

# The progressive bee-keeper. Vol. VIII, No. 8 Aug. 1, 1898

Higginsville, Mo.: Leahy Manufacturing Company, Aug. 1, 1898

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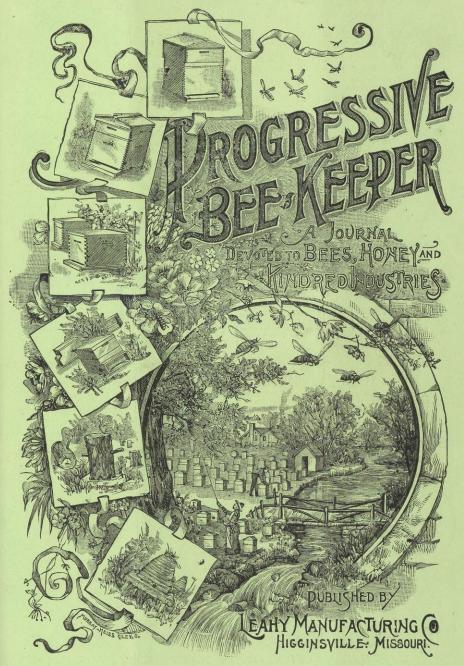
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AUGUST 1, 1898.



Entered at the postoffice, Higginsville, Mo., as second-class matter.

### Advertising Rates.

All advertisements will be inserted at the rate of 15 cents per line, Nonparell space, each insertion; 12 lines of Nonparell space make 1 inch. Discounts will be given as fo lows:

On 10 lines and upwards, 3 times, 5 per cent; 6 times, 15 per cent; 9 times, 25 per cent; 12 times, 35 per cent.

On 20 lines and upwards, 3 times, 10 per cent; 6 times, 20 per cent: 9 times, 30 per cent; 12 times, 40 per cent,

On 30 lines and upwards, 3 times, 20 per cent: 6 times, 30 per cent; 9 times, 40 per cent; 12 times, 50 per cent.

We reserve the right to refuse all advertisements that we consider of a questionable character.



## Clubbing List.

We will send the Progressive Bee Keeper with

The Review	
Colman's Rural World 1	00 1 35
Journal of Agriculture 1	00 1 35
Kansas Farmer 1	00 1 35
Home and Farm	50 75

### Bee Books

No bee keeper can afford to be without a litherary of bee books A book costing from fifty cents to one dollar is worth many hundreds of dollars to one who would succeed. Every beginnershould have a book suitable for begin ners, (one that will point out the road), and those more advanced will need something more scientific as a reference book. We will here give the names of such books as we recommend, and will be pleased to furnish you, sending them by mail at the following prices:

The Amateur Bee Keeper, (a gem for beginners), by Prof Rouse, price, 28c.

Advanced Bee Culture,-by W. Z. Hutchinson; price, 50c.

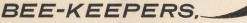
Manual of the Apiary,-By Prof. A. J Cook; price, \$1.25.

The A, B, C of Bee Culture, by A. I. Root; price, \$1 25.

A Treatise on Foul Brood, by Dr. Howard; price. 25c. Address, LEAHY MFG. CO.,

Higginsville, Mo.

WANTED. 10,000 fbs of Beeswax, for Cash. LEAHY MFG. CO., Higginsuille, Mo.



We can make it an object for you to write us for prices on



# SPECIALTY OF SECTIONS, WE MAKE A

Being located in the great BASSWOOD timber belt of Wisconsin; admitted by all to be the best for making sections.

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# A GENERAL LINE OF BEE-KEEPERS' SUPPLIES

In stock, and at prices with the times. Write for Catalogue and prices, Free.

## MARSHFIELD MFG. CO., Marshfield, Wisconsin.

Please mention the "Progressive" in answering this advertisement



FOR FRUIT MEN ONLY. The Exclusive Fruit Paper of America Ine Exclusive Fruit Paper of America is a 32-page paper, the reading matter of which pertains to nothing but fruit. It is indispensa-ble to any one engaged in fruit growing. Is a great fruit section, (PORTLAND, OREGON), and costs 50 cents per year. We want every one of our readers to have it on their table and will therefore club it with the PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER, both for one year for 60 cents, to all our subscribers who will send their back subscription and one year in advance, or to new subscribers who will pay one year in ad-vance. This offer is good for but a short time. Plagea montion the "Programmer a".

Please mention the "Progressive."

# Texas Queens.

Golden Italians, Adel or Albino Queens. Dr. Gallup of California, writes Oct. 6 1896: "The queens received of you are de c edly the very best honey gatherers I have in a lot of 30 stocks, and I have received queens from ten different parties this season." Price of Untested Queens, \$1.00.

J. D. GIVENS, Lisbon, Tex

Please mention the "Progressive."



Please mention the "Progressive."



Please mention the "Progressive"



Make your own Hives. 

# "Higginsville" Bee Supplies at Kansas City.

Having purchased the good will and business of H. L. Miller, of Supplies, I will be in a position to furnish all Bee-Keepers' Supplies at Higginsville prices.

You will save freight by ordering of me. Write for Catalogue.

407 Minn Ave.

# PRICES OF Bingham Perfect

Bee-Smokers and Honey Knives. Smoke Engine | largest smokper doz. each 4 inch stove \$13.00-Mail, \$1.50

C. E. WALKER,

Kansas City, Kas.

Doctor	31/2	**	5.6	9.00-	6.0	1,10	
Conqueror	3	66	66	6.50-	**	1.00	
Large	21%	66		5.00-	**	.90	
Plain	2	66		4.75-	**	.70	
Little Wonder	2 .	64	wt 10 oz	4.50-	· · ·	.60	
Honey Knife				6.00-		.80	
All Pingham Smokars are s						onted	

All Bingham Smokers are stamped on the metal, pate 1878–1892–Knives B. & H.

The Plain and Little Wonder have narrow shields and wire handles. All Bingham Smokers have all the new improvements, viz.: Direct Draft. Movable Bent Cap, Wire Handles, Inverted Bellows, and are ABSOLUTELY PERFECT.

20 Fifteen years for a dollar. One-half a cent a month.

Performance of the provided and the p

O. W. OSBORN.

Mt. Pleasant, Mich., Aug. 7th. 1896. Dear Sir—Smokers came O. K. They are the best I have ever seen; sell like hot cakes Respectfully, WM. BAMBU.

With a Bingham Smoker that will hold a quart of sound maple wood, the bee-keepers' trials are all over for a long time. Who ever heard of a Bingham Smoker that was too large or did not give perfect satisfaction. The world's most scientific and largest comb honey producers use Bingham Smokers and Knives. The same is true of the world's largest producers of extracted honey. Before buying a smoker or knife hunt up its record and pedigree.

Please mention the 'Progressive."

