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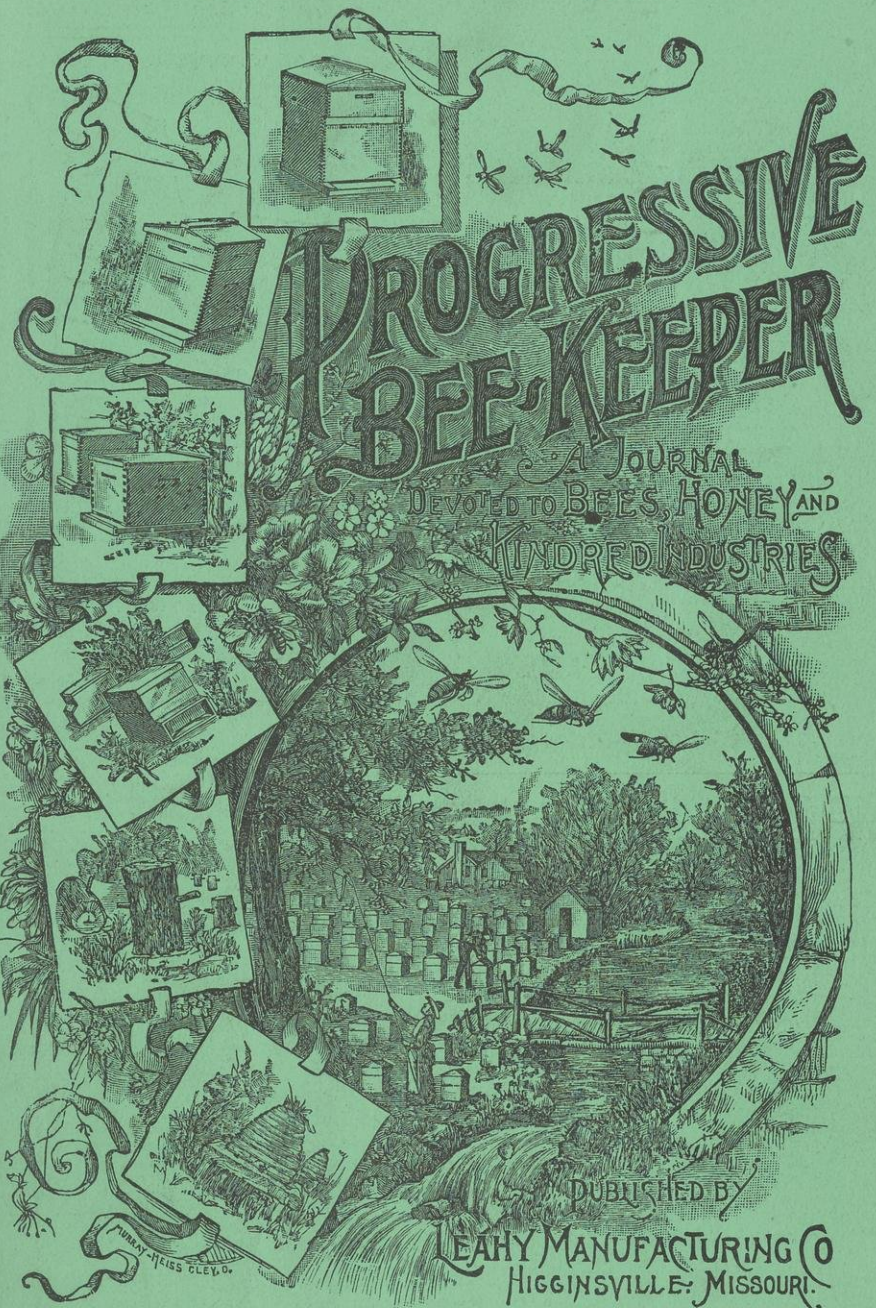
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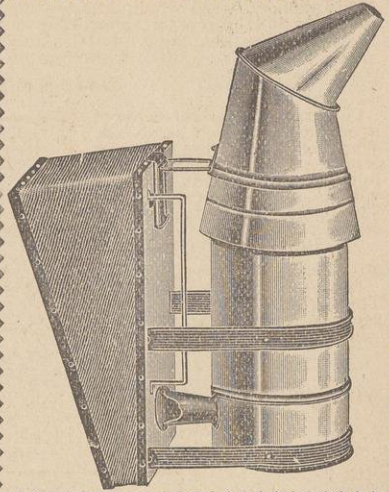
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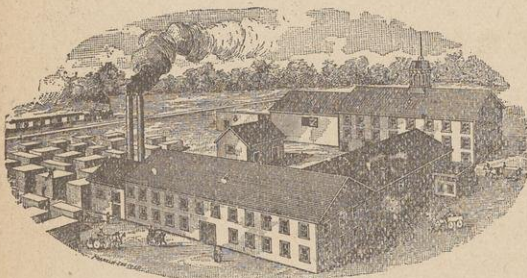
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TWO DEFECTS OF BEE LITERATURE.

F. L. THOMPSON.

We used to hear much about the defects of our bee-literature. The editors would either ignore the remarks with a silence supposed to be dignified or would say, in effect: "Oh, now, hush. You know our papers are better than they ever were before." Then they would set to work to show their independence by ostentatiously repeating for awhile the causes of criticism, and eventually settle into a mechanical

avoidance of the same. It makes the between-line-reader laugh. The idea seems to be, first, "You meddling idiot, we're running this outfit," and then, after a suitable pause, "You see our paper is not at all what you said it was. Inference plain." Jesso—"is" and "was." Who says criticism is no good."

But I wonder why more criticism is not made lately. Can it be the blue pencil has been silently at work? It seems not improbable, for the papers are still far from perfect. Although the late alternation of spite and gush are not so frequent, they have not disappeared, and in one respect, the papers are not so good as they were—they have mostly given up the reproduction of the good things in the other journals. To be sure, it never was done rightly. There would be a meager selection, including some things that might as well be left out, and omitting others of the first importance, all mixed up without any attempt at logical arrangement or seasonableness. Readers were not more sure than before of finding all that was valuable thus served up, so that they could omit a careful reading of all the bee-papers. But it is perfectly possible to make a digest complete. Evidently the edi-

tors were shy of the great labor involved, or its fair equivalent in cash. Possibly they did not like the probability that one paper might thus do duty for all. But the class that would be most benefited by such a digest are the very ones who would want to keep on taking all the papers, in order that they might read in full the original of any special item they were interested in. I take all the papers, but have not the time to read everything in them. But I know I am missing a great deal. I found that out when making a digest of a few months of the bee-papers as it seemed to me should be done. I found that occasionally ideas of importance, or significant points of view, would lurk in the most unpromising material, which I should certainly have missed if I had depended on a glance or two; and I think I am able to size up the probable contents of a printed article, by fifteen or twenty seconds perusal, as well as the average person, yet one of our editors actually seems to pride himself on not reading everything in the bee-journals.

