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## **The Southland queen. Vol. I, No. 7 November 1895**

Beeville, Texas: The Jennie Atchley Company, November 1895

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Vol. 1, No. 7.



Nov. 1895.

THE

# SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE BEST  
INTEREST OF BEE-KEEPERS EVERYWHERE.

PUBLISHED BY THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, - - \$1.00 PER YEAR.



WEEKLY PICAYUNE BOOK PRINT,  
BEEVILLE, TEXAS.



# The Southland Queen.

MOTTO: FAIRNESS.

Vol. I.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, NOVEMBER, 1895.

No. 7.

The honey the bees are gathering this fall is of very fine quality, it also tastes well, and is liked by honey consumers.

Bees are harder to get to enter supers in the fall than they are in the spring. We suppose they are looking for a cold spell all the while.

We have just had a few days of cool, rainy weather. Mercury went down to 50, but it is all over now, it is nice and warm, and the bees are just humping themselves.

We think it is right to tell you that we are now, at this writing, Nov. 6th, enjoying the fall garden which we, in last Journal, spoke about being so nice. We have plenty of snap beans, peas, turnips, squashes, and last but not least, water melons.

We have been killing skunks, a la Dr. Gallop, by placing bits of drone brood sweetened with strychnine, about the hives, and one day last week we made an out yard a visit and counted eight skunks dead in the yard, and likely some crawled off and died.

We are to have a bee-man from California, cast his lot with us this month. We have lots of room and good bee range unoccupied, where that God-given sweet is left to float out and scatter upon the gentle sea breezes, just for the want of bees to gather it.

The late rains we have had, will bring up our horse mint and such honey plants as ought to winter over to do well, and every thing points toward a good season for '96 with us. Such things as this, we cannot hardly let pass without mention, even if Dr. Miller is ready to poke fun at us for prospecting on the future.

Recess is over, and with this No. we call school again. The teacher is again up, after a three weeks illness, and is able to "call books." Send in your questions and we will help you to solve all the problems we can, and from now till our busy season begins, is the time for our best school days, so study your lessons well and we will see who comes out head at the close of school. Can't you bring us in a new student occasionally too?

## Among Our Correspondents.

### SALT REMEDY GOOD.

**Y**OUR letter received, and of course I will take your paper, and I am sure we need something of the kind in the South. The American Bee Journal is tip top, and so is Gleanings, but a great deal of the space in those valuable papers is taken up by something about wintering successfully, and other things that are of much importance to our brothers in the Northland, but not so much here. Yes you know I will take the Southern with a "vim," and do what I can to get some of the old fogies in this neighborhood to take it—and friends elsewhere. I am indeed glad we are to have a paper in the South, and one of your energy and information should be supported. I intend, it makes no difference where I may locate permanently, to keep bees about me all my life, and somehow there is a fascination about it to me, that is almost unbounded. I never expect to get rich off of bees, but must for the pleasure, keep them about. I do hope you abundant success. If I was a farmer on some of those creeks, I know I could make more money one year with another on 30 to 50 colonies of bees, than any two single hand-

ed farmers make in two years, but many of them think it a "pin-hook" business.

My bees are rushing things now; the paralysis, so far as I can tell, has about disappeared,—only an occasional glimpse of it. My alarm about foul brood has about entirely been dispelled. The bees are swarming, my! my! I take away from three to four frames, cut out all queen cells and put them back on the old stands, but the first thing I know here they will come bulging out again, and some times from 2 to 4 swarms in the air at once. They have been swarming since April 4, but they have just apparently turned all holt loose in the last five or six days. Quite a number of colonies are putting some nice honey in the sections, but before they cap it, or about as they begin to do so, here will come a big swarm. It is rather tough work to be after three or four swarms at once these hot days, but my health is improving well under it.

The salt treatment you wrote me, has certainly been a benefit so far, for paralysis.

Most Respectfully Your Friend,  
N. P. DOAK.

Boxelder, Texas.

[This interesting letter is a little out of season. It was unavoidably couded out of former numbers, but it is very interesting even at this date. We have lots of good letters from all over the country that will be in by and by.—ED.]

### Pleased With "The Queen."

Yes, we are well pleased with The Southland Queen. You can enter our names on the subscription list if you want any more subscribers, and we will remit the dollar soon. Rept.

HOFSTEDLER BROS.

Clarksville, Texas, Sept. 5.

### Mr. Poppleton's Report.

You ask for my season's report. This has been the poorest honey season we have had since I commenced keeping bees. My yield has been, since Jan. 1st last, about 20 per cent increase of colonies, and an average yield of 70 pounds honey per colony. The hard freezes of last winter cut down the Black Mangrove at my upper place, so there was no use of moving bees there this season. It may be 3 or 4 years before the Mangrove will grow up again so it will pay to move.

