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The Southland queen. Vol. III, No. 12 April 1898

Beeville, Texas: The Jennie Atchley Company, April 1898

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BEEVILLE,
APRIL,
1898. _____

— THE —

SOUTHLAND QUEEN

— PUBLISHED BY —

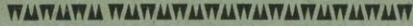
THE JENNIE ATCHLEY COMPANY.

PRICES OF

Bingham Perfect BEE Smokers and

Patented 1878, 1882 and 1892

Hoey Knives



Smoke engin { largest smok- } Per Doz. each			
4-inch stove { er made } \$13 00-Mail, \$1 50			
Doctor, 3½ inch stove	9 00	"	1 10
Conqueror, 3 "	6 50	"	1 00
Large, 2½ "	5 00	"	90
Plain, 2 "	4 75	"	70
Little Wonder, 2 "	4 50	"	60
Honey Knife,	6 00	"	80

Direct-Draft Perfect
BINGHAM
Bee Smoker



PATENTED
1878, 1882 and 1892.

All Bingham smokers are stamped on the metal



Patented { 1878 Knives, B&H
* 1892 * }

The four larger sizes have extra wide shields and double coiled steel wire handles. These SHIELDS and HANDLES are an AMAZING COMFORT—always cool and clean. No more sooty or burnt fingers. 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 in every way ABSOLUTELY PERFECT.

Fiteen Years for a Dollar! One-half a Cent for a Month!!

DEAR SIR: I have used the Conqueror 15 years. I was always pleased with its workings, but thinking I would need a new one this summer, I write for a circular. I do not think the 4-inch Smoke engine too large. Yours, est. W. H. EAGERTY, Cuba, Kansas. January 27, 1897.

T. F. BINGHAM, Farwell Mich.

THE AUSTRALIAN

Bee Bulletin.

The official organ of the New South Wales and Victorian Bee-Keepers. It circulates through all the Australian colonies, New Zealand and Cape of Good Hope.

Subscription—5s per annum in advance, if booked, 6s 6d.

Edited, printed and published by E. TIPPER, West Maitland, New South Wales.

Ho! Bee Keepers.

This is to inform you that Judge E. Y. Terral is a candidate for representative for the district in which he lives, Cameron. Friends, we want Judge Terral to represent the bee keepers of Texas, and don't you forget it. Everybody pull for Judge Terral.

THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

Published Monthly. Devoted to the Exchange of Thoughts on Apiculture. \$1.00 Yearly

Vol. 3.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, APRIL, 1898.

No. 12.

How One Man Manages 500 Colonies.

My home apiary of two hundred colonies will be allowed to swarm natural in the self-hiver. When a swarm issues there will be a card tacked on the front of the hive with the date when it swarmed. If they are fine bees to breed from, the cells will be saved for out apiaries; if they are not, the hive will be left just as it hived the bees, for six or seven days. Then the zinc slide is removed and the solid slide will be inserted. Then I take off the tops of both chambers, shake all the bees off the combs from the brood chamber with the swarm in the empty chamber; I run in a virgin queen or stick on a queen cell ready to hatch, then open the entrance of the brood chamber, which has been closed all the spring. The first queen hatched will destroy all the cells as there are no bees to lead out a second swarm. Now, if I don't wish to increase, I remove the old queen. In twenty-four hours I pull out the solid slide and unite the two colonies. My out apiaries are managed the

same way, only the queen is set over on a frame of brood in an empty chamber and given an empty comb to be laying in, until all the brood is sealed in the brood chamber, which will be six days. When it is sealed there is none that will perish, and she can be removed and sold.

It is too much of a job to hunt queen cells in five hundred colonies, so I leave the queen to do that. I don't risk hunting queen cells in my out apiaries, I would be sure to miss some.

A. DUNCAN & SON.

Homerville. Ga.

A Dewdrop.

The two tested Italian queens that I ordered from you last spring are doing splendidly. They both raise fine bees, but the bees from one are of a much brighter yellow than from the other.

I did not lose any of my bees during the winter, for which I consider myself very lucky. I would like to examine a copy of the Southland Queen.

R. C. KNOWBS,

Carlton, Tex.

Plain Sections.

Much is being said just at present about plain sections and slat separators. Now, before we rush madly into a change, let us test them on a small scale and then, if they are a success, use more. I, for one, believe they are an improvement. Their construction is such as to warrant this belief, viz: to reduce in width the regular $4\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{7}{8}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches; with no insets in them to use, as before; six rows, four in a row, or twenty-four sections in a regular super; to make up this space seven slat separators are placed between and on each side to take up the room and no follower, and also to use section holders, the bottom slats of which are plain, same as the sections. Now the construction of the sections and section holders are very plain, being only $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide all the way. The construction of the separators are such that the sections will hold one pound of honey, as heretofore. Each separator is made of four thin slats, $\frac{7}{8}$ x 1-12 and $\frac{1}{4}$ inches apart in each separator. On each separator is glued thin strips crosswise, or parallel with section edges, 1-6 of an inch thick, which takes up the space taken off the sections.