The only adequate digest would be made as follows: First, the compiler would read with some care everything contributed to each journal. After reading each article or item, he would decide whether the class to whom a digest is of most value—the professional bee-keepers who still don't think they know it all yet—would care anything about the idea or point of view of the writer. (A point of view, even if not new, may be as significant as a new idea.) Here is where special ability is required. I never yet saw a review of items that was not colored by the prejudices of the writer, either in omission or commission. That won't do for a digest. One's own personality must be entirely obliterated. Absolutely everything that is of any value to bee-keepers at large must be included, and fairly set forth, whether the com-

piler thinks it of any value or not; he must, for the time being, see things from everybody's point of view. The next step, after deciding on each article or item, is to make the digest of its significant portion on a separate slip of paper. Here is where the labor comes in. None of those fellows who pride themselves on dashing off things should ever touch this kind of work. It is quite possible that a dozen lines of digest ought to consume as much time as it would take to write an original article of ordinary length. All the essential thoughts of the original must be preserved in a very small space without doing injustice to the author, and it must read easily. One who thinks he can sling words quickly gets the conceit taken out of him at this kind of work. It takes a great deal of filing and hammering of words and sentences and a great deal of thought, to arrive at a finished result. I never had the time to do this rightly, but if I were making a business of it, would not only put a good deal of time on the first draft, but would amend and correct it on several other occasions, so as to make sure, by a number of fresh impressions, that the paragraph was as simplified and yet as complete and forcible as it was possible to get it. Whenever the digest of each article or item was made, the next thing would be to decide on a seasonable month for its appearance, and it would be put in a special envelope along with the others reserved for that month. What I have formerly said of the seasonableness of original articles being carried too far does not apply here. There is no excuse for not having a digest seasonable; yet when were they ever seasonable throughout, in every paragraph in our bee-papers? Lastly, as each month came near, the contents of the envelope appropriated to that month would be very logically arranged. This most important feature, strange to say, was

never attempted before the Western Bee-Keeper began it, of course on a much smaller scale than if it had continued. Just think of having all of value that had been said on a particular phase of swarming management, for example, in all of the bee-papers during the whole year previous, before you, just when you want it, say in a single column one page, with references by pages to the original articles, so you could look up anything you wished to consider more at length; and each item, by its logical position mutually illuminating and being illuminated by its neighbors above—an advantage not possessed by the original articles—and every other phase of apiculture treated during the year thoroughly presented in like manner, and then say, if you dare, that our bee-papers are as good as they might be. Every issue of a bee-paper would then be like a chapter out of a thoroughly revised bee book, just from the press. (Of course the paper attempting this would digest itself, as well as the other papers.) The difference in the amount of effective information, absorbed in exactly the same time, with exactly the same effect would be enormous.

But all this involves an amount of work on the part of some one person that no one who has not tried it can have any but a faint idea of. I should not care to undertake it, unless I were an editor myself, for the pay would be sure to be inadequate: and if I were an editor myself, I would not care to hire it done, for then it would be almost certain to be done inadequately. But let not the editors so screen themselves for their neglect. Much of the work connected therewith ought to be done by them anyway, such as the careful reading and weighing of everything said in the other papers, so that it would be less extra work for them than for any other person; and the thorough knowledge thus gained of

their more or less esteemed contemporaries would be of great value in the conduct of their own papers. I rather think, after a little of this work, some editors would wake up to a fitting sense of what is mere show and what is solid value, and would want to hide their diminished heads, so far as past records are concerned. It would be invidious to mention names; but I not unfrequently found that whole issues would contain not one solitary item worthy of summing up. But unless each issue contains at least three or four such potential nuggets, what excuse has it for existing, unless it is for beginners alone?

Indexes and tables of contents, while not of nearly so much value as a logical and serviceable digest, are the best substitutes we have now. Few will use them, but they should at least be made rightly. That can not be said to be the case at present. A few years ago the maker of the indexes of Gleanings boasted that this part of his work had "not yet been criticised by Mr. Taylor and Mr. Thompson"—while the index he had just finished contained some glaring omissions under "Facing Honey," (A. Snyder, 83; G. M. Doolittle, 174; J. B. Wilhelm, 218; all in 1898,) including the very article that had started the discussion, and several editorials, that at least talked about important subjects, were not indexed. These omissions were discovered accidentally. What would have been the result of a searching criticism would be hard to say. But this index seemed as good as the average. None of them are comprehensive enough. Two articles on the prevention of swarming were indexed under "Swarming, to Prevent," and under no other head though they both referred to a peculiar method. What is an index for? To guide the student to just the phase of the subject he wants to study without wasting time in turning the leaves of the vol-

um) It is not sufficient to list an article as a whole. It may belong under two heads or several heads, with more or less appropriations. It should be listed under each one. Different paragraphs on the same subject may yet constitute distinct ideas. Each one should be appropriately indexed. An article should not necessarily be listed by its title; the purpose of a title and an index entry are rather different. It seems hardly necessary to add that ideas, not words, are the things to be indexed. I have frequently noticed in the tables of contents of the Progressive that mere catchy words, taken from paragraphs, without the ghosts of an indication of the ideas in the paragraphs. Of course it is a great bother to make an index properly; but it is imperative to consider the convenience of the user above that of the maker; otherwise, the value of an index is very small; it can only be used in the most general way, supplemented by much turning over of leaves, that is often fruitless, while the item one fails to find may be there all the time. Bulkiness of the index is scarcely to be avoided. If there is one at all, it ought to be a good one, and a good one is worth all the space it takes. A really good index would be worth tenfold one of the scanty and unsatisfactory things we now get at the end of each volume of our bee papers. Unless one can feel satisfied that he can discover absolutely every distinct idea in the volume by means of the index, it will be regarded as a poor make-shift, and be but little used. It is futile to make the objection that this would entail a disproportionate and impossible amount of labor for the last issue in the year; for each issue should be thus thoroughly indexed as soon as the forms are made up, and the result used in place of a table contents of that issue. The labor at the end of the year would amount to nothing more than a combination

and rearrangement of the indexes of each issue.

Denver, Col.

BEE JOURNAL FOR BEE KEEPERS.