I have had a good deal of trouble with paralysis among my Italian bees; in fact, so much trouble that I have almost concluded not to keep any more pure stock or high grades. Every queen except one, that I have sent away for during the past 4 years has bred diseased bees. This season I bred entirely from black and hybrid stock, and have had little or no disease. I cannot bear the idea of

giving up Italians, so will try them again next season to a limited extent only. I judge from what writings of yours I have seen, that you have little or none in your apiary.

Very Respectfully,

O. O. POPPLETON.

Stuart, Fla., Sept. 4, 1895.

### A Beginner's Blunders.

TO THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN:—

"We seat ourselves with pen in hand to write you a few lines. We are well and doing well, and hope these few lines will find you enjoying the same great blessing."

We have experienced the "ALPHA" in queen rearing, and have struggled along part of the way down the alphabet to the present. Now, this is the "alpha" to the valuable Southland Queen. The most valuable information in any department of business is often obtained from some one's recital of his blunders and mistakes. Now, we have very little excuse for our blunders and mistakes, as we were constantly associated with that noble young man and world renowned queen raiser, Willie Atchley, of The Jennie Atchley Co. However, we made a few grave ones. We will tell of a few random shots that missed. Will say in the beginning that we began the bee-business, June 19th, 1894, in earnest, under the direction of The Jennie Atchley Co. We purchased our stock

of 6 colonies from them, with queens, pure Carniolans. Afterwards we purchased 15 colonies of box hives from other parties, and we transferred them into the A. I. Root dovetailed hives, like the others. Having been told that bees sometimes would leave a hive before they got used to it, we ventured to stop the entrance of the newly transferred hives for a day or so. It was in July, the weather was pretty hot. The next day we examined them and found two of the strongest colonies as dead as Hec-ter. Away went \$5.00, and an income of a small amount of experience. Again, we divided those colonies we had left, into small, yea, very small nuclei, for the purpose of rearing queens for home use, as we were constantly buying more bees, and wanted all pure. The next difficulty we experienced, was several nuclei swarmed out and left, either from improper handling or hot weather; we are inclined to think the latter. Our yard was grassy, we concluded that if we would clean off the grass it would be better, but alas! This being in Beeville, Bee Co., and the land was sandy, the heat was so much greater that it was very detrimental to the bees, and we had several colonies and nuclei to leave us, still we bought more bees and extended our experience till we got about 60 colonies. Then it was the second year, 1895. We enjoyed a very good queen trade through

the kindness of The Jennie Atchley Co. Another great mistake we made was this; we imagined that if one queen would lay 1500 eggs within a given time, five queens would lay five times that amount, and consequently divided our colonies into several small parcels. The result was; few bees, fewer eggs and less bees. Again, in maturing cells, we thought of course several small nuclei would make and develop more cells than a few strong colonies, but not so. We found by watching Willie Atchley, that a few strips of larva from the breeder, placed in a few strong colonies, would develop a large number of queen cells. Having had quite a lot of experience not given above, in Bee Co., we moved our bees here to Bell Co. Having brought a few colonies, and bought a good many more, and having been presented with an additional pair of Carniolan breeders from our friend and extensive queen raiser, Mr. F. A. Lockhart, who is orthodox on Carniolans, we are ready for more experience.

Respectfully,

S. D. HANNA & SON.

Temple, Texas, Oct. 21, '95.

P. S. We are figuring largely upon the products of a "noble Holyland" queen, given us by Mr. Willie Atchley, for future delivery.

We are glad indeed to see the universal praise of The Southland Queen, also the "get up and git" of the Jennie Atchley factory.

We can earnestly say to the Eastern Brethren in the bee business, in the language of Horace Greely; "go west, young man, and grow up with the country." The sun has never shown on better people and a better country than there is in Beeville and Bee county, except it should be Bell county, of which, Temple is the metropolis, with a population of about 9000, and a progressiveness of the investment of at least \$5000.00 daily in valuable investments, and a monthly income from the two Railroads, of at least \$60000.00, paid to laborers.

S. D. H. & SON.

#### A FEW POINTERS.

One of the things that the beginner in bee culture should learn first, is what plants or shrubs in his (or her) locality furnish the main honey flow, and then try to have the bees strong in numbers at that time. If you do this, you are sure of getting some honey, no matter what kind of hives or bees you have, that is if such shrubs or plants don't fail to yield honey, as they sometimes do. If they should do this, you will get no honey, no matter what kind of hives or bees you have. Don't understand from the above that I don't think there is any difference in the kind of bees and hives we have, for such is not the case, but on the contrary