The advantages claimed for this

arrangement is, that the openings or divisions in the separator permit the free passage of bees from section to section, the same as if they were not cut up in twenty-four divisions, and consequently work to better advantage; that owing to this fact, more honey can be produced and that when produced the sections are not only better filled, but look better and more even and sell for more money. I candidly believe they are an improvement and that it would pay everybody to change, as the sections can be used in the old holders by simply buying new separators. Sections have to be bought anyway. But, if we are going to change, shall we still use the $4\frac{1}{4}$ size? This is a question that many are discussing. I, for one, favor the oblong section; that is, sections taller than wide. Of these, two styles present themselves, viz: sections $3\frac{5}{8} \times 5 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$, also $4\frac{1}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{4}$, these last, however, are our own invention, both are to be used with slat separators, sections to be plain. The $3\frac{5}{8} \times 5 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ sections are what I prefer by leaving off the end bars of our section holders, this permits of putting five of these sections in each holder, six rows, making thirty sections in each super. Of course the supers will have to be $5\frac{3}{4}$ in-

ches deep. These, as a matter of course, hold one pound. By using these sections, it is claimed that being taller than wide, the bees will build in them quicker and that when done, being symmetrical in form, they look to have more honey in them and sell for more money. These sections will ship better than square sections for they have more surface for the bees to build to, this makes them much safer to ship; in fact, they are the best for this purpose of any that have come under my notice. The other style referred to, is of my own figuring; they are designed to hold a plump one pound, to put seven rows in a super and four in a row, with end bars to section holder. The advantages claimed for this style are, that while maintaining the oblong style they are $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in width, which is nearer the width of natural comb than the plain section, which is $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide; and that owing to this fact, the bees will build them out quicker than if they were wider. But, however, to offset this, there is more comb exposed, making them harder to ship than if not so much comb was exposed.

These last are preferred by my father. But my friends, before we make any of these changes, let us

first test each kind before we go to the expense of changing, and see if they really are an improvement; test them on a small scale and if a success it will then be time to change. While we believe the no-beeway or plain section is a success, we, ourselves, expect to try the different styles this year, on a small scale, and see which is best.

As to the $4 \times 5 \times 1\frac{3}{8}$ sections, I do not like them, as I believe the bees would not build straight combs in them, because they are designed to run crosswise of the hive. About thirty sections would fill the regular super, but as I said, I do not believe bees would build straight combs crosswise of the hive and brood combs, I think it is best to let them alone.

Now for the short top bar brood frames. I must tell you a different thing about them. To say that I do not like them, is not the half of what I have to say against them. These frames are not constructed to give satisfaction, in the first place. In fact I sometimes think they were constructed to make a man use cuss words,* when he ordered Hoffman frames and got these frames with short top bars; in fact, as all of you know, the top bars are cut off 1-4 inches to leave a bee space around the ends;

now this bee space is alright, if it was not for the trouble it causes, for to keep these frames on the rabbits it is necessary to drive staples in the end bars, which takes time, and then your trouble begins; it is impossible to drive these in an equal distance, and when they are driven in, they are all the time getting driven up farther, and consequently the sharp edges of the end bars are never in contact, which renders them worse than loose frames and the beauty of the self-spacing is lost entirely.

O. P. HYDE & SON,

Hutto, Texas.

*[Mr. Hyde did not mean that he used cuss words, but meant that they were so abominable a man might do so if he was not careful of his words.—Ed.]

Gathwright vs. Golden.

In reply to Mr. Golden's criticism in February Queen, I will say that he got a wrong impression from my article in January Queen. After reading that article again, I see that I did not make it plain enough, and it is very easy for one to get the same impression that friend Golden did.

Now friend G., I did not say the majority of the colonies manipulated by your plan reswarmed. But what I intended to say was that the majority would not work

in the supers while the queen was caged. I believe less than one-third reswarmed after liberating the queen, after being caged six days. I am very sorry Mr. Golden got the impression that I regarded his plan as a failure, for I do not; but on the contrary, I think it is the best method that has been given to beekeepers for keeping down increase and getting the white honey in supers. What I intended to show was that I had improved on his plan, so as to get the bees to continue work right along every time, and not sullen as some would do for me.

Now I do not doubt Mr. Golden's statement that his plan is a perfect success with him. There is, undoubtedly, a vast difference between the climate here and that of Ohio. The honey flow here is light, but continues all the season, which make the most favorable conditions for swarming. Should Mr. Golden's bees get the real swarming fever like an epidemic and every colony seem determined to swarm or die in the attempt, like mine did the past season, I believe that he would find my improvement very desirable. I see that Mr. Golden has requeened his apiary with a cross of the Italian and Carniolan; this cross ought to give him all the swarming he de-

sires. My experience with Carniolans is that they never know when to stop swarming. I do not believe they are the right bees for a hot climate.

I hope friend Golden will give us an article soon on the points he says he wants to discuss, and this point will be especially interesting to me, i. e., that returning the swarm at once is objectionable to the bees, but hiving them in supers, separate and away from the old brood nest, and returning them three or four days later, as I gave in January Queen, I believe is the correct principle. In practice I found it very satisfactory, in fact I could not find one objectionable feature. Now let me be understood, the point of vantage I claim for my way of hiving back, over Mr. Golden, is this: With his plan my bees would not work well in supers while the queen was caged. This would amount to about five days or more, which time was lost. With my plan they worked with all the energy of a newly hived swarm, and kept it up after the swarm was returned.

Mr. Golden says he intends to try one swarm worked on my plan. Now, friend G., if your plan is perfectly satisfactory to you, if your bees continue work right along and never make any attempt

to reswarm, then you have nothing to gain by trying my plan. Otherwise, I feel sure you will like it.

W. C. GATHWRIGHT.

Well Pleased.