S. E. MILLER.

I sometimes wonder how many real practical bee keepers there are who do not take one or more papers devoted to the bee culture. I often notice that many of the farm papers make an attempt at conducting a department devoted to bee culture, and as a rule they are sad failures. Usually these departments are not conducted by a practical bee keeper, but are made up of staff from bee keepers of limited experience who evidently are willing to supply the manuscript simply for the sake of getting to see their names in print. I recall to mind one writer in particular who contributes to the apiarian department of a certain farm paper. I have to some extent followed his writings for some time past; not because they are interesting, but curiosity has prompted me to read them to see what he has to say. In fact there is little of interest in his articles and they bear the ear mark of being a re-hash taken from parts of our various text books on bee culture made by one who is just himself learning the first lessons in bee keeping.

The editor of the paper who is of course not posted in bee culture, evidently considers this writer good authority and gives space to his article and probably allows him advertising space in addition, as I notice his advertisement in the same paper. If I had no knowledge of either industry I believe I would stand just as good a chance to learn gold mining from the articles that appear occasionally in the various magazines, as I would to learn bee culture by following the Apiarian Department of the average farm paper.

Even when the editor of a farm paper

selects something from one of our regular bee papers his selection is usually not such as is most likely to be of the greatest benefit to his bee keeping readers. Then again he is very ready to select something having a romantic turn or something shrouded in a certain amount of mystery. If some fool writes some ridiculous stuff about feeding glucose and having it stored in the combs or sections or gets off something about manufactured comb honey, the farm paper is almost sure to take it up and pass it along, "but in this they are not allowed to have a monopoly for the great dailies and weeklies must come in for a share of the glory and help spread the intelligence." There may be exceptions to the rule as given above, "But so far I have not met with one; I do not know of a single farm paper whose bee keeping department is under the management of a practical experienced bee keeper."

I would therefore say to those who contemplate learning bee culture, do not depend on the few articles which you find in your farm paper and which are taken here and there at random and have no connection with each other, "But purchase one or more good text books on bee culture. Then subscribe for two or three of the best bee papers and read up."

Do not put in all of your time at reading but devote as much of it as you can spare to study and learning, and at the same time learn to put in practice what you read, or at least so much of it as proves after trial adapted to your locality. Read your bee paper through from beginning to end if you can spare the time for in this way you are likely to find exactly what you are looking for. The many little things that you glean from time to time will go to make up the aggregate that in time will make of you a bee keeper of ripe experience.

It is a mistake to think that you can

learn from experience in a few short years and unaided by the experience of others, what it has taken many great minds hundreds of years to learn.

Therefore I say to the reader if he is not now a subscriber to a paper devoted to bee culture and is a bee keeper or intends keeping bees, the best he can do is to subscribe at once for one or more good bee papers.

The Progressive Bee-Keeper is probably the best one published for the low price asked for it.

Bluffton, Mo.

GOOD THINGS IN THE BEEKEEPING PRESS.

SOMNAMBULIST.

"Cleanliness is next to Godliness," is the precept that the journals are ever and anon trying to instill in the minds of ye honey producer Lesson No. (right here I am lost, 'spects it's up well into the hundreds if not thousands) is taken from Rocky Mountain Bee-Journal:

"We hope none of our readers will risk putting extracted honey in cans that have once been used for oil. It is well-nigh impossible to remove the taint and smell of the kerosene, and the honey will quickly absorb it, rendering it unfit for use. The editor of the American Bee Journal recently received a consignment of honey in second-hand oil cans, much to his disgust and loss. He comes down pretty hard on the thoughtless consignor in an editorial. None too hard, however, when one considers not only the financial loss, but the incalculable damage done to the extracted honey market by such worthless stuff reaching the consumer's table."

On page 161 the American Bee Keeper quotes from *Deutsche Bienenfreund*:

It is a common practice for a judge to go from exhibit to exhibit with a jack-knife or key, dip into one kind of honey and lick off the instrument used, then dip into another kind of honey

and lick off again, etc., etc. The judge may be a perfectly competent man, but it cannot be known whether he is in good health or not. If he is not licking off the instrument used and dipping into other honey afterward may effect the different honeys with diseased germs. A practice of the kind cannot be too strongly condemned. No one would think of putting his knife, fork or spoon after being used by him, in contact with another man's food at table. If he did, he would be considered an uncivilized person who does not know even the first principles or elementary rules of decency and cleanliness. Why should such or similar be admissible when judging honey or butter, jellies etc., at fairs?" We have a cheap and suitable little instrument, which would answer the purpose of taking up honey for sampling, even from the cells of nice comb honey, in shape of a little glass tube drawn to a point at one end and a rubber bulb attached to the other. It is the implement we use in taking up ink for filing fountain pens. This tool should of course, never come in contact with one's mouth while at work judging, but the liquid taken up should be deposited in a spoon or in absence of such upon a card and thus conveyed to the mouth. I could suggest other ways: Little wooden splints for instance to be thrown aside after sampling each kind of honey, etc."

J. R. Gray in Rocky Mountain Bee Journal says:

"Now, if those scientific bee men can and have bred up a strain of bees with an unusual lengthy tongue, why on the same hypothesis, can't they breed up a strain with a stinger? If I were in the queen rearing business I would advertise my bees as having unusually short stingers and an unusual inclination not to use them, and I would get the trade, too. These bee experts no doubt know what they are about, but I think for

solid comfort they are working on the wrong end of the bee."

Valentin Wuest we are told suggests that there are somethings besides long tongues and short tubed blossoms to be worked for. He enumerates: Enlarging of the honey-sack of the bee to enable her to carry larger loads. Nubbing off the stinger of the worker to prevent its penetrating the human or animal skin; Increasing the honey-secreting propensity of the blossoms. Electricity properly applied might be a factor of consideration in this last named matter. When successful in all the above, results might be greatly increased by illuminating earth's honey fields by electric lights to keep the industrious insect everlastingly at gathering honey, night and day. Finally hypnotizing of the bees in the fall of the year, so they will pass the winter sleeping and without taking food.

And the editor of the American Bee Keeper thinks next year—or the year after—it will be in order for some enterprising queen breeder to discover in his yard a strain of bees possessing remarkable wing-power, "warranted to work on Gandy's catnip"

These sentiments would indicate there might be something "new under the sun." Were the bee keeper himself under consideration, wonder how many possible points of improvement could be discovered?

As to winter stores H. E. Hill (editor of the American Bee Keeper) has to say:

"Do not begrudge the bees sufficient honey for their needs during winter and spring. It is evidently an encouragement to the bees in spring to have even more than is needed for brood rearing—and a large amount absolutely essential. Twenty pounds may carry the colony through the winter months, but the bee-keepers' chance of success next year is largely increased

by leaving 50 or 60 pounds. One hundred pounds per colony would be no detriment to the bees; so it is well to be on the safe side. Some one reported the Dutchman to have said: "Too much peer is shust enough." He probably never said such a thing; but in the preparation of bees for winter, we do not hesitate to paraphrase—too much honey is just enough."