T. F. BINGHAM. Farwell, Mich,





# FELLOW SUFFERER.....

- The Reverend Maranatha White was black as he could be.
- The shepherd of a colored flock in eastern Tennessee.
- He taught the blessed tidings of salvation free to all;
- His favored themes were saving grace and Adam's primal fall.
- And every day he visited the members of his fold,
- Exhorting all to godliness as Noah did of old.
- One day he called on Lincum Smif, and found him all intent
- Upon an open Bible old, his head above it bent.
- "Dear Brudder Smif," the parson spoke, "it gibs me much delight
- To fin' you readin' in de Word." "Why, mawnin' Brudder White;
- Ise lookin' troo de book of Job, to see ef in his toils
- And triles, it tells de remedy he used fer curin' boils."

-Will Ward Mitchell.



TO the question, "Is it to the interest of the honey producers of America to advocate that everybody, or every farmer, should keep a few colonies of bees?" recently proposed in the question box of the American Bee Journal, fifteen out of twenty-five answered in the negative, nine of the remaining twofifths were in doubt or would be governed by conditions in giving a straight-out answer, and one entirely dodged the question.

Someone has said, "We will be what we WILL to be." How about being a bee-keeper? CAN everyone be a bee-keeper? Just as well ask, can everyone be a doctor, lawyer, minister, merchant, or any other thing he might desire? All men who tread the boards are not actors; some of them work on lumber yards. Neither can every owner of a few colonies of bees lay claim to being a bee-keeper.

Laying aside bee-keeping, the entirely practical and profitable pursuits that may be followed on the farm are so numerous that but very few farmers can begin to keep up the necessary work which alone secures success. Why seek to add bee-keeping to already overburdened shoulders? Will not the same bees, in the hands of a specialist, accomplish as much in the way of fertilization, as though they belonged to the separate farmers of the neighborhood? Then why not relegate the whole business to the skilled hands of the apiarist, who will not only make the most of the resources, but will many times save to the neighborhood whole apiaries that would have died of starvation had they been sitting around in out of the way corners waiting for the

overcrowded farmer to think of them and their needs.

Dadant says, "Say what you will, there will only be a small proportion of successful apiarists among our farmers;" then let the farmer bear in mind, a small cottage on earth is better than dozens of castles in the air.

I see Doolittle wants me to "rub my eyes open and get out into the land of budding flowers and humming bees." Thank you for the invitation. Nothing more delightful to me, I assure you, Friend Doolittle, but had you studied the geography of human events as diligently and faithfully as your beloved beeology, you would have long since discovered that hard by Naptown is the village of Hardscrabble, and the two so closely allied as to be inseparable, and their inhabitants scarcely distinguishable. Now know you are both clever and liberal enough to admit that the environs of person or place have almost unlimited sway. As for instance, were it not for the near proximity of "Hardscrabble," I might be farther advanced in bee-keeping, hence more competent to criticise or comment on those whom I recognize as One stern lesson all superiors. have or must learn, that whether a honey crop develops or not, the bread and butter question cannot be And successive failures of dodged. the honey crop having rapped long and loudly at my door, have at last roused me to the unwelcome realization that honey production in these regions cannot be depended on for a livelihood.

I agree with Emerson's assertion, "The highest prize of life, the crowning fortune of a man, is to be born with a bias to some pursuit which finds him employment and happiness." (By the way, Doolittle seems to be that man), and if, happily, so fortunate, why seek to

get the unfortunate into further trouble by advising them to pitch into some of the big guns? Yes, it might make lots of fun and excitement for the readers of the PRO-GRESSIVE, but who would, in all probability, pay the orchestra? Might prove something similar to the much talked of breakfast spell between Uncle Sam and Spain—too long drawn out.

No, no! Not being an undertaker, I never undertake to lay another man out. Home, sweet home,'s too dear to me, if it does happen to lie between Naptown and Hardscrabble.

Some feeding bees to ward off starvation. Small to medium sized apiaries, say up to sixty colonies, in the BEST localities, will not suffer, and may store a very light surplus. Small lots in the best localities, prime factors of success in OUR Think more of us will country. have to join Friend Flanagan, who seems so busy as not to be able to say, "Howdy," to his PROGRESSIVE However, don't put us on friends. the list of "candidates for blasted hopes, for off in the distance is the Spanish needle looming up in quite a promising manner. Bees are now just beginning to recruit, and all things point towards a good fall flow, and prosperity, and most assuredly, we are not of the kind who refuse to accept crumbs of comfort because they are not whole bakeries of bliss, while our "greatest glory consists not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."

Naptown, Dreamland.

#### Second-Hand Foundation Mills.

We have the following good second-hand Foundation Mill which we have taken in exchange for bee-keepers' supplies:

One ten-inch Root Mill, with dipping tank, all complete. This mill, for all practical purposes, is as good as new, and the price of it new, with tanks, would be \$27. To dispose of it quick, we will take \$13 for the outfit.

LEAHY MFG. CO., HIGGINSVILLE, MO.



1898

I am now ready to receive orders for May delivery, 1898. Full colonies of three-banded Italian bees in 8-frame dovetailed hives, \$5. Strong three-frame nucleus, with tested queen, \$2.75. Untested Italian queens, each, 75c; per doz., \$7.00. Tested Italian queens, each, \$1.00; per doz., \$10,00. Best breeding queens, each, \$2.00, \$2.50.

I know what good queens mean to the producer, as well as how to rear them. Safe delivery and satisfaction guaranteed. No disease.

E. W. Moore, Box 103. GRAYVILLE, ILLS. Please mention the "Progressive."

STRAWS FROM THE APIARY. Fred S. Thorington.

Y early experience in bee-keeping was associated with the use of the extractor, and I found by its use it was a great friend, or, indirectly, a great enemy, according to the way it was used. As I had only single story hives the first years of my bee-keeping, of course I could obtain no extracted honey, except as I took it from the brood chamber. However, I had early learned not to extract from combs containing brood, especially unsealed brood, or combs containing much unripe honey. If extracting is done from combs containing uncapped brood, and the extractor reel is given a very rapid motion, the young larvæ in the cell is thrown out with the honey, which should not be done.

If we extract from combs containing much uncapped or unripe honey (honey should not be extracted until it is well capped and cured by the bees), it has to be cured in an artificial way, or it will remain thin, and will sour and become undesirable, and of course unsalable. A good honey market is often spoiled by placing upon it a poor, inferior grade of honey.

As I wished to extract from broodless combs, and combs containing none or but little unsealed honey, I was nearly always or often compelled to wait until the fall flow was at its best before I could find the frames in proper condition. In the fall, the combs in brood chamber are filled with honey as fast as the brood hatches out, where no super is given, or extra room to store honey is given in some other way, as long as the flow remains good. Especially is this the case in this locality with the eight-frame hive, as it is natural for the bees to store honey near their brood for winter Then why rob them of their use. winter stores?