My bee supplies arrived in good condition, I have not overhauled the whole of them but am sure I will find all perfectly satisfactory.

The extractor, comb bucket, honey knife, smoker, bee veil and nails, I find are just as ordered, and to say I am pleased, is a very poor way of expressing my appreciation. You cannot realize what a help it is to me to have so many hives all ready nailed. My oldest children are in school and I have no other help. I suppose you have received the beeswax shipped from Llano by Dobbs & Co., to be placed to my credit.

I am truly glad to hear of Mrs. Atchley's recovery, and hope she will soon be able to resume her duties in the school.

I failed to get my January Queen from some cause or other, but the February number arrived all right.

My bees came through the winter in fine condition and are strong with workers. The queens are rapidly filling the combs and have quite a lot of sealed brood.

MRS. L. M. PHILLIPS,
Llano, Texas.

A. M. Barfield.

The Jennie Atchley Co.:

I send you today a photograph of my home and family, together with some neighbors and friends. None of my bees show in the photo as I keep them in the rear of the house. The house fronts the south and my bee yard is north from the house. I will give you a brief sketch of my life, from the time of my birth to the present:

I was born in Winston county, Mississippi, near Lewisville, on the 10th of September, 1846. In 1850 my parents moved to Smith county, Texas, and located near Tyler, where the town of Bullord is now situated. I visited there three years ago, for the first time in twenty years. I have a good religious mother and one brother buried there. I was reared without the care of a mother and knew but little how to appreciate her. Often when I think of the past, I cannot keep back the tears. We are allotted three score years and ten upon this earth and I have been fortunate enough to live out two score and ten of my allotted time. The good Lord has blessed me with a good religious wife and seven children, four boys and three girls, but He saw fit to take two of them in their infancy, leaving

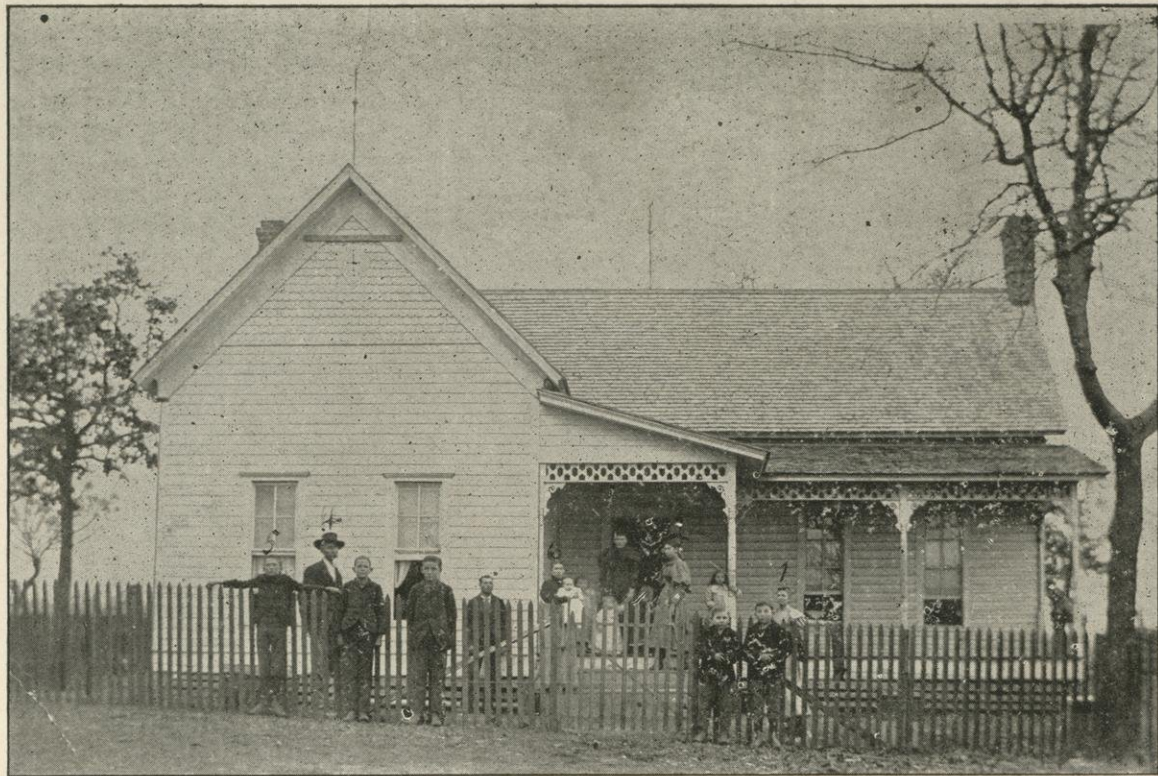
three boys and two daughters. Our eldest daughter is married and has two children, one son and one daughter, which you see in the photo.

My mother died in 1856 and four years after her death came the bloody war of 1861. In the fall of 1864 I enlisted in the army and remained until it closed. After the close of the war, myself and two brothers moved to this county and located here for the purpose of farming and raising stock. I own the same land today that we purchased in 1867. Though I have passed through many hardships, there has been much sunshine along life's way. I have been a member of the Methodist church for twenty-five years, though not as consistent as I might have been. Often I would see clouds, but not so dark but what I could see some sunshine. I often think of the past temptations and thank my God that they will be to pass no more.

Possibly, after awhile I will send you another photo, showing the bees. As my house sits on a mound the bees would show up to a good advantage in front of it.