The Canadian Bee Journal recommends vinegar for bee stings. Where upon Editor York suggest that perhaps "honey vinegar might prove the better. Honey itself, immediately daubed on the flesh relieves the pain and consequent swelling and seems to check further stinging, perhaps mitigating the anger of the bees through the changing of odors. that is from the poisonous odor emitted by the stinging bees to that of the honey, on the principle that there's nothing like a prospect of a full "dinner pail for ameliorating the feeling of the workmen.

Say, the sleepy heads are a numerous family, their relations seemingly forming an endless chain around the world. No especial reason for feeling lonesome lots of company as is indicated by a leading editorial in the Bee Keeper of Ireland, a portion of which we find in the American Bee Keeper and which reads as follows:

If Ireland does not "buck up" in the bee business before long, some American will come over and "exploit" the Emerald Isle in the production of honey and beeswax. It is absolutely disgraceful that in a country so near London, the principal market of the world, in a country with a flora probably unequalled in the temperate zones, there are not three apiaries of over 100 hives and that Ireland markets a miserable 100,000 pounds of honey per annum. The poverty-stricken inhabitants eat the other 600,000 pounds produced. If there be not soon a rustle among the

dry bones, the aforesaid American, when he comes, will make his "pile." He will turn out from each of his stations nearly as much honey as is now obtained from the whole country. Ireland is, without question, able to support 200,000 stocks, capable of yielding 200 pounds each, or 40,000,000 pounds and until it turns out that quantity the business will not be attended to properly. At 6c per pound (the price of sections in America, with its hundreds of tons of production has never fallen so low as sixpence but take it at that) there is nectar worth a million of money going to waste.

The majority of bee-keepers are thoughty imbued with the fact that success in this business (like all others) hinges on small matters but some of the leaders are going farther and suggesting that "organization must be brought to bear upon our methods of selling" if we are to expect the possible success. This is verginon to great things. It seems equally strange and significant, that Editor Hill in the extreme eastern portion of the country and those meeting so far west as Denver were considering the one subject as the all important matter of the times.

The editorial found in the American Bee Keeper follows:

A writer in the Australian Bee Keeper bewails the fact that while tons upon tons of nectar are wasted annually in that country, for the want of bees to gather it, some seek to discourage others from embarking in the business of honey production. This condition of affairs is by no means confined to the Island Continent. A quite general misconception of the situation in our own country is responsible for the cry of over production which we frequently hear. The fact is, taken as a whole, American bee keepers are falling behind other honey producing countries in the matter of developing the market. The same haphazard unbusinesslike

manner of honey selling which prevailed in our grandfather's day, still prevails in the United States. There are a few isolated exceptions, of course where honey exchanges have taken in hand the local case and strive against odds to better the financial condition of its patrons through a system which is capable of effecting much benefit to the fraternity if it were but National in its scope.

The market problem is today the paramount question which confronts the honey producer of the United States. Large hives, small hives, when to put on supers, how to clip queens, the winter problem, etc., all lose their interest if there is no demand awaiting the product. If the bee keepers of the United States would throw one-half the energy and pluck into this question that is displayed by the honey producers of the little Island of Jamaica, the National Bee-Keepers' Association would hold in its treasury many thousands of dollars, and maintain permanently upon the road at least two expert salesmen whose business it would be to see to a proper distribution of our honey crops. Fraudulent goods exposed for sale throughout the country would fall under their official eye, and the perpetrators of the fraud traced and brought to the attention of the Association's attorney.

A national association with warehouses and permanent officers advantageously located, to whom every member may ship his product with a feeling of assurance that it will be so placed as to yield the best returns, is what is needed. A system of management in the distribution of the Nation's honey product, that will see to it that American profit by every advantage afforded in the world's market. As it appears to the American Bee Keeper such a course must necessarily precede any substantial condition of apiculture. We must see, first, to the outlet, system-

atize our marketing operations, and lay our plans sufficiently broad to accommodate and facilitate a work of this magnitude.

Whatever may be said of Yankee ingenuity and progress in other lines, when restricted to the eye keeping fraternity, and applied to the marketing of his product, he must plead guilty of being decidedly a back number. He can look to and learn something along this line from any one of the British colonies. Ireland can give him pointers; Australia has her board of exports; Canada had and we think, still has, a government appropriation especially for this work; Jamaica sends her representative to England to look after the bee keepers' interests; but the proverbial Yankee contents himself with methods of his ancestors—through accepting one-third to a half less for his goods—and attributes the dullness of trade to overproduction.

How long is such a condition of affairs to continue? The answer is not difficult: Just so long as bee keepers maintain their present indifference. It may be terminated at any time. Is the reader taking any hand in the upbuilding of the industry?

In all civilized countries trade combinations prevail the further advanced a nation is commercially, the more its industries combine, until the commercial world of today is a world made up of commercial combinations.

There remain but few really important industries but have taken advantage of combination, and if we wish to be acknowledged even, recognized we are bound to follow.

Let not then the bee-keeping industry sit upon the banks of some forrest fringed stream, with the village hard by keeping time to the click of the mill, and expect to compete with the great commercial world. The cross-bowmen of the Middle Ages could as easily contend with the smokeless powder and steel-tipped bullets of today.

May we walk up and realize we are living in the present and not in the past, may this infant industry of ours thrive and grow into gigantic proportions until it shall be able to kick out the end of its cradle and take its place at the great commercial table of the world, and reach out for every thing advantageous in sight.

Stories About Bees.

The Denver papers had some good stories recently at the expense of the delegates to the national bee-keepers association. The following extracts are taken from the Denver News:

To begin with, a bee is an aristocrat. To prove it Professor C. P. Gillette of Fort Collins shows that the bee has a double chin. It's lucky, though, that it has a double chin instead of a double sting. A wise man has said: "Never trifle with a woman's tongue or the business end of a bee." Blessed is he who reads and obeys.

"Oh, I'm so interested in bees," said the sweet young thing at the National Bee association congress in the Capitol building yesterday. "Do tell me now, do bees sting bee keepers?"

"Yes, Honey," said good, gray old bee man, D. Moon, Ralstone Creek, Colo. "Yes Honey, they do; but they come down mighty light."

"When they light on me they used to seem pretty heavy," said Elisha Mille-son of Denver, the venerable ex-president of the Colorado State Bee association.