In other years, some bee-keepers have claimed a colony of bees would winter on six pounds of honey. I believe no such doctrine. Twentyfive or thirty-five pounds is better for outdoor wintering.

As the outside combs are filled first with honey in brood chamber, they give, when filled, a very inviting place to try one's hand at extracting, at the loss of the bees during winter, if too much of their honey is taken, and cannot be replaced from the field, or feeding. As the flow is apt to be cut short at any time, it is best to go slow with care, having the needs of the colony under consideration at all times. Especially should we use care while extracting from the brood chamber in the fall, and leave enough honey for winter use, as then the flow may be cut short at any time. I have known the flow to be cut short at the time of extracting, never to be revived. This, too, in the fall, and wasn't I in it? Late years I extract mostly or only from the upper story or extracting supers. Where it can be done, I think it best to look over each colony intended for winter, and see that each has a good prolific queen, bees of all ages, and plenty of good sealed honey during the fall flow. This early preparation causes the bees to winter better, build up quicker in spring, and gives a more vigorous colony to work on early spring bloom, than they would otherwise do if they were illy prepared and tinkered with all winter to keep them alive.

Have a good prospect for a fine fall flow of honey. Lots of Spanish needle in sight.

Am glad the PROGRESSIVE has enjoyed such a boom on the Doolittle queen offer.

Have had no swarms up to date, July 15.

Chillicothe, Mo.

#### Convention at Omaha, Sept. 13-15.

Finally the date of holding the next annuai meeting of the United States Bee-Keepers' Union has been fixed for Sept. 13, 14 and 15. The place-Omaha-was decided upon several weeks ago. Here is a notice from Secretary Mason:

#### Sta. B., Toledo, O., July 23, 1898.

Editor Progressive Ber-Kerpers:—I have just received from Mr. Whitcomb the follow-ing letter in regard to rates, etc., for the con-vention of the United States Bee-Keepers' Union, which will explain itself:

Omaha, Neb., July 18, 1898. Mr. E. Whitcomb-Dear Sir: Confirming our talk this afternoon, I wish to advise that the Western Passenger Association has put in a rate for the Annual National Encamp-ment Sons of Veterans United States of Amer-ica, Sept. 12 to 16, as follows: One lowest first-class normal tariff fare for the round trip, plus \$2, from Western Passen-ger Association territory, east of and includ-ing Utah. except that from points within a ra-dius of 150 miles of Omaha rate of one fare for the round trip will apply.

dius of 150 miles of Omaha rate of one fare for the round trip will apply. The following rates apply from the extreme terminals on the east: Chicago, \$14.75; Peo-ria, \$13.25, and \$t. Louis, \$13.50. Tickets on sale Sept. 10 and 11, and from points west of Colorado and Wyoming State lines. Sept. 9. From points within a radius of 150 miles of

Omaha, Sept. 12. Tickets good to return

Sept. 21. We will endeavor to have these rates ex-tended to cover all the United States, and would suggest that it would be a very good rate for the bee-keepers' meeting. Yours truly, W. N. BABCOCK. Mgr. Dept. of Transportation.

It will be seen that the above rates are lower than those given in my previous notice of rates. Mr. Whitcomb writes:

"The above rate is the best in sight... Hotel rates and place of meeting will be ar-ranged a little later on, but it is thought that the members can be quartered in private fam-ilies at \$1 per day, and that hotel rates can be secured at about \$2 per day."

This allows the Executive Committee to fix on Sept. 13. 14 and 15 as the time for holding the convention commencing on the 13th at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and closing the eve-ning of the 15th. The program for the convention is not yet quite completed, and will not be in time to be put in the monthly bee papers before Sep-tember, but will be in the American Bee Journal and Gleanings by Aug. 15. The pro-gram will be similar to the one prepared for the Buffalo convention last year, containing bee-keepers' music, and the first page of the cover will be occupied by an illustration con-taining the photographs of the Board of Di-rectors and Executive Committee, with an appropriate background. Anyone desiring one or more copies of the program can obtain the same by sending five cents in stamps to the sectary, for each copy wanted. If the place of meeting, hotel rates, etc., are not given in the bee papers in time, those attending the convention will find a printed notice posted in each railroad depot in Oma-ha, on the days of the Boart of the Bee-Keepers' Luion may become such by sending a dollar to the Secretary, or General Manager Secor, or the editor of any of the bee-papers. Don's send a dollar bill unless in a registered letter; and if you remit to me by postoffice money order, have it drawn on Sta. B., Toledo, Ohio. A. B. MASON, Secy. Now that the date of the convention is set-tled, everybody cap beein to meating the convention is set-tled, everybody cap beein to meating a for

Now that the date of the convention is set-tled, everybody can begin to make plans for being present.

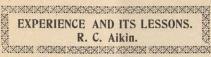
Remember the date—Sept. 13 to 15. And the place—Omaha, Neb.

LATER-Since the foregoing was put in type, the following letter has been received-one written by Mr. Whitcomb to Dr. Mason:

#### Omaha, Neb., Neb., July 22, 1898.

Umana, Neb., Neb., July 22, 1898. Friend Mason:—The Delone Hotel, corner of 14th street and Capitol avenue, is where the convention will be held, and which will also be the headquarters of the Union. Rates for rooms on the European plan, \$1 a day; board, \$1 a day, No one will be asked to double up, but each person will be given a bed, and be taken care of at this rate as long as there is a room in the house, even if it takes rooms that cost \$4 a day.

that cost \$4 a day. In order to reach the hotel from the Union Depot, take the Dodge street car and transfer at 14th street for the Sherman avenue line; 5 cents pays the entire bill for carfare. Those who desire to take rooms and secure meals outside will be at liberty to do so. Rates for meals at restaurants and chop-houses from 10 to 50 cents. The limit of tickets will give 10 days in which to see the Exposition and attend the meeting. E. WHITCOMB.



(Continued from July PROGRESSIVE.)

#### CHAPTER X.

#### QUEEN-CLIPPING. — POSITION OF STORES IN WINTERING.

WITH the July number of the PROGRESSIVE, came the last of the manuscript prepared months ago, and appearing under the title, "Experience and its Lessons." When that was placed in the hands of the editor, I thought I should have more ready before it was all printed, but here is the journal for July, and says at the end, "Continued next month," yet not a scratch of the continuation made till now, July 8th.

Friends, let me thank you for the many kind words spoken in print and otherwise, in appreciation of the contents of this series. I have made mistakes—some things said, no doubt I would say differently were I to rewrite. My aim has been to help to the right, to make better my fellow-apiarists, to serve the Master in it all. I hope to be guided aright in what I shall yet say, that when it is said, it shall do good, but no HARM.