I know there is a big difference, as to the amount of honey we get. But here is the point I am trying to get at. Be sure and have your bees strong at the beginning of the main honey flow and you will be most sure of some money, and on the contrary, if your bees are weak in numbers, from untimely divisions or other causes, you will be as sure of a failure as you would of success on the other hand. And for the benefit of those that don't know what plants yield honey, I will name a few that I consider the best in this part of the State. I mention only those that yield a surplus of honey in favorable seasons. The first is from mesquite, which comes into bloom about the first of May and blooms at times until August. It furnishes a good supply of choice honey some seasons. Horse mint, the king of all honey plants in Texas, comes into bloom about the 20th of May and lasts through June. After that, the bees have but little to do until about the first of August. Then comes the Sumach, which always yields some honey if the weather is not too extremely dry. Then we get no more honey (unless it is from the so called honey dew) until the Broomweed blooms, which is about the first of September, and lasts until frost. I often hear it stated that bees gather honey from Water Elm bloom, Corn tassel and Sorghum-cane heads, etc. I am



positive that bees never gather honey from either of the three last named plants. Am I right?

L. B. SMITH.

Lometa, Texas, Sept. 5.

[All trees and plants which furnish pollen also furnishes enough honey to moisten it, if no more. We think you are correct so far as surplus honey is concerned, from the three you mention. —ED.]

### Notes From A Beginner.

My Southland Queen to hand all O. K. Will simply say the October number is worth the subscription price for the whole year.

I am also a beginner in bee-keeping. My bees are making some honey now, off of live oak I suppose, as the honey is red and very thick. Did not get much surplus honey, as I bought my bees late and transferred them from the old box hives into the dove-tailed hives.

I think the eight frame hive is large enough for this country.

Have been worried with web worms a great deal, but as all of my bottom boards are loose, it does not take long to lift the hives up and sweep the bottom off, which I do once a week, and that keeps Mr. Web-worm in check.

Wish more would write on the subject of "honey dew," and tell us what it is; whether it exudes from the leaves, or is deposited there some way. I am inclined to

believe it is in the sap of some trees and not in others of the same species, as I see my bees thick on one black jack tree, and there is none on some others.

MERRILL W. SMITH.

Cuero, Texas, Nov. 7, 1895.

Peach trees are now blooming, and if they do not look out, Jack Frost will nip them about Christmas. However, we often have winters here without frost enough to kill tomato vines.

We call special attention to the advertisement of The Commercial Hotel, which appears in this issue, and can heartily recommend it to those desiring a good stopping place in Beeville.

We mean to soon arrange the directories and departments of the "Queen," in such a manner that it will keep you posted, and when you pick up the "Queen" you can likely find what you wish to know.

Some are asking for an exchange department. Well, we will insert short exchanges under the head of "Exchange Directory," and make no charge to our subscribers, and only 5 cents per line, each issue, to those not subscribers. Get your copy in by the 10th of the month if you wish it to appear at once, as we will likely close our forms on the 14th.

We would like to warn beginners that it is best not to start with too many colonies. We had rather see you start out with one colony and succeed, than with one hundred and fail. This little line is dropped for some of our readers who are wishing to know how many colonies to start with. Some of them think they can manage a hundred colonies right at the start. While this may be true, it is a great risk to run, and we would advise you to start with only a few, say from 3 to 20, owing to your time etc. etc.

We wish to call the attention of advertisers, and those wishing to contract for space, to the fact that we will soon be sending out large quantities of the "Queen" to all parts of the country, as sample copies, and as our subscription roll is constantly enlarging, it will pay to get in your ad's soon. We will charge only \$1.00 per inch for each insertion, or, \$10.00 per year.

Don't forget to hustle us in a few subscribers, thereby helping us "introduce The Queen."

THE  
**Commercial Hotel,**  
W. F. DESHON, PROPRIETOR.  
Beeville, Texas.

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

 Advertising Column. 

### Gold Standard Italian

And

**FREE SILVER GRAY CARNIOLAN**

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

**C. B. BANKSTON**, Chriesman, Burleson Co., Tex

### Mississippi Hive Factory.

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

W. T. Lewis, Watson, Miss.

## JUST LISTEN!

A new steam bee-hive factory. All kinds of bee-keepers supplies at low prices. Send for my catalogue that tells about queen-raising. I have untested Italian queens, \$1 each; \$5 for 6, or \$9 per dozen. Also Carniolans, same price. Tested 3-banded queens, \$1.50 each; 5 bands, \$2.50; and tested Carniolans, \$2. Full colonies of Italian or Carniolan, \$5 with untested queens. I make it my highest aim in a business life to please my customers and do a fair, square business. Safe arrival guaranteed on all queens and bees sent out. Queens can go by mail post-paid at above prices. Bees by express, you pay the express charges. Remember, we have been before the public for 15 years. Send us your orders. We have good shipping facilities, two railroads. Address

**The JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.,**  
Beeville, Texas.

## THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY, - - - EDITOR.

— ASSISTED BY —

WILLIE ATCHLEY, CHARLIE ATCHLEY, AND  
MISS AMANDA ATCHLEY.