I will close, hoping this will reach you all right.

A. M. BARFIELD & SON,
Stone Point, Texas.



A. M. BARFIELD AND FAMILY.

From Floresville.

I have been thinking for quite a while that I would make you a report of last season's work, but as we keep bees like we do everything else, in a slipshod way, and not being able to make you a correct report and average as good as others, have decided to remain "mum". However, we find them like chickens, ducks and turkeys, they help considerably to patch the holes in a short crop, and would advise every farmer to try a few stands.

We have now 250 stands, and during my forty years bee keeping I have never before this year saw them in a swarming condition the last of February, full of brood with bees and drones hatching without any stimulation. The little north-er which has just passed off appeared to confine or hold them off for a few days, but at this writing there is a great hum around me, and the present prospects are a 1. You tell me throw those old plows and hoes away, (we believe good advice,) and go to raising honey right. Now it is very easy to tell a man what to do, but it is another matter to tell him how to do. Let us suppose that a man has a fine bottom field, a fine disc sulky, a brand new disc cultivator, and oth-

er things to match, how is he to quit? that's the question.

Well Jim and Davidson tells me (and I also note announcement in the Queen) that we are to have a convention on the 17th and 18th of August next. 'Rah! for that vote; for we understand, or think, that it was done for our especial benefit, and are about to announce from the housetop that no one shall go away hungry.

M. M. FAUST.

A New Beginner.

I am a new beginner at the bee business, as last year was my first. I bought twenty swarms in the fall of '96, and they gathered only enough honey to carry them through the winter. I lost one colony, leaving me nineteen to start with last spring. I extracted 2,440 pounds of nice finely flavored honey, and I think I left as much as thirty pounds surplus to each colony, as the honey flow ceased before it was ready to take, and I was afraid I would start robbing in my apiary and I think that is something to be dreaded. I have one colony that seem to have some kind of a disease; as a good many of them crawl out of the hive and die. They look full and healthy, but don't seem to have much use

of themselves. They try to stand on their feet and flutter their wings as if trying to fly, but soon topple over, and after getting up shake as if with ague, and after repeated efforts fall on their backs and die. For some time they all have their tongues run out as far as they can get them.

Can you tell me what is the matter with them and give me a remedy?

We received the extractors N. C. Wood ordered for us last fall, all right, except the handle to my honey gage being broken, which I repaired myself. Haven't tried it yet but am well pleased with the looks of it. I get my Queen regularly. She is a daisy, but I have one objection, she comes only once a month instead of once a week. I am nearly "froze" to come to one of your bee meeting. I would like to meet bee keepers and hear them talk. I want to learn all I can. This is my first attempt at writing for publication and if the waste basket don't get this, we will at least send in our report for this year. Best wishes for the Queen.

W. R. WOOD,

Dilley, Texas.

Friend Wood:—We should judge from your description, that your bees have a slight attack of paralysis, which will be cured by warm

weather, new honey and a new crop of bees.—Ed.

Improved Bee Keeping.

The Jennie Atchley Co.:

Send me the following articles: 100 sections, $4\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{4}$; 1 pound of medium brood foundation, $\frac{1}{2}$ pound surplus; 1 Little Wonder smoker and the Southland Queen for three months. Send the Queen to W. M. Downs, Boxwood, Texas. Send the supplies to Gilmer, Texas, by express. I bought one untested queen of you last September 4, 1897, she proved to be a straight three band breeder. I introduced her to the worst colony of black bees, I had out of fifteen colonies, she was accepted by losing one wing, now she has her hive full of beautiful three banded bees, I can handle them without any smoker at all. I have seventeen colonies of black bees in the old box hives, and all of them seem to be strong. If this little bill is accepted and improved bee keeping is what I think it is, I will want some more queens and supplies soon. I get honey to sell out of my box hives. I have been a bee keeper for fifteen years. The little book you sent me give me the bee fever in improved hives. My wife says I am all ways ready to bite at anything

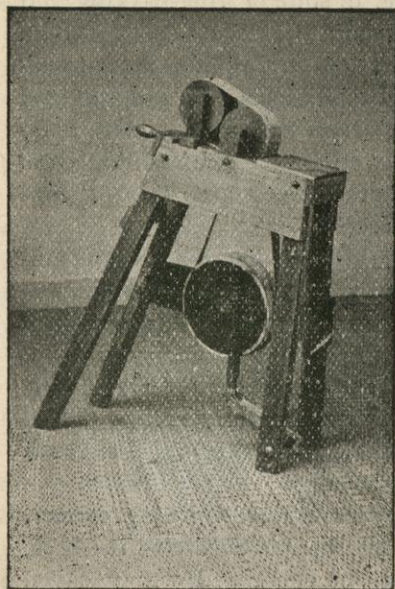
new, so I guess she is right and I will make a little bite at improved bee keeping.

W. M. DOWNS,

Boxwood, Texas.

Clean Your Sections.