"Yes," assented Mr. Moon, "but it depends a good deal on the man. Now there was Mack Christian; I recollect how if a bee stung him, he would swell out of all proportion. Mack hauled his bees across the plains from Iowa here in an ox wagon, in the dead of winter, and never lost a hive.

"I knew a Colorado man once who imported one queen bee here all the way from Russia," ventured a straggler who

joined the little group who were talking bees.

Here Dr. Mason of Ohio, the retiring secretary, arrived. "Ever tell you of that time I shot at a deer and missed it?" he asked. "Nothing like it ever happened before or since, I guess. My bullet plowed right through a hollow sycamore tree, and I heard a roar like a torrent. Pretty soon I saw a cloud of bees whirling above the tree, and a stream of clear white mountain honey flowing from the bullet's hole. I caught thirty-six barrels of pure strained honey."

A dead silence, thick enough to cut with a meat ax, greeted this superb creation. Somebody groaned and the others began to revive. Dr. C. C. Miller of Illinois was first to recover. "Reminds me of the time I found that honey in the cave," he said, "all I had to do was to dip up in buckets. One day a freshet came before I could get the honey all stored and washed barrels of it away. It formed a pure current in the river for six miles and the steamboat struck it and got tied up in the ropy stuff for twelve hours. The boatmen all got drunk on it."

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The Progressive Bee-Keeper.

A journal devoted to Bees, Honey and Kindred Industries.

FIFTY CENTS PER YEAR.

G. M. DOOLITTLE & R. B. LEAHY, EDITORS.

The 1902 convention held at Denver is now a part of history, and history tells us that it was the most representative meeting of bee-keepers ever held in the United States and that the Colorado bee-keepers are the best of entertainers.

The two youngest men at the Denver convention were Dr. C. C. Miller and Dr. A. H. Mason. One is about 70 years old and the other will be eighty the coming November, but the years do not seem to wear on them. Indeed they are as frolicsome as two school boys. They may in time wear out, but surely they will never rust out.

While on my trip west in September I took a good many "snap shots" and if I have good luck in getting them developed the readers of the Progressive Bee-Keeper will get a glimpse of them.

We feel that the delegates to the Denver convention are under many obligations to Messrs. J. U. Harris and D. W. Working. Mr. Harris is by odds the best President of a bee-keepers association it was ever our pleasure to meet, and working! he was working all the time for the best interest and comfort of the Bee Keepers present.

PREPARING HONEY FOR MARKET.
As I am now preparing my comb honey for market I thought that perhaps it might be the right thing for me to do to tell the readers of the Progressive

Bee-Keeper something how I do it.

CRATES. After trying crates made of different kinds of lumber, I now prefer those having basswood tops and bottoms and pine ends. The cleats on the sides, which keep the sections in place, should be of basswood also. All of the basswood should be as nearly white as possible, unless we except the bottoms, which may be somewhat colored, or have knots in it if necessary as the bottoms never show very much as to color. The tops and bottoms should be of one-fourth inch stuff, as this thickness is fully as good for strength as thicker material, and the lighter the crate can be made the better. The ends I prefer five-eighths thick, and use pine on account of basswood being so inclined to warp, and with this thickness it cannot well be sprung into shape. The cleats, I prefer only three-sixteenth thick.

THEN I PREFER to fix the crates so that they cannot leak honey, should it so happen that any section should get broken in shipping, for if any of the crates leak while the honey is piled up those under will get all daubed and the same with counters or anything else which the crate is set on. To fix any crate so it will not leak honey all that is needed is a sheet of manila paper of a size one and one-half inches larger than the bottom of the crate, and folded in such a way that it will fit into the crate nicely. This folding is best done by getting out a piece of seven-eighths lumber so it will just slip inside of the crate, getting it out square and true every way. Having this piece of a board nicely fitted to the inside of the crate, lay it on the paper so that the same will put out three-fourths of an inch all around the board, where you will fold up the four sides so that after fitting out the board you will have a little paper tray the size of the inside of the crate. If you rub down the corners when folding over the board, it

will keep its shape nicely and be easily slipped into the crate. Having the crate thus fixed no honey will leak out of it unless the contents are broken bad enough so that the liquid honey runs over the top of the paper, something which I never knew except in a general smash up, providing the paper is that with the glossy finish, which will not even leak water for a long time.

BUT ALL KNOW that where honey leaks out at all, if only a few drops, it will work its way under the section and between it and the surface the section rests upon, so that when we try to lift it we have hard work to do so, and the honey will "string off" so as to daub up the clothes and whatever it comes in contact with in a very unpleasant manner. Then, if we set it down anywhere except in the identical place where it sat before, we have another place all daubed to clean up and ruffle the temper of the meekest of earth. Therefore, when fixing our crate, after the paper tray is in place, little sticks, three-eighths square, of the same length that the crate is wide, inside, are placed across the bottom of the crate at just the right place so that the edges of two tier of sections can rest on these little sticks. Where a crate holds three tier of sections, four of the little sticks are required to the crate and where four tier are placed in the crate, five of the sticks are required. These sticks are tacked to the bottom of the crate so they cannot get out of place in shipment, and by their use each section is held up three-eighths of an inch from the paper tray, so that none of the drip, should there be any, will ever touch the bottom of the sections, and thus all is kept dry and nice, should any breakage occur while the honey is in the crate. To be sure, these are only little things, but they are those which go toward making our honey bring the highest price in market.

HAVING THE GRATES IN READINESS the next thing is to assort our honey into the various grades we may chance to have.

I generally make three grades, and for my own convenience I use X to denote the grade, instead of such words as "fancy" etc. I use xxx to denote what others term fancy, xx for No.1, and k for what is too poor to go in No. 1. And I use these whether the honey is white, amber or dark like blackwheat. That is, I make three grades of the white, three of amber, and three of the dark, xxx being for the best of each kind, xx for that which is not good enough to go with that of the xxx class and x for all not good enough to go in either of the two first classes. In the first or xxx class, I put nothing only what is fully sealed, having perfect combs, with very little, if any tarvel stain on the capping. In the second I place combs which are not so nearly perfect in any of these particulars but it must be all of the class used in the first, as to the flowers it was gathered from. The combs may be a little crooked, a little travel stained, or have a few unsealed cells. but none having enough of these unsealed cells to make more than one inch squares all told. In the x class, I put no honey which is styled mixed honey or that obtained from several kinds of blossoms, for I have always contended that any sections which contain honey of different colors and qualities should go in a class by itself and be so styled. Hence the k class contains only sections of the same kind of honey, but the combs can be quite crooked or uneven, badly travel stained, and have unsealed sells to the amount of nearly one-fourth of the surface unsealed.