E. J. ATCHLEY, - BUSINESS MANAGER.

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This is a Monthly Journal Devoted to the Honey and Bee Interests of this Country, North and South, East and West, and we will not except any of the rest.

**THE JENNIE ATCHLEY CO., Publishers,**  
**BEEVILLE, TEXAS.**

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

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, NOV., 1895.

We notice that some are asking whether drones are touched by the mating, or do they remain as though the queen had never mated. To this we are prepared to say that we are now well satisfied that the drones are touched by the mating as well as the workers, and likely just the same. Why do we know?—you may ask. Well, you all know that the drones from Imported queens are all dark or brown, as we never saw a bright yellow drone from an Imported queen in our lives. We have been mating the daughters of Imported mothers with five band drones, and the drones from these same queens show about half yellow, and some as yellow as any of the five bands we have, and from all appearance

the drones are marked just about the same as the workers. This is no hard problem to solve, and could easily be set at variance by those that question the truth of such statements. If they will just take the time to try it, they will soon find that we are right about it. Then if you find this is so, you must admit that it makes a difference how the queens are mated, regarding the drones as well as the workers. We do not now pretend to depend upon such drones to keep up our stock, and in fact we fish out all drones from cross-mated queens as closely as we would common hybrid drones.

It seems that there is an improvement and a sort of restimulating feeling among all the bee journals. Gleanings, American Bee-Journal, Review, Canadian Bee-Journal, Nebraska Queen, and the Kansas Bee-Journal all seem brighter. Isn't this a foretaste of new life and better times in '96 for the people who have to endure bee stings?

\*The Australian Bee-Bulletin comes full of interesting bee matter, and it seems from its make up and general correspondence that their climate over there is about the same as we have here, and the management of bees about the same, only they have winter while we have summer, and vice versa.

## Queen Rearing Department.

— CONDUCTED BY —  
WILLIE ATCHLEY, Beeville, Texas,  
— AND —  
C. B. BANKSTON, Chrlesman, Texas.

### How To Rear Good Queens.

—  
BY L. L. SKAGGS.  
—

**N**OW friends, we will say it is swarming season. Encourage your best colonies to swarm first;—you can do that by giving them sealed brood from other colonies. When they swarm, cage the queen, or introduce her to some other colony, open the hive that swarmed, look every frame over close for queen cells, all that is sealed cut out and cage on a comb to themselves; I mean a comb that has no cells. Now be careful to mark every cell that has been started, so you will know them the next time you look in the hive. These are the cells you want to use. You see they are started on the egg, and that is the best queen that is raised. Now look in this hive every two days and cut all the cells you find sealed, and cage on the comb with the first cells until all are caged.

Make your cage in the shape of a box, open on one side. Unravel some of the wire the cage is made of, so it will reach deep enough into the comb, (old combs are the best) so the bees will not cut un-

der. It is best to place the cages over some unsealed cells of honey so the queen will be all right for several days, if the bees fail to feed her. When the queens are hatched you can break up your colony that has the queens, making a nucleus for each, and release the queens after the division is made, by removing the cages from over them. I do not like cells that are started after swarms issue, as they are not started in nature's good way. If you wish to note the difference between queens reared according to nature, and those not; try them and you will quickly catch it. I want my queens reared from eggs.

Here is another way we can get queens reared from eggs. If you have a colony or colonies that are trying to supersede their queens, fill these hives with sealed brood. It will be all right if some of the brood is unsealed. If the queens that are being superseded are good ones, or good stock, you may save all the cells that are sealed, if not, be sure and destroy them all. Now prepare cell cups as Mrs. Atchley directs in her catalog, go to your breeder's hive and get a piece of comb containing eggs, the older the comb the better. Shave down the cells as close to the bases as you can, hold this piece of comb in one hand, and bend it over one finger so you can easily remove the cocoons with a pair of watch ma-

ker's tweezers. Firmly place the cocoons in the bottom of your cell cups with a wire, so they will not drop out. Place your cells on the middle comb with the open ends down. If you do not succeed in getting the first lot saved, do not give it up. You will likely soon notice more cells started in your same colonies, as the bees will keep starting cells till their queens are superseded, or till they die. If you wish many cells, you can give all that are started to queenless colonies, to finish up, and let the bees start more. You cannot well get too many bees in a colony that is building cells. These plans are rearing queens in nature's way. Do not take out the old queens, as they are willing for the bees to rear queens with which to supersede them. Now back to the colony that swarmed. You must return the bees to the hive they came from as soon as you find the queen and get her caged.