I hope at some time to be able to give a short review of the series, and make some corrections and supply deficiencies. Little did I dream of the squeezing I was to get from that big-fisted chap over in New The editor rather took ad-York. vantage of me in the matter, and you can guess my surprise when the journal came and I saw with my own eyes what a job was upon me. I forgive the editor entirely his part in the matter—he wrote me his apology long ago; but that other big fellow-well, as long as he does

not entirely destroy my fleet, I will be saucy to him. I am going to give him an ultimatum, that he must be careful, or I will retaliate. I only wear a No. 8 shoe, but think I can reach higher for a swarm of bees than he. Just wait till swarming season and the rush is over, then I'll tell him about some things maybe.

I will have to beg of the editor and the readers to indulge me a little, and let me make at least this article a rather disjointed affair, and possibly if the honey flow holds out well, the next like unto it. The truth is, I just have not time to think out a regular connected story now. Within the past three months I have very many times endeavored to get my thoughts pinned down to this business, but they just would not stay down. If all goes well, these articles will bring out some of the thoughts and the experience now so fully occupying my attention.

### QUEEN CLIPPING.

I practice, quite largely, clipping my queens. I carry a very small pair of scissors in my vest pocket always ready for use. When the queen is found, I hold the comb she is on with my left hand, resting the edge or corner of the frame on my knee or on a hive, then as the queen walks about, I follow her with the scissors until I get one of the blades under one wing, then snip. Now and then a worker gets a foot or wing between, the blades, and suffers an amputation, but when the queen and scissors are in the proper relationship, I snip and let the unlucky worker go.

To a nervous or shaky hand, this would be a rather difficult job, but I believe I can clip in this way to better advantage, both in time, and safety to queen, than by any method requiring her to be caught.

First, be careful not to smoke

too much before finding the queen. Avoid any jar or sudden movements, parting the combs abruptly, any and everything tending to cause the bees and queen to run or leave the combs. This is important in any case when we want to find the queen. This is one of the cases in which we make haste by going very carefully, if not slowly. Try to begin lifting out the combs on the side next you, start each frame gently, and as the comb comes out, glance over the face of the NEXT comb FIRST, for by so doing, the queen may be seen on that instead of the one in your hands, and by promptly setting down the one in your hands and picking up the next one, you get the queen promptly. If you give attention only to the comb in your hand, your queen may pass off to the next comb, and so keep going from one to the next till you have followed her clear across the hive. Be expeditious, but regular and careful, and try to find your queen peacefully and quietly attending to her duties, then slip the scissors to her wing, and clip before she knows it. Cut from BE-HIND her, then the wing does not slip out from between the blades. You will not catch her feet, for she is standing or walking on them. Many and many a queen have I clipped in this way, and so quickly and quietly that she never knew that anything had happened to her.

WHY CLIP.

Because a swarm may issue when not looked for, or when you cannot be present, it may save you climbing trees, and such work, and because you can keep track of the ages of queens that way. The work can easily be done when the colony is weak in the early season. A colony can get ready to swarm in one short week, and skip, but with a clipped queen you can hold them another short week, and sometimes a big LONG one. If I were practicing the swarming (allowing them to swarm) method, I would want the queens clipped for the great convenience in hiving. As quick as the swarm is about all out, even before, arrange the hives as they are wanted, the new on the old stand, then let them come back and find the queen caged at the entrance, when she can be run in with the swarm.

#### AN ACCIDENT.

Since writing the foregoing part of the article, time has sped till this is now the evening of the 11th. Today we had a big rain, just "poured" so that the ground was covered in a few minutes. I was out in the greater part of the storm trying to save a lot of chicks, that, like some other animals, had not sense enough to go in out of the rain. In my hurry, I threw a knee out of joint. How much this will interfere with my work, I do not know, but I know that the out apiaries have the extras about full, and somehow we must give them more room.

#### PREPARING FOR WINTER.

Now is the time to get the colonies in shape for winter. We used to be taught that the bees should have empty comb to cluster on. Ι very seriously doubt their needing empty comb, and while doubting this, I am sure of one thing-that there ought to be plenty of honey very near the cluster. Suppose you have a colony in a two-story hive, the brood nest being in the lower one and the honey scattered through the two hives, but no more than could be stored in half as many combs. The chances of such a colony wintering safely are rather meagre.

Last fall I left my extracting api-

aries largely in two-story American hives, the upper story being first well stored with honey, and the brood nest being gradually crowded down to the lower chamber by the honey being packed in the upper one. In June, as the flow came on, I lifted the brood chamber, and set a chamber of dry combs on the stand, and put the old brood nest on top of it. These chambers were left so from the opening of the flow till spring, in fact a few of them are that way yet.

Friends, I am telling this to impress on your minds the idea that it does not matter so much whether the colony has empty comb or not to cluster on, so long as there are stores ABOVE them sufficient to last them through winter. Let them have HEAVY solid combs of honey above and close to them when winter comes on. I lost several colonies last winter, because, while there was enough honey in the hive, it was too thin (scarce) BETWEEN THEM AND THE ROOF; they ate through to the top, and could not go down again because of the cold. Experience has caused me to know that one of the very best kinds of winter protection is abundance of stores CLOSE up on the sides and AROVE the cluster. When we run for comb honey, the brood chamber is PACKED with honey, usually, but when we work for extracted with lots of ready-made combs, the brood combs are left THIN, so the bees eat through to the roof before spring and die. Plenty of comb below will do no harm so long as there is plenty of honey above the cluster. Just try a few two-story hives this winter, then note that in the spring your brood nest is at the top of the hive. They just ate a road right up through the honey.

Loveland, Colo.

(To be continued in our next.)

#### Recapitulation by G. M. Doolittle.

"Ultimatum\_Retaliate\_No. 8 Shoe."\_Oh! Oh!! I'll be careful, Bro. Aikin, for I "see it in your eye" that such is the only course for me to take if I do not wish to be annihilated entirely, for I am in "mortal fear" of a No. 8 shoe, for a certain school teacher once wore that number, and-andwell, I will be careful; "so there now;" and as you forgave the editor for only an apology, I know you will forgive me, for TRYING to be careful amounts to a good deal more than an apology, under the circumstances, especially as that editor got up all this "muss, fuss," anyway. But "all the samee" we want you to tell us about those "some things" when you get time, for any person who is "working to serve the Master" and "to make better his fellow apiarists," does not strike blows simply for retatiation.