I send you a photograph of my belt section cleaner, and, while the wheel devise is a grand improvement in cleaning the section, the belt arrangement is far ahead of the wheel or any solid surface against which a section containing the delicate comb comes in contact



when in motion. However, with

care, good work can be accomplished with the wheel. But, with a revolving belt, as shown in this cut, it is certainly all that could be desired; having the two wheels revolve as close together as possible, which gives a flat surface of belt between rollers, and when a section is knocked against the sand belt there is no jar whatever, as the belt gives, consequently it is impossible to crack the tender and delicate comb; and besides, twice the amount of work can be accomplished in the same length of time, and the work will be perfection itself. We have demonstrated this fact and know whereof we thus write. Doubtless there will be many devices brought out for the cleaning of sections. But, I have my doubts whether this belt arrangement will ever have a peer that is worthy of protection. The day has come when section honey must be put on the market, quoting from a letter of Batterson & Co., Buffalo, N. Y., says: it is a fact, that honey sections must be clean and bright, or we cannot begin to obtain the market value for the honey; even if it is choice. This, coming from one of our extensive honey dealing firms, should be a warning to bee keepers who contemplate shipping honey to the city markets. As arrangements

will be made so the belt section cleaner can be had quite cheap, there ought not to be any excuse for dirty and unsightly section honey in the future.

J. A. GOLDEN,

Reinersville, Ohio.

Sheaves and Bee Chat

Well, well, "Heads of Grain," very appropriately stands on its head.—Gleanings, 53.

The "Golden" section honey cleaner, and something else as pretty as a picture,—A. B. J., 33.

Friend L. A. Aspinwall gives a very business like "Machine for cleaning sections."—B. K. R., 320, 1897.

"It has occurred to me that I can make bee culture work well with flower and fruit culture, so I have made a small beginning with bees, and am reading and studying all I can about them, and shall increase the number of colonies as fast as my knowledge and experience will justify."—E. R. H., in The Busy Bee, 5. The last sixteen words contain more solid bee sense than we have ever read before in so few words.

A gentleman here, who has never saw the inside of a modern bee hive, wants to begin with 150 colonies, because "bees are the only kind of stock in Jamaica that

the Texas tick wont bother." Is that the reason so many bees are kept in Texas?

"How not to succeed at bee keeping."—Busy Bee, 5; is well worth reading. "You can kill, mutilate and annihilate bees, if you desire, to your heart's content, and you are responsible to no one save God for your cruelty." Very good indeed; send for the Busy Bee and read the whole article, or, for that matter, the whole January number, it's all solid meat from beginning to end.

"I took over 300 pounds to the hive, in spite of ring-barking. It was more than could be got from wool."—Mr. Cadden, in Australian Bee Bulletin. I wonder how much honey per colony Mr. Cadden would have got had the Gum and other trees not been "ring-barked?"

"Ants are something of a nuisance in this hot climate and there are not a few instances where they have driven bees from their hives."—John H. Martin in Gleanings, 51. Same here in Jamaica friend Rambler and I shall try the chalk cure at once.

He was a live, bustling farmer. He said he had neglected the bees, "but" he exclaimed "they saved the taxes! I have taken out and sold honey enough to pay the tax-

es, and shall get considerable more before frost comes.—George Appleton in Wisconsin Agriculturist.

That is a splendid showing of Dr. C. C. M.'s,—Gleanings 43.

What would apiculture be without such men as Dr. Miller, Doolittle, Gallup, Dadant, Cowan and a few others, who give us their best ideas in the bee journals? I can only give Dr. Miller's pet answer: "I don't know."

A pleasing feature of the Bee Keepers' Record, London, is two pictures in each issue of "Homes of the Honey Bee. The apiaries of our readers."

"Australian Yankee," in the Australian Bee Bulletin, gives a description of a good moth trap. Not a patent hive, but a real up-to-date moth trap.

We pay a duty of 12½ per cent on all bee supplies, but we expect the coming legislative council will put them on the free list. Will let you know later. JAMAICA,

Report From Willis Point.

As I am a reader of your paper and a small producer of honey, I thought I would make my annual report. I have to confess I have not done so well as some of our friends that write for the Queen. I started last spring with twenty

hives, twelve of which were the short L or Graham hive and eight were in the old fashioned box hives, so I had to transfer those, which I did very nicely and all done well. During the season my bees swarmed thirty times and about the first of August I had fifty hives, some of them came off too late to make honey sufficient to live on, as we had a very dry season and no blooms of any kind in the late summer.

Along in the latter part of September, before I had any knowledge of it, one of my late swarms starved out. I then went through and found all the rest in fair condition. About this time I had to give my attention to my cotton yard, as I am public weigher at this place, however I weighed and passed around among my bees regularly every day. I came home one day and Mrs. Dean says: "you have a swarm of bees out there on a peach tree," so I went out and found a little clump of bees about the size of a pint cup. I found a little long slim black glossy looking queen, and of course I pinched her head off, supposing the bees would go back home, but they would not; so, after four or five days I killed them, and the same thing was repeated, until I lost two hives by after swarming. Well,

everything appeared to run smoothly then for awhile. I would raise the hive and feel the weight, but did not have time to uncap, so after a while I discovered the bees in one hive running up and down on the outside of the hive and trying to crawl in under the top, so I decided there was something wrong and raised the head, when, to my surprise, I found a two-story hive full of worms, as fine, large ones as I ever saw. I looked through and found plenty of honey so I took the frames and carried them into the garden and placed them on the fence, and it did not take the bees long to carry all the honey back to their homes. This occurred the last of October. Of course I looked through the balance of the hives for worms but found none. I had six or eight late swarms that I began to feed about the first of December; I only fed a little on warm days. I fed on top of the lower frames in the super, in a dish with a piece of thin muslin spread over it to keep the bees from getting in the honey. We had rather a long spell of cold, rainy and sleety weather in December and the first I knew I had let one of the weakest of my hives starve again; so that reduced me to forty-five hives, I sold one for \$6.00 and that left me forty-four.