Now; here is the way I proceed when I have no superseding colonies. Contract the brood nest of a strong colony; if the season is good, leave the queen three frames; if not, one or two will be enough. Fill the space with dummies, put on a queen excluder, tier up two or three hive bodies filled with bees and brood. Eight days after the colony has been prepared, destroy all the sealed cells, saving those not sealed, and have wax cups

ready. Now go to your breeder's hive for larva for larva just hatching, and be sure the larva are very young; cut out a piece two inches wide and as long as you can get it. Shave down as before. Now use the Royal jelly that is in the unsealed cells you have saved, placing a little in each cell cup. Take a piece of number 20 wire two inches long, made thin and to a point; bend a hook on point. With a magnifying glass (to enable you to better see the little tinny larva,) take your bent wire, remove the larva carefully, placing it in the jelly in bottom of cell cups. You can tell the youngest larva by the color of the fluid. While the larva is very young the fluid is rather clear or blue, and as the larva gets older, the fluid or jelly gets whiter. When you are done moving larva, place the cells in the upper story, on a middle comb as before. This is as near nature as we can get when we cannot start cells from eggs.

I have waited till the thirteenth day before moving the cells, but for beginners, I will say, better not wait that long.

Now, your queen that is crowded below by the excluder, is likely to swarm at any time, and if you select a choice queen when you prepare to rear your cells in upper stories, you can save all her cells when they swarm, or you can move the queen off to a new stand,

taking with her two or three combs of brood and honey, and add some more from other colonies that can spare them, and not let her swarm, and this will satisfy her for a while. But you can give her brood and keep her in a swarming condition all the time if you are in the queen rearing business, but do not crowd the queen too much, or her bees may kill her. When the brood nest is small, the queen is not satisfied, and that is the way you want her for best results.

When the bees are rearing drones, you can cut out a strip of drone comb from any colony where the drones are just hatched from the eggs. This strip must not be over seven eighths of an inch wide and about twelve inches long. Move all brood from one side of this strip and place young larva from your breeder where you take out the drone larva, as there will be food enough there. Now, cut a slice of comb from some old comb you care but little about, the size of your strip of drone comb, and place your strip of drone comb in its place, only fasten the drone comb so the open ends of the cells will hang down. You can fasten it with sewing thread. The space below should be wide enough that the bees will have plenty of room to extend the cells. Now hang this comb in the upper story of your contracted colony.

Now friends, if I have failed to

make plain my queen rearing plans, let me know and I will further explain through the "Queen."

Brother and sister bee-keepers, tell us how you raise queens; we need more light on this subject. It is easy enough to rear half-worker queens, but good queens are what we want, in order to make bee-keeping pay.

L. L. SKAGGS.

Llano, Texas, Aug. 2, 1895.

[FRIEND SKAGGS:— We have found by close observation, that there is nothing gained by giving bees eggs to rear queens from. Bees cannot do any thing toward raising queens till the eggs hatch. You have given us light on queen rearing, and it is well enough to teach beginners to rear queens from eggs, as eggs given to bees just made queenless will be young larva just about right by the time bees are ready to start cells.

The reason that queens are reared from eggs as we call it, in natural swarming, is the queen deposits eggs in the cell cups prepared for that purpose, but the bees can not do any thing toward raising queens till they hatch.]

I notice Mr. Bankston's article in Oct. "Queen." I am well pleased with the talk he gives, as I agree with him that it does not matter so much how the cells are started, if we are sure to have them built in strong colonies, and by

good cell building bees. I have had some bees that would not start cells after the queens were taken away. They would seem to idle about and let the time pass, just as though they did not need a queen. I have no use for such bees, either for raising queens or for honey gathering, as I find they are lazy, slow to get to work, and in fact no account. I think it is a loss of time and money, to fool with bees that have no "get up" about them. I am led to believe that such bees as will not mourn for a queen, or that will not start cells, are simply bred out and run down, and not fit for any thing. It seems that it takes some bees longer than others to recognize that their queen is gone. I have had bees start cells in twelve hours after their queens were removed, and when they do this you may be quite sure they are good cell builders. When I get hold of queens that show this trait in the actions of their bees, I always mark them as my cell builders, and I have noticed, too, that these same colonies are quick to build up and are my best honey gatherers.

As Mr. Bankston says, in regard to cells looking all right and then the queens being no good, it is easy to tell a cell that will hatch out a queen that will be no good. The queen may look all right, and be good layers for a while, but they never live long or make prolific queens.

I mentioned in the outset that it did not make much difference how cells were started, but I do not like the Royal jelly plan, as we have not had any complaint of drone-laying queens since I have been using my own plan altogether. I am led to believe that the queens get a set back, (or some of them at least) that they are never relieved of. The main thing in starting cells anyway, is to never give the bees the larva for cells till they are ready to receive it. There is nothing gained in giving bees eggs to start cells from, as they do not start cells over eggs; it is larva every time. In natural swarming, eggs are deposited in queen cell cups by queens, but the bees do not do a thing to them till the eggs hatch, more than to keep the nest warm. Bees do not cut away two or three worker cells and construct a queen cell over a larva, as some writers say. They only float the larva till it rises out of the worker cell, then build the queen cell over it. In starting cells, I do not use larva over one day old, and I am then assured of good cells every time, and just as good queens will be the result, if properly reared, as if reared naturally.