Clipping Queens.-Suppose the readers wish another way, as some plans come handy to some persons, other plans to others. It's all right to carry scissors in the vest pocket, but strange to say, "that old vest" which I love "almost with a mother's affection" from the first of November till the first of May, becomes so unlovable when the mercury rises to "ninety in the shade," that I often think of it at such times something as the man did of his "fidgety" wife, when he said, "She is a treasure indeed, but 1 sometimes wish I had my treasure laid up in heaven." So when I arrive at the bee yard and find I have no vest, and that the scissors are in said unlovely vest pocket, what am I to do? Well, just the same as I always do. Proceed to find the queen and hold the frame just as Bro. A. tells us to do, only that I hold the frame in my right hand, and with the left hand I pick up the queen by the wings, using the thumb and front finger

Aug 1,

to do it with. Like all other people, I always have a jack-knife in my pantspocket, and at queen clipping time, I try to keep the little blade of the same very sharp. When I have the queen by the wings, I set the frame down, bring this knife into action by placing the sharpened blade across such portion of the wings as I wish cut off, hold both hands so the queen will be only an inch or so from the frames, draw the knife a little till the queen drops on top of the frames and runs down into the hive, when the job is done, just a little more unique than possible by the Aikin plan, for by his plan you cut off all that comes within the blades of the scissors just at the moment the "shutting stroke" is made. As this stroke must be made very quickly, it sometimes happens, with nervous folks, as it did with me once, that they not only get "workers' feet and wings" between the blades, but the legs and feet of the queen as well, for she sometimes puts up a foot to brush off that which is annoying her wing, just as the stroke is made, when off goes not only a wing, but a leg as well. By the knife plan, the queen is not touched any more than by the other, so she carries no foreign scent with her when she enters the hive, hence is not persecuted by the bees, as sometimes happens where any part of her person is handled by the fingers. Bro. A. has told you how to find a queen better than I could do, but allow me to add one little kink which he left out. That is, take an empty hive, or a light box made for the purpose, the latter being preferable, with you when you are clipping queens, and as you lift out the first frame and feel sure the queen is not on it, set said frame in the box on the further side from you, then the next one right up to the first, and so on till you find the queen, or all are in the box. The object for doing thus is easily seen. If you do not find the queen before you have all

of the frames out, you can now carefully look over all of the bees remaining in the hive with no frames in the way, or leaning up around the hive, subject to robbers, or being tipped over, should you stir the hive from any cause or in any way. With black or hybrid bees, the queen will often leave the combs when the hive is disturbed, especially if by mistake you have used too much smoke or jarred the hive a little. Then, if after looking the hive over, you fail to find the queen there, you have the same chance of finding her, and in the same way you did when you first handled the combs, for they will come out of the box in the same order when putting back in the hive that they did at first, so you can look at the "face of the NEXT comb FIRST," which is one of the GREATEST of all kinks that can facilitate the rapid finding of any queen. Then another little kink Bro. A. forgot: In looking for a queen, the greater distance the frame which she is on is from you, the more readily will she be seen, for when the frame is held close to the eye, the vision can take in but a small space of comb surface, so the vision has to be shifted about from place to place, while if the comb is held off at arm's-length, the vision, or eye, takes in the whole at a glance, so that only a second is taken for a side of any comb. Then another thing: If the comb is held obliquely to the vision, the whole surface will not only be taken in better, but the side of the abdomen of the queen will be visible, so the eye will readily "catch" the queen, which is not so readily done when looking straight at her back, in which condition her wings so cover her abdomen that she looks more nearly like the workers. This oblique vision and distance gives us the clue to why the queen is so much more readily seen on a comb in the hive than on one in the hands.

THE PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER.

That Accident.\_\_I am very sorry to read of that accident to Friend A., for such, coming right in the very busiest time of the year, are not only painful to be borne, but place the mind in such a state of unrest that we are often longer in getting well than would require could the mind be at ease. But could this part of the country get such a rain as Bro. A. tells us about, and some accident to your humble servant be the means of bringing it about. I don't know but I would welcome the accident, for we have had no rain for a long time. Everything is drying up, and we are experiencing one of the greatest drouths known here for years, if ever. Unless it rains soon, we can get no potatoes or corn, and many things are already past help. But while this is so, the dry weather has been a help in our yield of basswood honey. The bugs and worms had so thinned the blossoms that few were left, blossoms not being very profuse anyway, and had it not been so the bees could improve every moment, they could hardly have gotten enough for winter. as we were feeding here to keep the bees from starving up to about the time basswood opened.

Preparing for Winter.—Yes, NOW is the time to prepare for winter with the bees, and the honey part is not the ONLY thing to be looked after when we wish successful wintering. Now, just after the flow from white honey, is the time to "weed" out all inferior queens, the proof of their inferiority being more apparent just after the honey flow than at any other time, for the vield from the different hives, the way they cap their combs, etc., tell us conclusively which are the queens we should be rid of to produce the best results from our apiary. Then, I find that just after the flow of white honey, more queens are naturally superseded by the bees than at any other time of the year; hence a change of queens is accomplished now, with less resistance by the bees than at any other time of the year. Again, a change made at this time gives ample time for the new queen to fill the hive with vigorous bees in time for winter: while a later change often results in a lack in numbers of suitable bees of a right age for winter, this often resulting in a greater mortality than is ever caused by "thinness of stores." Then, where hives are to be packed for winter, it should be done before cold weather arrives, or just so soon as the surplus is off, so that the bees can form their winter "nest," as they always do before cold weather, if they have their way in the matter. Any disturbing of the affairs of the hive, after this nest is formed, always has a tendency toward unsatisfactory wintering. I see Bro. A. inclines toward having the stores ALL above the bees. While this undoubtedly is the most natural position, I would say that it is by no means necessary. Very many times, when I have found my colonies, after the honey harvest, with twenty to twenty-five pounds of honey scattered throughout the hives, so that the four center combs had only about four or five pounds of honey in them, while the other five or six combs at the sides of these would have from sixteen to twenty pounds in them, have I placed the four center combs, on which the bees were about to form the winter nest, at one side of the hive, and the other or more full combs at the other side, when the bees will move. as the honey is consumed, toward the "honey side" of the hive, just as they move toward the top, where there is plenty of honey there. I have saved many colonies in this way which would have otherwise been lost when they had eaten to the top and one side of the hive, leaving all that was on the opposite side, because they could not move across during cold weather.

Borodino, N. Y. G. M. DOOLITTLE.



#### How Honey-Producers and Queen-Breeders Working Together May Profit by Them.

IN previous issues of the Review I have given a number of illustrations showing the great changes in plant and animal life brought about by the agency of man. It may be briefly noted that such changes have been made as are most USEFUL to man, or have most pleased his fancy. Thus we see that the blossoms of different varieties of cabbages or potatoes remain quite unchanged, as man has taken no special interest in them; while in plants cultivated for the beauty of their flowers, we find the greatest changes made in these parts.

There is really very little that is new in knowledge regarding the laws of heredity; as in an ancient Chinese encyclopedia, the principles of selection are fully given. Explicit rules are laid down by some of the Roman classical writers; and we find Jacob, nearly 4,000 years ago, breeding for color. In early English history, laws were made prohibiting the exportation of choice animals, and also for the destruction of horses that were undesirable.