TO BEST SORT THE HONEY, I pick out two or three section of each grade which are to be used as samples. These samples are placed on a shelf, or in some place where they are conveniently

seen and as we open our surplus arrangement containing the sections as they come from the hives, each sections is held up beside the samples so that a glance will tell to which grade it belongs, when it is set on a carrier, three of which are used, one for each grade, and where any carrier has the number of sections on it that our shipping crate will contain, it is taken to the crate and the same filled ready for sale. In this way we come as near perfection as we have as yet attained to, and if the reader will try this way, and after all sales are made foot up the result, I am sure he will find the price obtained to be so much greater than when he crated his whole crop in a hap-hazard way, that he will never return to the old way used by the "fathers in Isreal."

G. M. DOOLITTLE, Bordino, N. Y.

PROCEEDINGS TEXAS BEE-KEEPERS ASSOCIATION.

[Continued from last issue.]

"Whereas, the Hon. W. O. Murray of Floresville, Texas, did at the last session of the legislature, use his influence to secure an appropriation for the establishment of an experimental apiary at the A. & M. College of Texas.

Whereas, the Hon. W. O. Murray did use his best efforts, and did persistently defend the interests of the bee keeping industry in Texas, and owing to the fact that the establishment of an apiary at the A. & M. College, making possible the investigation of important problems in bee culture, and offering to the students of the Agricultural College, a course of instruction in the same is largely due to his influence.

Be it Resolved, by the Texas Bee Keepers' Association, that this body extend to the Hon. W. O. Murray, its hearty and sincere thanks for the valuable services above mentioned.

Be it further Resolved, that the Secretary of this Association be in-

structed to forward to the Hon. W. O. Murray, a copy of these resolutions, and that these resolutions be spread upon the records of the Association."

(Signed) H. H. Hyde.
F. L. Aten
F. J. R. Davenport
W. O. Victor

Committee.

Following the adoption of these resolutions, the Association elected delegates to the National Bee Keepers Convention, which convenes in Denver, Col. Sept. 3, 4 and 5, 1902. The following delegates were elected: Udo Toepferwein, San Antonio, Louis H. Scholl, Hunter, W. O. Victor, Wharton, H. H. Hyde, Floresville.

Alternate delegates were elected as follows: L. Stachelhausen, Converse, F. L. Aten, Round Rock, J. B. Salyer, Jonah, F. J. R. Davenport, Nash, and Mrs. C. R. West of Ennis, Texas.

A motion was then made relative to having special badges prepared for the delegates to wear to Denver. It was ascertained that the secretary had already ordered association buttons but which had not yet arrived, it was decided to have ribbon badges printed, to be used with the buttons, and this combination could be used year after year by the delegates elected.

Pres Salyer having arrived, he was requested to make his annual address. He spoke on the importance of bee keepers getting together for organization and of united effort in earnestly pushing forward bee keeping until it should occupy its due place as an important industry. Earnest organization counts for much towards success. Pres. Salyer made a direct appeal to every bee keeper when he said: "Organize and get together all the bee keepers in your neighborhood."

Pres. Salyer has been interested in Farmers' institutes, and has been impressed with their good work in making better farmers, better cattlemen,

better truck farmers, better fruit growers, and better men in all lines of agricultural work. He argued that the same thing could be done in the case of the bee keepers. He also called attention to the rapid progress being made by the Texas Bee Keepers' Association and of its importance in developing this resource of the state. He also discussed at length the benefits accruing to its members, both educational and financial, though their mutual support and cooperation.

Pres. Salyer also called the attention of the members to a clause of their constitution, which clause was adopted at the previous annual meeting, which all annual membership dues to be paid in full at or before the time of each annual meeting. Members should be prompted in sending their dues to the secretary in time, so all amounts can be sent to the Gen. Manager of the National Bee Keepers' Association at the appointed time, thus lessening the work of the secretary and preventing more or less delay each year in keeping the accounts of the Association. Therefore an earnest request is made that all members send in their annual dues at or before the time of annual meeting in July, which annual meeting is held in connection with the Texas Farmers' Congress.

The regular program was then resumed and Mr. F. L. Aten of Round Rock, spoke upon the "Production of Extracted honey." Mr. Aten remarked that the subject had been gone over so many times that he feared he could add but little. He astonished some of his listeners by making the remark that this year he had not produced any extracted honey at all but explained matters by stating that on account of the dry season he had made no honey, the crop being an absolute failure.

He then related his methods of procedure in years when a honey flow is to be had, at such times he is a heavy producer of extracted honey.

He uses ten frame hives with plenty of super room, sometimes tiering up four or five stories high. He uses the regular full depth body for extracting supers, and allows the queen to go up in these as high as she desires. As the bees fill the supers with honey she will be crowded below, or to the regular brood chamber.

M. M. Baldrige of St. Charles, Ill., said that as a matter of course honey could not be produced when there was none to be gathered, but said that he believed that when honey was to be had rousing colonies and plenty of super room about covers the subject of producing extracted honey.

H. H. Hydes most important requisites for the successful production of large quantities of extracted honey were a good locality, good honey flows, strong colonies secured by the use of prolific queens, and plenty of empty combs.

Under the head of new business the following was given attention. H. H. Hyde spoke on the importance of having a bee keepers exhibit at each annual meeting of the Association at College Station and that premiums should be offered so that the bee keepers would make the best showing possible, of what the bee keepers are doing. He also mentioned the good results that would come to the Association through this plan. After a lengthy discussion it was decided that a committee should be appointed to consist of such persons as would give careful attention to working up the matter. Pres. Udo Toepferwein spoke relative to a bee keepers meet exhibit at the San Antonio Fair Association had requested that the bee keepers make an exhibit. Pres. Brown also asked that he be advised as to the exhibits the bee keepers would have at the Fair, and the amount of space they would require as the Fair Association had signified their desire to do every thing possible to help the development

of this industry within the state.

The question of providing a suitable premium list for use at fairs was then discussed.

H. H. Hyde of Floresville, was appointed a committee of one to take charge of and secure exhibits and premiums at the next meeting of the Association at College Station in 1903, also being authorized to correspond and solicit premiums therefor.

Pres. Toepperwein and Secretary Scholl were appointed a committee to cooperate with the management of the San Antonio Fair Assoc., in adopting a suitable premium list, and determining the amount of space that would be required by the bee keepers' exhibits.

A committee, consisting of those appointed later by the executive committee, was also appointed for the purpose of securing in exhibits for the Worlds Fair at St. Louis in 1904, and were given instructions to cooperate with similar committees from other sections of the Farmers' Congress.

As a standing committee to supervise and attend to any future needs of the experimental apiary, J. B. Salyer and F. L. Aten were appointed.

