beautifully illustrated, and entertaining short stories, sketches, poems, etc., with departments especially devoted to the Farmer, the Housewife and Children. One of the principal features of this number is Will. M. Carlton's great Poem. "The Burning of Chicago," which the Publishers have beautifully illustrated. Our Fireside Friend will find a welcome in every family circle. The Publishers will send a specimen copy free to any address.

North-Western Farmer.

Extract from the proceedings of the Indiana State Horticultural Society, as published in the *Indianapolis Daily Journal* of January 5th, 1872:

Mr. W. A. Ragan offered some remarks regarding the importance of giving the support and encouragement of the Society to the *North-Western Farmer*, which he cordially endorsed as a well conducted Journal and one well adapted to further the interest of horticulture and kindred sciences in the State. He was followed by Dr. T. A. Bland, Dr. A. Furnas, I. D. G. Nelson and others, all of whom urged the necessity of sustaining a Journal of such vital importance to the farming and horticultural interest.

The last named gentleman thought it a shame if the State did not give the paper a good support. No State needs such a medium worse than this. Every other State supports one or more agricultural papers well. In his own county, Allen, the County Agricultural Society took from 50 to 75 copies of the *Farmer*, and should continue to do so, and other county societies should do the same. If all did so this alone would keep up and support the paper. He was proud of the paper and said it was worthy of the support of the farmers of the State and an honor to them, and it was their duty to sustain it. The State Board of Agriculture had

passed a resolution to that effect.

The following resolution was passed by the State Horticultural Society at the same time:

Resolved, That we recommend the *North-Western Farmer* to all friends of Horticulture and Agriculture throughout the State, and pledge the proprietors of that paper our hearty support.

President Ratliff said he was very much pleased with the *Farmer*, and would give his influence to build it up and sustain it as a home paper.

We will send both the *North-Western Farmer* and NATIONAL BEE JOURNAL one year to one subscriber for \$3.

Pure English Berkshire Pigs

Bred and for sale by I. N. BARKER, Thorntown, Ind. Choice pigs \$25 per pair.

SEED.

THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEE PLANT, by mail, post-paid,

Per pound \$1.00
Per half-pound50

Over four pounds, by express.

Address, A. GREEN,
Box 342, AMESBURY, MASS.

FULL COLONIES OF ITALIAN BEES AND QUEENS FOR SALE.

For price-list and circular, address,
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Bellefontaine.....	4:10 p m	1:46 a m
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Niagara Falls.....	10:10 a m	4:30 p m
Rochester.....	*7:15 p m	5:20 p m
Albany.....	4:10 p m	1:30 a m
Boston.....	5:50 a m	11:00 a m
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Sidney.....	3:16 p m	12:52 a m
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Detroit.....	9:10 a m
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