WILLIE ATCHLEY.

As Willie Atchley is somewhat in a controversy with Bro. York and a friend of Bro. York's, in regard to Willie's ability to contribute to the press. Will say that I

am personally acquainted with Willie, also with the subject of bees removing eggs.

As to Willie, I can say without the least fear of contradiction, that he is one of the best bee-keepers in the land today; everything about a bee hive is as familiar to him as A B C's. Willie's education is limited, as he admits, but is quite sufficient to note down in a sensible manner, all that comes under his observation.

As long as we are subjects, and submissive, we are our master's but as soon as we become masters, we must seek other friendship. I have noticed this condition of affairs all along the path of life. Whatever success attend our efforts in life, we will surely have the envy of some. There are thousands who are ready to be our friends from a dollar and cents point of view, but when conditions take a reversed course, oh how quickly friendship flees.

As to bees removing eggs, I will say that this is the silliest idea I have ever heard about bees yet. I will tell a little story which will compare favorably with the egg moving business. While I was at Beeville last winter, the Atchley Co. shipped Mr. P. B. Scott, near my place, ten bee hives. Mr. S. is an enterprising farmer, but knew nothing about bees. The hives arrived, and some time in the early part of the spring he transferred

some of his bees from old boxes to the new hives, and by rough management, as is often the case, one of the queens went dead, and the colony failed to roar one to take her place. In a few weeks the swarm began to dwindle to a mere handful. One day, one of my neighbors, to whom I had sold some queens, came along and suggested the idea of them being queenless.

"No," says Mr. Scott, "they are not queenless."

"How do you know?" says my friend, Mr. Phillips.

"There is eggs in the combs," continued Mr. Scott, "and a drone is laying them too, God bless you."

Mr. Phillips informed Mr. Scott that I had sold him some queens, and that me or him one was badly at sea.

So, in order to satisfy Mr. Phillips that the drones were laying, he just opens up the hive, and shows him the eggs in the combs, also that there was no queen in the hive, but plenty of big, fat drones. So the two gentlemen come to the conclusion that I was mistaken about queens laying eggs.

Oh, wouldn't these two gentlemen and those who entertain the idea that bees move eggs, make an interesting bee-keepers convention!


C. B. BANKSTON.

We must have good queens if we succeed in bee-keeping.



×		×
	+ Our School. +	
×	MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY, TEACHER.	×

### LESSON 4.

E now ring the bell for "books" again, as recess is over, and we hope all the students are up and ready. I know you all have a lot of questions by this time, and we will take them up first; so let's have them. J. A. Coursey, Click, Tex. rise first.

Are queens reared from the larva as good as those reared from the egg?

In one sense of the term, queens are not reared from the egg at all; it is larva they are reared from. I have heard so much of late about queens being reared from eggs that it strikes me some are careless in their observations. If you want good queens, have them started from larva not over one day old, given to the bees at the proper time, and use only good strong stocks, and you will get just as good queens as if started, as it is so called, from the egg. Bees have no way of doing any thing with the egg, and no step is taken so far as my observations go, towards raising queens till the eggs are hatched. Now, here a moment, and I will try to explain all this. In natural swarming the queen cell cups are started, cleaned up and made ready for the eggs just

the same as the worker cells are, and the queen deposits the eggs in them, and the bees keep watch over them, and as soon as the eggs hatch, the little larva receive attention from the very start, but if I am correct, such larva is fed the first day or two on the same food that the bees are, and when they are strong enough to receive a higher food, or more and thicker food of the same kind that all the bees are reared on, they are given a full supply and this allows the queens to develop and grow much faster, and gives them the power to become fertilized, which power the workers have not. I would like for you to bear with me just a little, while I try to explain to you that the queens and workers from the same mother are full fledged sisters, and they are treated identically the same until the larva are several hours old, (the exact time I have not yet ascertained,) the larva intended for queens are provided with room for an abundance of food, and room in which to develop, grows faster, and hence a bee fully developed as to gender, while the workers are not developed in this respect. The reason that queens reared from larva too old are no good, is, they do not receive enough food to make a full developed bee, or to fully develop its gender or sex, and hence a half worker and half queen, and a partial drone layer, or if not, (owing to the amount of food she receives)