I then traded for two more and have fed about forty pounds of sugar and about fifty pounds of extracted honey, and they are now in splendid condition and are bringing in pollen, and have every appearance of thrift. During the season I sold about one thousand pounds of honey, mostly comb. The demand for honey was greater than I could supply and I bought some, so as to be able to hold my trade. I bought a nice lot of bass wood honey, also made a small order from our friend and brother, W. C. Gathwright, of Dona Ana, New Mexico; of whom I also got a few queens, all of which did well, except one, which Mr. G. replaced. I have found that I can make four times as much extracted honey as I can comb, and think I will do better this season. I am going to move a part of my bees some fifteen miles to a large grove of Basswood or Lynn timber. I have made an order to Bro. Graham for supplies and will be prepared to furnish those that want supplies at reasonable prices. Long live the Queen.

W. B. DEAN.

We stated some time ago in the Queen that Bro. Aten got 14,000 pounds of honey last season. It should have read 41,000 pounds. We are pleased to make the correction brother Aten.

Kind Words.

This is the first time I have ever written to you but not the first time I have used your fine bees. Some years ago I bought a fine queen from you and I have her progeny yet. Now I want you to send me two good queens from your best honey gatherers. Send one to Mr. Henry vootch, Morganfield, Union county, Ky. Several parties in this county are using bees from other places, but I prefer yours to any I have ever saw. I am not certain about your address as I have not saw your ad. for sometime. I used to enjoy very much your articles in the American Bee Journal.

ISAAC C. MORTON,
Morganfield, Ky.

A Bad Accident.

Willie you did well, if you had not said anything we would have thought it was a great big printer that got out the January Queen. I wish I could have attended your convention and helped you with the next paper, I think I could put a few bones in the stick, like the the Irishman: He was eating corn and passed his cob back to the cook with instructions to "put some more bones on me stick."

I happened to a bad accident on

February 17, I chopped my big toe entirely off and two others nearly off, with an ax. I am getting along very well, my neighbors say they will plant my corn for me. I will close, hoping this will find you all well,

C. DE LAVERGNE.

From Australia.

There is not much news from New South Wales. There has been a fair honey crop made but honey sells lower here than in any of the other Australian colonies. A pure food act was passed last year, but the governors are so controlled by commercial classes that you cannot get them to prosecute for adulteration under it, and the bee keepers have not sufficient patriotism to go themselves and rouse the government up sufficiently. Some half a dozen here have done their best, but without avail. There will, however, be another election next June, when we confidently look forward to a big change.

As for myself I have had a fair season in my new place. All my hives are strong and have good queens, though the box flow has not been as good as last year. I get the Queen regularly and read it through from cover to cover.

E. TIPPER.

THE Southland QUEEN.

Published Monthly

E. J. Atchley, Editor and Business Mgr.
— Assisted by —
Willie, Charlie and Amanda Atchley.
Mrs. Jennie Atchley, Ed. and Manager
of School for Beginners.

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Beeville, Bee Co., Texas.

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BEEVILLE, TEX., APRIL, 1898.

WE learn that the people of Ft. Worth, Texas, are going to have a

spring carnival, beginning May 1, 1898, and one special feature will be, exhibits of the products of the state, in order to show her resources. The Texas Bee Keepers Associations are especially invited to exhibit bees, queens, wax and bee supplies. We have been requested to make the announcement and give due notice to all bee keepers that wish to make an exhibit. We can make an exhibit at Ft. Worth and then send it on to Omaha. Write to A. W. Evans, 105 east Seventh street, Ft. Worth, for information.

W. R. COONES, of Pala, California, has taken up his abode in Bee county, and will try his luck with 200 colonies of bees five miles west of Beeville, this year. Mr. Coones is a practical bee man and knows what he is about. He is one of the best apiarists of California. We wish you well Bro. C.

A. L. WHITLOW, of Sabinal, Texas, has charge of Willie's Pearsall apiary. He is a thorough going bee man and is anxious to learn more about the business.

T. T. GOODALL, of Galveston, has come up to try his hand at bee keeping. He will work in the factory awhile; then take charge of a bee yard.

WE learn that no rain has fallen in California the past winter and bee keepers have to resort to feed to save their bees, which will be a heavy tax. We are most certain that many careless apiarists in that state will loose heavy.

PLENTY of good winter rains have fallen here and we anticipate a good honey year.

BEES have been working like trojans for a week, but it is cool and a strong north wind is blowing today, March 23, which will put a stop to honey for a few days.

WE have received orders for two car loads of honey, to date, and trust that we may be able to produce it. We have also sold a car of bees to one party and one car of bee supplies.

WE have a large shipment of honey cans to arrive soon. They were shipped from St. Louis, March 21. We wish to keep plenty of cans in stock for our customers, as some times our honey flows come like pouring it out of a barrel, that is, all at once.

NOTICE the latest model of Golden's section cleaner in this issue. Mr. Golden has now got a machine that will do the work to

perfection and low enough in price to be in reach of all. His post office address is Reinersville, Ohio.

WE show our readers the home of A. M. Barfield & Son, Stone Point, Texas, in this issue. Our old readers will remember Mr. Barfield's articles that have appeared from time to time in the Queen. These folks are good bee keepers and live in what is known as the free state of Vanzandt county, Texas.