The most eminent breeders do not favor the CROSSING of different breeds, but rather that of taking that breed that most nearly approaches their ideal, and then, by the most careful selection, breed out defects and up to their standard. To do this, the greatest skill is required; as the law of reversion comes in which all improved varieties tend to revert back to their former type. Charles Darwin says:

"What English breeders have actually effected is proved by the enormous prices given for animals with a good pedigree; and these have been exported to almost every quarter of the world. The improvement is by no means generally due to crossing different breeds; all the best breeders are strongly opposed to this practice, except sometimes among closely allied sub-breeds. And when a cross has been made, the closest selection is far more indispensable even than in ordinary cases. If selection consisted merely in separating some very distinct variety, and breeding from it, the principle would be so obvious as hardly to be worth notice; but its importance consists in the great effect produced by the accumulation in one direction, during successive generations, of differences absolutely inappreciable by an uneducated eye-differences which I for one have vainly attempted to appreciate. Not one man in a thousand has accuracy of eye and judgment sufficient to become an eminent breeder. If gifted with these qualities, and he studies his subject for years, and devotes his lifetime to it with indomitable perseverance, he will succeed; if he lacks any of these qualities he will assuredly fail. Few would readily believe in the natural

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THE PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER.

capacity and years of practice requisite to become even a skilful pigeonfancier."

It may be objected that the breeder of bees cannot control his male bees, consequently his work is largely one of chance: and there is some ground for this objection, but on the other hand, the queen-breeder can rear several generations in a single season, or rear and thoroughly test two or three generations, while the breeder of domestic animals can rear only one; which will largely compensate for his inability to control the mating of his queens.

Before the advent of movable combs, the breeding of bees, or the improvement of bees, was attended with far greater difficulties than at present; and we are not surprised that they have changed less than other animal life under domestication; but now with the improvements of the last fifty years, and the light these improvements have given us, may we not expect that future improvement will be rapid?

The separation of bees into several well known breeds, and the tendency of these breeds to vary, aided by the skill of some of our queenbreeders, leads me to believe that we may some day have a distinctively American breed adapted to our hot summers and cold winters. and great variety of flowers. Already I believe we have much lighter-colored bees than may be found in Europe. As there has been a demand for light-colored bees, the change in this direction has been more marked than in any other, but we must not forget that the amount of honey gathered by a colony of bees does not depend upon their color, but rather upon other and more valuable points of excellence.

I do not object to color, for bright colored bees give pleasure to our love of the beautiful, and our climate and flora seem well adapted to such a race of bees, but I believe this matter of color has been carried far enough for the present. Let us rather select for queen-breeding those varieties the workers of which show the greatest ability to gather honey—white honey if it is to be had, and if not, can gather that which is darker; and those in which the swarming impulse is but feebly developed.

Strength of constitution, gentleness, comb-building, prolificness and other qualities should not be neglected in making up the scale of points. A stream cannot rise above its fountain. Let our ideal bees be far in advance of our present breeds, and let us do what we can to bring our bees up to our ideal standard. "Bring the flag back to the ranks!" was the command of the captain to his color-bearer, who had planted his flag in advance of his company. "Bring your ranks up to the flag!" was his heroic reply. How shall we reach our ideal? Says a popular author:

"The key is man's power of cumulative selection; nature gives successive variations; man adds them up in certain directions useful to himself. In this sense he may be said to have made for himself useful breeds."

Doubtless honey-producers must depend to a considerable extent upon the queen-breeder for these improvements. His experience, the time at his command, and the skill he has acquired, give him greatly the advantage of those who are working for honey alone. The efforts of the queen-breeder may also be greatly aided by the honey-producer. Both must work together for a common object. The honey-producer from his larger number of colonies has a better chance to test the value of queens than has the queen-breeder;

while the latter can do more to multiply and make valuable qualities permanent.

Sometimes a single colony will be very marked in almost every good quality, in a yard of 100 colonies. Such a colony came under my observation some years ago in one of my Quiet, gentle, business-like yards. in breeding and comb-building, without any disposition to swarm, it worked on year after year for three years, when I moved it home to obtain brood from it to improve my home yard. Here it remained two years more with the same queen, always maintaining the same character. If I could have every queen as good as the one in this colony, the profits of my bees would be largely increased--I believe twice what they now are. But a long series of years and many generations with the most careful selection will be required to make such traits permanent, so they will "come true."

Already the outlook is hopeful. Already there is reason to believe that some of the queen-breeders are working along these lines, and if these papers shall stimulate others in the same work, I shall feel that they have not been written in vain.

-Bee-Keeper's Review.

Middlebury, Vermont.

**Golden Beauties** 

Italian Queens at 50c each 6 for \$2.75, or \$5 per doz Warranted pure

George W. Cook, Spring Hill, Kan

#### WHERE NOAH KEPT HIS BEES.

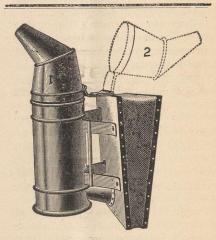
Dr. James K. Hosmer, while recently visiting Boston, had occasion to visit the new Public Library. As he went up the steps he met Edward Everett Hale, who asked the Doctor's errand.

"To consult the archives." was the reply.

"By the way, Hosmer," said Dr. Hale, "Do you know where Noah kept his bees?"

"No," answered Hosmer.

"In the ark hives," said the venerable preacher as he passed out of earshot.—"Summer Piazza Stories" in the August Ladies' Home Journal.



THE "HIGGINSVILLE SMOKER." A Good Smoker for a Little Money. THE HIGGIN3VILLE SMOKER A DANDY. The "Higginsville" Smoker is a Dandy with a big D." J. M. MOORE, Holden, Mo.

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#### THE McDONALD FUND.

Last reported in June "Progressive."\$25 Sent in this month by	70
B. C. Collins, Bethany, Mo 1	00
Grrnd Total \$26	70

Mr. McDonald is the bee-keeper who lost his home and bees in the flood at Shawneetown, Ills., last April. He is a helpless cripple. We shall be pleased to send him a contribution from you, if you feel disposed to help a worthy unfortunate. Remember, "Inasmuch-"

#### A Necklace of Love.

No rubles of red for my lady— No jewel that glitters and charms. But the light of the skies in a little one's eyes And a necklace of two little arms.

Of two little arms that are clinging (Oh, ne'er was a necklace like this!) And the wealth of the world and Love's sweet-ness impearled In the joy of a little one's kiss.

A necklace of love for my lady That was linked by the angels above No other but this—and the tender, sweet kiss That sealeth a little one's love.—

Frank L. Stanton, in Aug. Ladies' Home Journal.



THE bee-keepers west and south of us have produced some honey this year, from half a crop to a good crop, and we are now busy making shipping cases for marketing it.

OUR Mr. Gladish, foreman of our woodworking department, has visited

nearly all the large manufacturers of bee-keepers' supplies during the past month, and no doubt this will assist him greatly in equipping our factory with the best machinery for the manufacture of apiarian supplies.