Prof. F. W. Mally, M. M. Baldrige, Dr R. C. Buckner and Hon W. O. Murray were unanimously elected honorary members of the Association.

H. H. Hyde gave a talk on the "Production of Comb Honey." Success in this is more dependant upon right conditions than in the production of extracted honey. With a good locality and fast honey flows it is more profitable than the production of extracted honey. Here the importance of having good queens and strong rousing colonies of bees again comes in. Without these you will not succeed. The proper manipulation of the brood nest in the spring is of great importance. It should be so handled as to induce the production of a great many young bees so that at the beginning of the honey

flow, the brood combs will all be filled with brood.

Shallow supers have their advantages over others in that they produce more capped honey, and that sooner than when deeper combs are used. Besides wider, in manipulating hives containing shallow supers the handling of the frames individually is unnecessary as all the handling done is by cases, or full shallow supers. Then too, brushing off of the bees is dispensed with, the shallow supers being easier to remove. The bees are smoked down, supers taken off, and jostled roughly, when only a few bees will be left upon the combs, and these will soon leave for home, leaving the combs free from bees.

Mr. Hyde advocates using shallow supers with combs in shallow frames, on all hives at the beginning of the season. He allows the queen to lay in these, thus giving her more breeding space. Then when section supers are to be put on, he removes the shallow frame super and thus the bees go right ahead storing honey in the newly put on sections.

He also spoke in regard to having supers ready before hand, to be immediately available when the flow comes on. Care should also be taken to have such supers, containing comb of foundation, put away so they will be free from dust or dirt, as the bees are slow about entering dirty ones. Supers should not be put on until flow is coming on, as the bees have a tendency to gnaw down much of the foundation given them if sufficient honey is not coming in. Mr. Hyde advises removing all comb honey from the hives as soon as well sealed over, and before it becomes soiled. The demand is more for comb honey in bulk, or as formerly known, "Chunk Honey." He explained how it was produced—in shallow extracting supers, then cut out and fitted into cans, after which extracted honey

is poured over it to fill up the crevices.

This packing is of much importance. If the honey is put up honestly and neatly, so that a gilt edged article is produced, a good demand can be maintained at remunerative prices.

L. H. Scholl told the bee men how he used the shallow extracting super on all his hives the year round. In the early spring the queen is allowed to go up stairs and use it for an increased amount of room. Then as more or less honey comes in during the spring-before the main honey flows, it is stored up stairs and crowds the queen down into the lower compartment, and by the time the main honey flow comes on the shallow super is about full. These are then raised up and the comb honey supers inserted between them and the brood chamber, when the bees go right ahead and fill them with a vim not shown by any treated in other ways. Thus a whole super of extracted honey is gained besides being very essential in the spring in providing a place for the storage of all surplus, or honey not used in brood rearing. It also prevents clogging of the brood nest which is likely to occur where no such room is given and saves the honey which the bees otherwise would have had no use for, and no place to put. He, like Mr. Stachelhausen, prefers the divisible brood chamber hive, consisting of shallow frame cases or supers and these have brought best results in every trial for several years, by the side of several other kinds of hives.

The question was asked as to whether an entrance at the top of the super would be of advantage. The reply was that it would not be as it would give too much ventilation, would interfere with the nice finishing of the combs, and that very few of the bees would make any use of such an entrance; hence it would be useless.

Question: "Should an excluder be used on the brood nest when the comb

honey supers were put on?"

Answer: "No, not found necessary."

F. J. R. Davenport related his experience in producing comb honey. He is not in favor of producing what he calls a "cap and ball" honey, i. e., in shallow frames or bulk comb honey. He wants his in sections, of which he can sell more than he can produce. He rehearsed the importance of saving every section containing foundation starters, drawn comb, and even the very small bits started in some sections, as they are the most valuable in getting the bees started when the honey flow begins. He keeps these nicely stored away, safe from the ravages of mice, rats, moth larvae and dust so that they are nice and clean when they go to the hives.

M. M. Baldrige was called upon for a discussion of "Marketing Honey." He uses frames seven inches deep for comb honey production as well as for extracted. Then instead of using pails or cans, he has manufactured for him shallow pans or trays which will hold just one comb when cut out of the frame. He also sells extracted honey for the same price as comb honey; makes no difference in price, sells them in the same style of can regardless of kind. He said that it was the bee keepers' fault that a difference of price existed between extracted and comb honey, and the bee keepers were foolish for ever having made any difference in price between the two. If this had not been done, extracted honey would today be selling at the uniform higher price received for comb honey. His, of course is a retail market, and under such conditions a uniform price for both extracted and comb honey would be satisfactory, but for a wholesale business would not answer.

Mr. Davenport stated that he wanted his honey in sections, which he packs in twelve lb. cases and sells in his home market. In regard to comb honey

packed in pails and buckets, he told of the quantity shipped in from the north—adulterated goods with but a strip of comb put in each package to deceive the public.

The people soon come to dislike this glucose mixture, and prefer to buy what they know to be pure honey, namely, that in the comb or in sections, which sells right beside the vile adulterated stuff for much higher prices. He calls all his yellow honey "Gold Bug Honey," and all his white honey goes as "Free Silver Honey," and if he had 150 cases of it in his town he could dispose of it in a few hours time. "It knocks the cap and ball honey out every time." He related instances where comb honey put up in cans, when opened would boil out as though it were all frying on the inside. He objects to the way which bulk comb honey is put up by many bee keepers, the cans being smeared with honey, dirt and dust, which certainly is anything but a good advertisement for the industry.

He believes in advertising and advertising right; then in putting the best of goods on the market and with a little talking they can soon be disposed of at good prices.

Prof. Newell rose to say that if there was anything by which to successfully advertise one's business, it was by one's mouth.

A motion was made for the Association to purchase 144 copies of the Farmers Congress Proceedings at 85c per copy, this number being the number allotted to each section of the Congress. Owing to the fact that the bee keeping section was not as strong as some of the other sections, and owing to the fact that this number was not needed, the motion was amended so that the Association should take 50 copies at a price of not exceeding fifteen cents each. A sum was raised for payment of bill for this number, and the secretary instructed to mail copies to

the members, when printed. (This matter has been referred to the executive committee Secy.)

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Called to order at 2:30 P. M., whereupon Mr. Udo Toepperwein talked upon the subject of "Advantage of Having Proper Supplies, and Good Queens, etc." He called attention to the advantage of frame hives over the old style box hive; and of the various dovetailed hives, of which the ten frame size seemed best adapted to Texas localities. He preferred the Ideal super for all purposes. These containing the ten shallow extracting frames, for the production of extracted and bulk comb honey. For sections the Ideal or $3\frac{3}{8} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ sections, or plain slats, with Root fences or separators, as these fill out the supers better, and allow more section to each super.