WE were pained to learn of the death of our old time friend and customer, T. S. Ford, of Scranton, Miss. Mr. Ford has given us many a good lesson on bee paralysis.

SAM H. TERRAL, son of Judge Terral, of Cameron, has started a queen rearing yard at Lampasas, Texas. Sam is a good boy and it is needless to ask whether or not he knows his busines, being brought up by his father, Judge Terral, right among, the bees. Here's good luck to you Sam.

It has been whispered around that C. B. Bankston and Judge Terral will again raise and sell queens at Cameron this this year.

READ The Southland Queen.

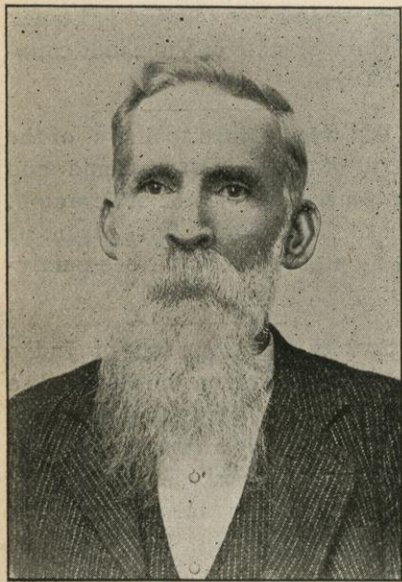
J. A. Golden and wife.

I enclose you a photo of myself and my good wife. You will notice that I have regained my former health, if you judge from the picture you borrowed of friend Hutchins; I was then suffering from lagrippe. So, if you ever choose to insert our photos in your

would be encouraging to quite a number of our correspondents in the south, on our method of hiving back.

Yes, if we live and there is a honey flow in 1898 we will get there and don't you forget it.

Doubtless you noticed in Gleanings, page 773, that I labored under rather discouraging circum-



valued journal, you will have our latest expressions.

I notice that my report for 1897 has not appeared yet, which was sent to the A. B. J. some time ago, but I think it will be out soon and I desire you to notice it, and if you can give it space in the Queen it

stances, notwithstanding which, I got as high as 151 one pound sections each from some of my colonies; something that I never heard of in this section before, besides considerable unfinished section honey of which no count was taken. I am now getting everything

ready for 1898. I have attached a fine little circular saw to an old sewing machine and can clip the projections from the sections having the leveled down comb in without jarring the comb, thus preparing them for the new bee space method, which I shall test the coming season.

J. A. GOLDEN,

Reinersville, Ohio.

The Base of Foundation.

I see in the Southland Queen, page 205, that L. L. Skaggs has discovered that bees thin the base of foundation. Well, I never argue with anyone about what bees do, but I can say that I have never saw them do such work. Last year I used medium brood foundation as starters in my shallow extracting frames, the starters were an inch wide, as I had no thin foundation and wanted some starters for sections. I selected some frames from a super that were being built down and were about three inches wide, I cut the comb crosswise and the thick midrib could be seen as thick as it ever was and I could see where the new midrib was started. I know that bees do not always act the same way and I would not be surprised at anything they did.

I hope Mr, Skaggs will be quick

about giving his plan of a bee test as I expect to make one soon.

I have in my home yard an Italian queen that I have had two years and considered her one of my best queens; now her colony has bee paralysis. Last year I raised three queens from her, two of them are in my home yard and one in my out apiary, eight miles from here. All three of the colonies are affected the same as the one containing the old mother queen, who never showed any sign of the disease before. Who knows but what this old queen had the disease before I got her and carried it all those two long years. None of the other colonies have taken it yet.

If there is ever a time when the apiarist feels like using profane language it is when he hears the following questions and remarks made by lookers on:

How many pounds of honey can a bee make in a year?

What kind of flowers do bees gather the most wax from?

There, look at him, he is counting the bees as they come home.

Are your bees making much honey now?

Bees are now gathering pollen quite lively and brood rearing is the order of the night as well as of the day.

A. ANDERSON,

Waring, Texas.



Dear Mrs. Atchley:

I should have written you before about those queens, but I have been running about trying to find a place to move my bees to keep them from dying of old age. This may seem strange to you, but I have the same difficulty every year, at the end of November and through December until rain comes I am short of pollen, plenty of honey for the bees but they cannot raise brood. The queens lay well, but the eggs are thrown out by the workers, and not even a drone left to mate a queen should you want it. Do you know a substitute for pollen? I would be glad to hear of it. I have lost 130 hives now and the remainder I have moved over a hundred miles to save them; this is expensive, but I trust it will save the bees. The heat, for the last two weeks here, has run from 98 to 108 and 112 in the shade.

ARTHUR BALLINGER,

Nurrabiel, Australia.

Friend B.—Rye or pea meal is a good substitute for pollen. Yes, we understand why your colonies die out with old age; as no new bees are reared when no pollen is coming in. We introduced fifty Cyprian queens to fifty black col-

onies last November and some black bees are still working, but nearly gone. This shows that bees will live a long time if they do not work much. Our bees did not work but little the past winter on account of a lack of rain last fall.

* * *

Mrs. Jennie Atchley:

I have a queenless colony since December 3, and from the middle of January to February 1, I found eggs in drone cells, one to four eggs in a single cell and only drone cells. February 7 I inserted a comb containing eggs and larvae, good to rear queens, but they did not start any cells. A week later I inserted another comb containing suitable queen rearing larvae, and again they started no cells. The laying worker stopped laying when I put in the first new larvae. Is it safe to introduce a new queen to such a colony? They are hybrids and are weak, but gather pollen and defend their home nicely.