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BUSINESS to this date is still good, and we are running our factory full This is something unusual time. at this season of the year with us. We have already begun excavating for the new addition to our factory, and in two months more we expect to have a factory of double our present capacity. We will then have two rooms 36x125 feet for wood-working departments. More, too. We will add something like \$2,000 worth of machinery, of the best that can be had, some of which we are having made to order. We believe we are justified in making this large increase in the capacity of our plant, as our goods seem to be in demand. As it may interest some of our readers to know something of the amount of business we done the past year, we will give some figures as far as we have them: We have sold 22,000 bee hives, counting a story and a half to the hive; 500,000 frames, of all descriptions; 3,000 smokers, and a little over 3,000,000 sections. The only way it has been possible to do so much business was by running our plant night and day a great part of the time. But with our new addition to our factory, and new ma-chinery, we expect to be able to turn out this amount of work, or more, and do it much better, by working only ten hours a day. ----

A Peculiar Season.—This has been one of the most peculiar seasons of any of the twenty-nine in which I have been keeping bees. The month of March, during which bees generally do not have more than two or three days in which to fly, was warmer than the month of April, and brood rearing was well under way by the 20th of the former month. April was wet and cold, and the bees began to retrench in brood rearing during the whole month. so that by the middle of May the colonies were not nearly as strong in bees as they were the middle of March. All through the period of fruit bloom, it was wet and cloudy, so that the bees could do nothing on this bloom, so that instead of hives crowded with brood on the first of June, as we generally have them, and as they should be if we are

to have the laborers to take advantage of the basswood honey which comes about the 10th of July, our hives contained scarcely as many bees as in March, with very little brood and little or no honey. The weather now came warm and dry, but as there was few or no flowers in bloom, the bees could secure nothing except a little pollen from the fields. I now had to feed to keep the bees from starving, but for some reason, they declined to rear brood to any great extent, even under the stimulus of feeding. Feeding was kept up till about the first of July, at which time there was a slight yield of honey from clover, just enough to cause brood rearing to commence rapidly, and today (July 12) the combs are literally filled with brood, with only about laborers enough to find honey to feed the same. I have had only two swarms this season and from all appearances, shall have no more. Basswood is just opening, but there seems to be no honey in it. What the outcome will be, I cannot tell, but unless we should have a yield of honey from buckwheat, there can scarcely be enough honey gotten for winter. At the out-apiary the bees have done somewhat better, so that a few colonies are at work very slowly in sections. It is to be hoped that the most of the readers of the PROGRESS-IVE have not fared as badly as we have here in central New York.

**Drawn Comb.**—Through the kindness of the A. I. Root Company, I have received samples of the drawn comb with natural base or septum. It looks very pretty, with the septum thinner than any sample of foundation which I have in my possession. The walls to the cells are not as high as were those of last year, of the flat-bottomed pattern, but still, are very much higher than any of the high-walled foundation. The average is about one-eighth high, though some of the samples are as high as three-sixteenths. If there is an opportunity, I shall be pleased to try it side of foundation, and report progress in these columns. Unless it can be manufactured in larger quantities and larger sheets than at present, it will cut no great figure in our comb honey production, even should it prove superior to the ordinary foundation.

Stealing Thunder.-By page 212 July PROGRESSIVE I see that of "Sommy" thinks that Aikin and Doo little have stolen all his thunder, and calls down the other editor for calling on him for the "packing material" for the rest of the columns. Well, as far as I'm concerned, I 'beg pardon. But allow just a word of suggestion: If "Sommy" will rub his eyes open long enough to arouse from his nap(town) and roam out of that "land of dreams" in which he has been staying' lo, these many years. and get out into the land of budding flowers, and humming bees: out into the clear, beautiful sunshine of mid-day, he will see all about himself, hundreds upon hundreds, and thousands upon thousands of things pertaining to practical bee-keeping that neither Aikin nor Doolittle have even touched upon as yet. There was scarce a sentence in those Aikin articles but what caused the tips of my fingers to tingle with anxiety, for a whole article could be profitably written on almost any of them should they be taken as a text. But I could only touch a few of them. and keep in sight of Aikin at all. Then, Sommy, I bid thee arise from thy downy couch way off in drowsy Dreamland, shake thyself till fully awake, and then if you wish to have a little fun for yourself, and great excitement in the PROGRESSIVE, pitch into Aikin, (don't go for me,) and when he goes for you, and you throw back great practical chunks of bee lore at him, you will have no more appetite for your old NAPtown home, from the real enjoyment you will get out of the smiles which will wreathe the faces of

#### THE PROGRESSIVE BEE-KEEPER.

our readers as they appropriate those chunks of practical knowledge to themselves. When we are giving practical knowledge to others, that will enable them to carve for themselves a fortune out of the world, we some way forget all about the self-comfort we experienced in our drowsiness, and wish the days were only long enough for us to work at such things all the time.

Finding Queens. \_\_ I see by the American Bee-Keeper that Editor Hill prefers trying to find a queen in a populous colony than in one less populous. Well, I don't agree, but perhaps Bro. Hill has some way of finding queens the rest of us mortals don't know about. If so, he can find a real joy in telling the world just how it is done. While we are waiting. I will say that from an experience of nearly thirty years, I am led to believe that the queen is near the center of the brood nest at midnight, and works toward one side of said nest from then till about noon, when she returns on her trip of egg laying, arriving at the center again at midnight, from where she passes in an opposite direction toward the outside. where she arrives about noon. Having this thing in mind, when I am trying to find a queen in a populous colony which has not had its brood nest disturbed for some time, I go to it somewhere from 11 a. m. to 1 p. m., using as little smoke as possible and not jarring the hive in opening so as to stampede the bees and queen, when, by carefully noting about where the outside comb of brood is, I lift it from the hive, If she is not on this comb, and it proves to be the outside comb of brood. I next lift the outside comb of brood on the opposite side of the hive, and in as many as four cases out of five, I will find her on one of these two combs: while if I do the same thing early in the morning or late at night, I do not find her on either of these combs one time in five, but must look nearer the

center for her. If you wish to see a queen quickly on any comb, don't hold it close to you and look right square on it, but hold it off at arm's length and so that the vision will strike it obliquely. Why? Because if you hold it close up, the vision will only take in a little part of the comb, and you will be looking directly on the back of the queen, in which position the wings will cover the larger part of her abdomen, when she more nearly resembles a worker bee than in any other. By holding the comb off at arm's length, the vision takes in nearly the whole surface of the comb at one glance, and by holding it obliquely, the long, tapering abdomen of the queen is easily distinguished from the shorter abdomens of the workers, for it is the abdomen of a queen which more readily tells of her presence than anything else. Even in this worst of all seasons, I have found queens at the rate of ten an hour in the most populous colonies at the out apiary, taking off and putting back the surplus apartment at that, while I often treble this speed with my queenrearing colonies

Pot Calling Kettle Black.-In the June number of Busy Bee, page 133, Bro. Abbott takes our other editor to task for some things he had to say about the fence "separators", in which I find this sentence: "Bro. L. should learn to give his opinion about things without casting any reflections on those who make or sell them." Had Bro. Abbott stopped there, he would have done as well as anybody could at something which he undoubtedly felt duty called him to do; but he was not content, it seems, so falls into the same error he accuses Bro. L. of, for after telling how L. has enjoyed the hospitality of supply dealers, etc., Bro. A. pens this sentence: "He (L.) makes it a rule to visit many of them periodically, and has a wonderful faculty at imitation." Wonder if Bro. A. ever

heard anything about the pot calling the kettle black?" But we are none of us perfect, and this editor will stop lest he fall under like condemnation.