a short lived queen. The reason we so often see it spoken of about rearing queens from the egg etc., even among our best bee-keepers, is because in natural swarming the larva are cared for at the proper time, and have no check, have plenty of time to receive the proper amount of food, and the cell has time to be built, or it gives the bees time to construct cells of proper length etc., and the consequence is good queens, and it is very well to give such instructions to beginners, as none but experienced, as a rule, understand how, and under what conditions to give larva to queenless bees so that the larva will be attended to the same as in natural swarming; and queens of inferior quality is the result. In closing this lengthy answer to your first question, I will say that if you will give your larva to queenless bees at the proper time and under the proper conditions, you will get just as good queens reared by queenless colonies as by natural swarming. Bees only build cells when their instinct prompts them that they are queenless, or that they are going to be soon, by swarming or supersedure, and it all means the same. In natural swarming the laying queen or mother is with the bees and they do not seem so anxious to get queen cells started, and in fact only raise queens in queen cells in natural swarming, as I have yet to note any attempt on the part of the bees to start cells over larva before the swarms issue, but they do sometimes start cells over larva in worker cells after the swarm issues under the very same conditions that they do when their queen is taken away. This is why there are occasionally inferior queens in natural swarming as well as by artificially faised queens as it is termed. Well, when we take a queen away from a colony, and they are stimulated, or even if they are not stimulated, they sometimes select larva too old, in their great hurry to rear a queen, and they do not have room to give the amount of food they should, nor time to build a cell of proper length or size. You see, bees do not tear away worker cells to start queen cells, as some have stated, they only float the larva up out of the worker cell, and construct a queen cell above, and this very thing may be many times the cause of the larva not receiving the proper amount of food, as the bees fill the worker cell full, and they may get fooled, and rear queens in this way that are not good, when if they had started the queens in regular queen cells they would have been all right. I do not like the idea of rearing queens in worker cells, for the simple reason that by the time the bees can float the larva up out of the cell and build a cell on top, too much time is likely to be lost, and the usefulness of the queen injured. I like our plan of

moving the cocoons into the bottom of full sized queen cell cups at the start, and we thus get all good queens. I think there is no such a thing as artificial queens, as they are all natural. In swarming, nature says start cells or you will be queenless; and when a queen is removed, or killed, or disappears from any cause, nature says raise you a queen or you are lost; and when we take away all the brood the bees have, and give them a few cells in queen cell cups, nature says jump at this chance or you are gone, and consequently they are all natural queens. The main thing to watch closely, is, do not let the bees start or build cells from larva too old, and, have them built in queen cell cups if you can, and you will have good queens.

How is best to unite bees?

The best plan that I have tried, is to wait till a little while before night, and shake the bees all in front of the hive in which you wish them after they are united, give them the best combs of all they have, take away all the queens, but cage one in the hive the same as in introducing, close them up and all is well. Shake them all off the combs, those in the hive as well as those you are taking from other hives, and you will have no fighting to speak of. The reason I say just before night fall, is, that robbers will not get to bother them till morning, and by that time they are one family and able to defend their hive. In 5 days, go around and take out the cages where you introduced the queens, and the job is done.

Would it be best to introduce queens now, with the prospect of a honey flow, or wait till spring?

It would be best now, with a honey flow, as then when spring comes your bees will be O. K. and ready to take a start with those that you did not introduce queens to. It is a safe time to introduce queens during a honey flow, or as safe a time as we will get.

MRS. ATCHLEY:— I have a wingless queen that is a prolific one and has young brood at present writing. From all that I have read, I find that queens must fly to be mated. Will you please explain, if possible, how she got mated.

K. M. HEMKER.

Monterey, Cal., Oct. 20, '95.

Your queen likely had wings sufficient to fly with when she was mated, and the bees balled her on her return, (as they often do from some unknown causes,) and pulled her wings off and then concluded to keep her. Are you sure the brood is worker, or had you noticed close? You do not say, is why I ask. If your queen had no wings at the start, and was noticed by you to have none when she was hatched, and then her brood being worker would cap the climax, and would be beyond my knowledge. Let us know more about it.

MRS. ATCHLEY:— Will you tell me how to get rid of a queen that I don't want and can't find?

Put a piece of queen excluding zinc over the entrance, shake the bees all in front of the hive, and when the bees are all in, the queen will find her self, or you will see her with a few bees still outside, and then you can kill her. If you will do this near night, and wait till next morning, the bees will likely all be in, but if they are not, they will go in if you will smoke them a little, and when the bees are all in it will be an easy matter to find the queen.

Do bees often swarm as late as Sept. 16th? I had a large swarm to issue on Aug. 26th, and some seem to show a disposition to swarm now.

Yes, we often have bees to swarm as late as the middle of September, and even later, in this latitude. When we lived in North Texas we had lots of swarms in September. These questions were asked by O. L. Tinker, Webster, Texas, Sept., 16, 1895.