It was thought that the Dazenbaker section super was a little better in that it contained narrow sections, causing thinner combs to be built in them and which would be capped sooner.

The difference of depth in the different styles of supers was also discussed. The very shallow or $4\frac{1}{4}$ in depth were too shallow, while a full depth body was again too deep for tiering up, leaving the $5\frac{1}{2}$ inch depth as the ideal super, and most satisfactory.

Mr. Newell asked if anyone had been able to prevent the bees from gnawing away the paraffine mats used above the Danzenbaker supers. As none present had used these mats, they could not reply.

Under the head of "Queen Rearing; Conducting a Queen Business" Mr. Aten said that on account of the very dry seasons, which had been discouraging to the queen breeders, that he had quit that phase of the business. Others were of the same opinion and had to be coaxed to speak on the subject. Mr. Aten told why it did not pay to rear queens, on account of the fact

that too many bee keepers are already engaged in it, and prices have become so low, that it is impossible to raise first-class queens at prevailing prices, and make a reasonable profit. To this Mr. Victor said, that Mr. Aten had hit the nail squarely on the head. Mr. Aten uses the Alley plan of queen rearing. Larva for this purpose should not be over two days old, and he insinuated that by grafting cell cups as the Doolittle method, there was danger of using larva that was too old, and which would result in inferior queens. He takes a row of cells containing eggs and destroys the eggs in every other cell. This strip or row of cells is then attached to the lower edge of a comb, cut out to receive it. By this method there is no danger of using larva that is too old. He makes cell building colony queenless on one evening and gives the prepared cells the next morning.

H. H. Hyde considered this time as being entirely too long, as the bees have almost lost their desire for constructing cells by that time. He gives his cell cups within two or three hours and in thirty minutes time finds them to contain royal jelly. He uses the Doolittle method with some changes of his own. He described the methods he used the present season. He used drone cells but found that care must be taken to use drone cells that are neither too old or too new. In the case of every old drone comb, he found that the cells were too tough and hard and upon the other hand, new drone comb would be gnawed down by the bees. Drone comb about two years old is about right. The cells are shaved down to about half their original depth after which a lead pencil is twirled in each cell to give it the form of the queen cell. These are then given to the queenless colony for a few minutes when they will be gone over by the bees and nicely polished. They are

then removed and "grafted," i. e., the young larvae transferred into them. When placed in the queenless colony they are readily accepted.

For this cell building Mr. Hyde selects a strong rousing colony, preferably hybrids, as they are found to be the best cell builders. This colony is made queenless and broodless, the queen being removed and used somewhere else, or placed in a nucleus until wanted. The brood is distributed among other colonies in the apiary, or wherever it may be needed. In two or three hours after this the queen rearing colony is ready for the grafted cells, to wait until next morning would be waiting too long a time, in Mr. Hyde's opinion.

Mr. Victor's method differs from both that of Mr. Hyde and Mr. Aten.

Mr. Victor considers that leaving the colony over night, both queenless and broodless, is too long a time. On the other hand, he thinks that three or four hours is entirely too short a time as this period is only about sufficient for the bees to find out that they are queenless. At this time they are too much excited and confused to properly attend to the grafted cells. He makes instead his colony queenless one day and at about four o'clock the next afternoon, removes all brood. Late the same evening he gives the cells, prepared much the same as by M. Hyde's method, and the bees are kept closely concentrated for the entire night, giving their attention to these cells. Out of these 138 cells by this method he had 135 accepted, distributing them among different cell building colonies at the rate of about 38 cells to each one. For making cell cups and grafting, he uses the Doolittle plan, together with some features of the Alley plan, and some of his own. He has his own methods of manipulation, by which he is enabled to gain one day's time, over the Alley plan.

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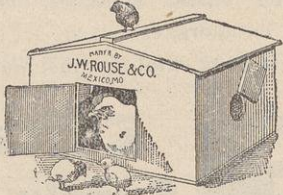
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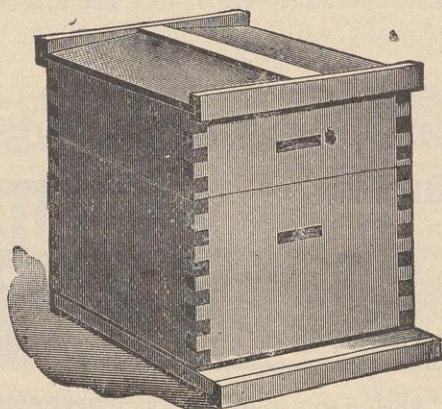
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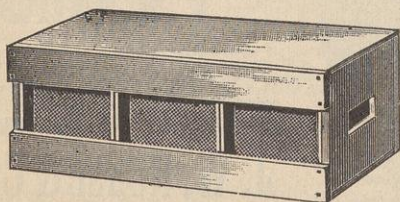
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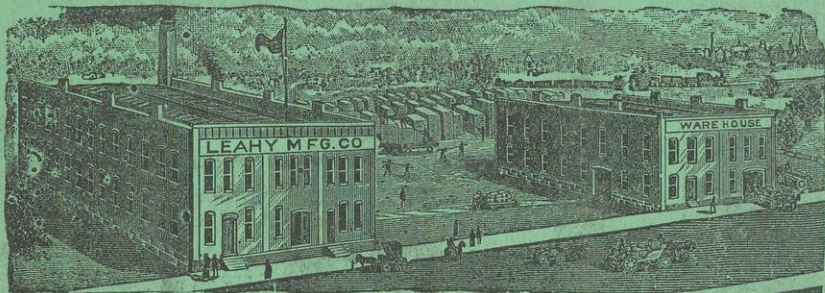
IS a book of nearly 100 pages (the size of the Review) that I wrote and published in 1891; and I will tell you how I gathered the information that it contains. For 15 years I was a practical bee-keeper, producing tons of both comb extracted honey; rearing and selling thousands of queens, reading all of the bee books and journals, attending conventions and fairs, visiting bee-keepers, etc., etc. Then I began publishing the Review, and, for several years, each issue was devoted to the discussion of some special topic; the best bee-keepers of the country giving their views and experience. "Advanced Bee Culture" is really the summing up of these first few years of special topic numbers of the Review; that is, from a most careful examination of the views of the most progressive men, and a thorough consideration of the same in the light of my experience as a bee-keeper, I have described in plain and simple language what I believe to be the most advanced methods of managing an apiary, for profit, from the beginning of the season through the entire year.

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