Borodino, N. Y. G. M. DOOLITTLE.

In reply to the above editorial, I wish to say that I did not intend taking any notice of what Mr. Abbott had to say about "Brother Leahy." But as Friend Doolittle has felt disposed to notice it, a few remarks from me, giving the reasons for my silence, and throwing a little light on that "hospitality" to which Mr. Abbottsrefers, may not be amiss. The following is the editorial referred to by Mr. Doolittle:

"Bro. Leahy, of the PROGRESSIVE, has an editorial about fence separators in which he casts some reflections on Bro. Root for advocating the "fences," and suggests that he is deliberately attempting to humbug the beekeepers. This reflection is just as untrue as it is unjust and uncalled for. Bro. L. should learn to give his opinion about things without casting any reflections on those who may make or sell them. Neither does it seem to be just the thing to visit a man and enjoy his hospitality, and then go away and use what one may have seen or heard to make him appear in an unfavorable light. Bro. L. has about as much occasion as any man I know of to treat the other people who make supplies in a courteous way. He makes it a rule to visit many of them periodically, and has a wonderful faculty of imitation. This may be a case of 'sour grapes'."

While not wishing to criticise, I cannot help but say that a man who would write an editorial like that about one, eepecially the last part of it, has no moral right to call that one his brother. It has been said, "After all, is he not my brother?" but at this sentence, does not the brotherly feeling inspire the soul and cause the warm blood of kindred friendship and love to flow? while in the above editorial it will be noticed that the more Mr. Abbott writes, the more tenacious he becomes, and winds up with a viciousness that might be taken as hatred. Hence the term, "brother," or "friend," is ironical.

Then Mr. Abbott says, "Neither does

it seem to be just the thing to visit a man and enjoy his hospitality, and then go away and use what one may have seen or heard to make him appear in an unfavorable light." To this I will say, I do not remember to have enjoyed any of Mr. Root's hospitality. It so happened that I was in Cleveland, O., last year, a short distance from Medina, and as I, like many others, had a curiosity to see the Root plant, and visit the place where we had spent thousands of dollars, I went, uninvited, to Medina. I had written some days before that I expected to arrive on a certain morning, thinking that someone might come to the depot, and extend to me "Buckeye" or Medina hospitality. But when the train pulled in, no one met me but the baggage-smashers and the hotel runners. I waited patiently until the train pulled out and the hotel hustlers had disappeared, and yet no one came bringing that hospitality, though the factory was only about seventy-five feet from the depot. Finally I noticed a hotel sign on a building across the street in another direction, and supposing from the look of the building (which had a fair outside appearance) and from what I had read in Mr. Root's writings about all the whiskey shops being driven away by the songs and prayer of the Root folks, I concluded to try this haven of rest, and accordingly journeyed thither. Imagine my surprise on stepping into the hotel, when I landed in a tobacco-smoked, whiskey-perfumed, battered-cast office. Why, there were actually two or three drunken men sleeping in chairs. But my arms were tired, and I was glad to set my baggage down somewhere, and as someone came and took it from me while I was staring awe-stricken at the scene before me, I felt as though I had been caught and could not gracefully make any excuse to go to some other hotel. I stammered out that I would be back to dinner, and went over to the Root Company's

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factory. (I have received a letter from the Root people saying that this den is coming to grief. So mote it be.) As none of the Roots met me at the train, as none of them invited me to their homes, and as I had no invitation from them to call in the first place, and as they left me to the mercies of the baggage-smashers and hotel hustlers, and permitted me after my weary waiting to wander away unknowingly to the slums of Medina, and to land among the drunkards, thugs and bruisers, 1 do not see wherein they extended their hospitality. I remember having asked to be introduced to Huber, but even this request was not granted. Perhaps it was forgotten. True, Mr. Calvert took me out in the buggy in the afternoon, and our course was down to the graveyard. I do not know why he took me to the graveyard-surely not to show me what a live town they had; but perhaps to have a quiet business talk, as nothing but business was discussed while out.

Mr. Abbott also accuses me of visiting other manufacturers periodically, and says that I have a "wonderful faculty of imitation." I wish I had a wonderful faculty of imitation, and do not think I should be censured for what little of this faculty I have, and we are all (none excepted) imitators to a greater or lesser extent, and my hope in this life is to excel where I can: where I cannot, then to imitate, as nearly as possible, the best. As to visiting the other manufacturers periodically, I have visited about all of the large ones once. This is done for the benefit of myself and our customers, and members of many of the large factories have visited us. They seem to be as eager as myself to find out what is being done, and to adopt the best methods and improvements. This is true progress, and Mr. Abbott himself makes these periodical tours. He has visited the Roots, the Lewis Co., and others, and he has visited us. I do not understand Mr. Abbott's insinuation about "sour grapes," but I do hope that when he made a call on us several years ago, he did not see any "sour grapes."

I do not predict that what appears in the columns of Mr. Abbott's paper will have much effect on the public mind. A paper that is so everlastingly given away does not command a second thought from those to whom it is given, as they look upon it as a catch-penny advertising scheme. This paper has been offered by the Roots free, if you would send them one big round dollar for Gleanings; by Lewis, if you would send them \$10 for supplies; by Abbott, if you would send him \$5 for supplies. Mr. Abbott handles the Lewis and Root goods. Hence, all three are very much interested in having the sheet widely circulated. All the bee journals are house organs more or less, but this is the first one I know to be the organ of two or three houses, an organ to be given away on just such terms.

I would rather have taken no notice of Mr. Abbott's slurs and insinuations, but I considered Mr. Doolittle's editorial would call for some explanation from me, and I hope I will not again be called on to use the columns of the PROGRESSIVE for just this kind of matter. R. B. L.

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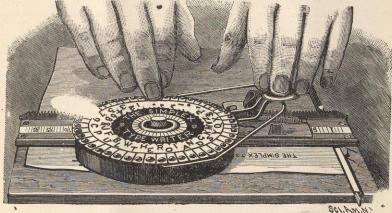
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W. Z. Hutchinson, Flint, Mich.