I am sorry that we cannot extend our lesson further in this issue, but the printer says our space is about up, so we will have to wait till next issue; but we wish you all to be patient and we will get to your questions after a while. So come on and let's have every thing you can think of that you think would be likely to interest us, and we will have a fine time yet before we get through. I aim to lead you in the right way to success, and help you as much as I can to overcome the difficulties as we go along, so come on with your questions and we will have a fine school. JENNIE ATCHLEY.

### South West Texas Meeting.

The Southwest Texas Bee-keepers' Association meets at Wharton, Texas, at the apiary of W. O. Victor, on Dec. 26 and 27. Every body is invited, and bee-keepers especially. Come and let's have the largest meeting Texas ever had. Remember the date, Dec. 26 & 27.

Low rates on all Railroads.

J. O. GRIMSLEY,  
Secretary by Appointment.  
Beeville, Texas.

### Dr. Copeland's Letter.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY CO,

Dear Friends.— As per request, The Southland Queen for Oct. has not arrived, and when the time expires I grow impatient, as I am continually looking for something in the Journals, that I don't already know, concerning bees and their management.

I have three colonies that have five frames filled; two on one side and one on the other are empty. Now should I place the five filled frames on one side, and place the division board next to them, and let the unfilled and unoccupied frames go on the other side of division board, or do the unfilled remain in the hive at all? How should this be?

Now, usually bees in this section receive no winter protection, and those with sufficient stores go through all right; still once in a while we have a short spell of extreme cold, (thermometer going to zero, but never lasts but a few hours) and I have concluded to cover the broad frames with oil cloth, leaving the supers on, and packing them with dry forest leaves as a protection. Would that be worth any thing?

A five weeks drouth is broken by a nice rain today, and I hear considerable complaint of starving bees. My neighbors are complaining that my bees are robbing theirs; mine being the only Italians in the neighborhood, they all know them. Is this robbing the result of their weak colonies, or an innate disposition of the Italians?

If a colony was deficient in stores to carry them till spring, should it be fed now, or wait till their stores are almost exhausted?

Fraternally,

W. J. COPELAND.

Fetzerton, Tenn., Oct. 31, 1895.

DR. COPELAND:— We suppose the reason you had not received "The Southland Queen" for October, was that it had only been

mailed one day. We were a little behind. This month we come out on time, and trust that subscribers may receive their paper before the month is out. Of course some papers may go astray in the mails; these, of course, will be remailed, on receipt of such information. Aside from this, we are going to strive to get the paper to its readers promptly.

We would advise you to take out all unoccupied combs or frames, contract by division boards, and pack behind, or fill the empty space with good dry chaff, leaves, or any good material. I would not leave any unfilled frames in the hives.

Yes, it will be an excellent idea to leave supers on, and pack with dry leaves. I would be very careful about leaky covers, as wet packing is worse than none at all.

The reason your neighbors take

note of your bees robbing, is by their color. The blacks are much worse to rob, as a rule, than Italians, but black bees robbing blacks are not noticed like Italians robbing blacks. Still it may be that their bees are weak, as you say, and not able to defend their stores.

We would advise you to feed now, sufficient stores to put them through.

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—  
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 Wears away the hardest stone,  
 The constant gnaw of Towser  
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 —Winona Herald.

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Will buy an untested queen from J. W. K. Shaw & Co. Tested, 90c; \$10 per dozen. Queens are carefully reared from fine imported, and home-bred stock. Satisfaction guaranteed. Only give us a trial.

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I have 200 colonies of bees in my charge, all in 8 framed hives, all upright, at \$4 each or \$3.50 per colony for the whole lot. Who wants them? Jennie Atchley, Beeville, Texas.

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

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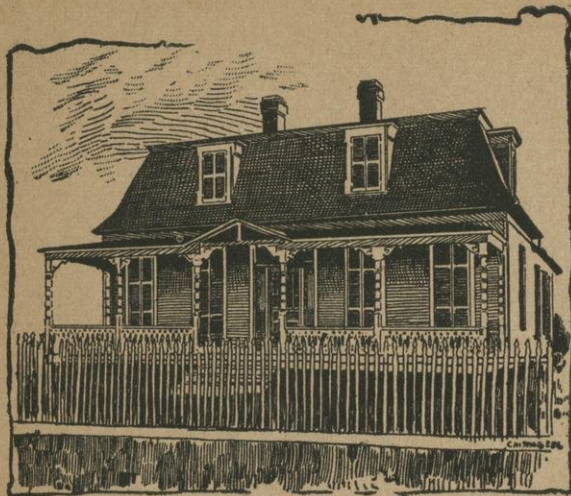
## Italian Queens for Sale.

If you want good queens in every respect send me your orders. Warranted Italian queens, 75 cents each; tested, \$1; select tested, \$1.50; breeders—the very best—\$2 each. Also bees nuclei, or full colonies. Safe arrival and satisfaction guaranteed. Correspondence solicited.  
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