A. L. KRUGER,

New Ulm, Texas.

Friend K:—Yes, it will be all right to introduce a queen to your colony, and likely all will be well, unless it is a drone laying queen that has been doing the work in place of laying workers. In case it has been a queen, you better fish her out before introducing a new queen. If you cannot find a queen handy, just tack a strip of queen excluding zinc over the entrance in such a way that the bees cannot get in only through the

zinc, and when the bees are all in surplus queens, select the best you will find the queen outside. This is one sure way to tell whether or not your colony has any kind of a queen. Mr. Wolcott's plan for killing laying workers is all right, but a lot of work. Wish we had nothing worse to bother with in our apiaries than laying workers. We give a laying worker colony a queen, and have never yet so far, failed in getting such colonies to accept a queen. When you have one you can't cure, let me know.

* *

I want you to tell me through your journal if I can take all of the weak colonies and unite them, as I have more bees than I can manage. Also some better way of making hives.

D. H. PAYNE,

Josephine, Collin county, Texas.

Friend Payne:—Yes, you can unite all your weak colonies. Just shake the two or more that you wish to unite together, in an empty hive. Cage one queen in the hive after you get the bees in. When you get the bees shook into the empty hive together, then give them the brood that was in all of those united, or enough to fill the hive; lay the caged queen on top of the frames, with the candy exposed so the bees can use it up and liberate the queen. If you cannot sell or in some way dispose of your

one for the united colony and kill the others. This is one of the best methods known to us, and many years practice has proved it a success. Bees will fight each other if not shaken off the combs, but when all are shaken off in a pile they do not fight much, and act about like swarms uniting at swarming time. You can do your uniting at a late hour, say a little while before night, and by the next morning all will be as one colony. You can unite by installations should you not get through the first evening.

* *

The Jennie Atchley Co.

Please find enclosed stamps for your journal. I received a copy May 1896, I admire the bee journal for its nice print and general appearance. I live in town and have fifteen colonies of bees. They annoy the neighbors during swarming time. I have thought of building a bee house, but don't know exactly what I do want. Please give me a plan. The honey crop was good last year.

F. McBRIDE,

McGuffy, Ohio.

Friend Mc.—I do not think a bee house would keep your bees from bothering your neighbors, as they would have to fly out and swarm anyway. You can construct a building large enough to hold your bees, and place them two or three feet apart, inside and

allow them entrance from the outside through the walls. You can have them two tiers high, or one row above the other. It is best to have the top row so aranged that the entrances will come between those of the bottom row. You can have the hives set inside of a building and let the bees work in at a door or window of the building. We raise bees right in our office where I am writing this and they go in and out at the door, and seem to be contented and do well.

* *
*

I have my bee hives 10 inches from the ground, on 2x4 scantlings edgewise on blocks; level sideways but two inches lower in front. Will twelve inches between the hives be too close one way and ten feet between the rows.

B. I. DUBOSE,

Devine, Texas.

Friend D.—I think your hives will be rather close, only twelve inches apart; I would advise giving more space, say six feet from center to center, and ten feet between rows. I always did dislike my hives on any foundation where more than one hive occupied the same bench, as any jar you make in manipulating one hive you disturb all the balance on that same platform. I prefer each colony on its own stand. It is a good plan to have your hives level from side to side and two inches lower in front.

Mrs Atchley I would like to ask you a question: If you were going to requeen an apiary, which would you prefer, Italians or Cyprians? Which gather the most honey? Honey is what I am after. How are the Cyprians for comb honey? I raise that mostly.

HENRY RUSSELL,

Wilhoit, Clackamas Co., Oregon.

Friend R.—If I were going to requeen an apiary here, I would take Cyprians first, last and all the time before Italians, and especially for comb honey. I am not prepared to say which would be best in your latitude. Suppose you try the Cyprians and report how they turn out. It is said by many that have tried them that they are more cross than Italians, but we find very little difference in that regard here. If Cyprians are properly handled, they don't sting but little, and often I work with them all day long without a veil, but keep a smoker at hand in case I should need it. The Cyp's build comb very fast, and the queens are very prolific, and great cell builders.

I like the Queen very much and do not see how I could well get along without it.

JOHN J. GLENN,

Lynn, Ark.

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Program.

The following is the program for the Central Texas Bee Keepers Association, to be held at Palm Valley, Williamson county, June 30, and July 1, 1898:

- 1st. Roll call.
- 2d. Welcome address, by F. L. Aten.
- 3d. Response, by O. P. Hyde.
- 4th. New business.
- 5th. Election of officers.

AFTERNOON.

- 1st. Apiculture in general, by E. J. Atchley.
- 2d. Comb building, by Homer H. Hyde.
- 3d. Manipulation for comb and extracted honey, by Fred L. Hennington.
- 4th. Importance of queens, by C. B. Bankston.
- 5th. Comb foundation, by O. P. Hyde.

JULY 1,—FORENOON.

- 1st. Extracted honey, by F. L. Aten.
- 2d. Bee keepers union for Texas, by E. R. Jones.
- 3d. Queen rearing, by Willie Atchley.
- 4th. Bee Keepers Associations by W. H. Medley.
- 5th. Past, present and future of apiculture, by Judge E. Y. Terral.

AFTERNOON.

Question box.

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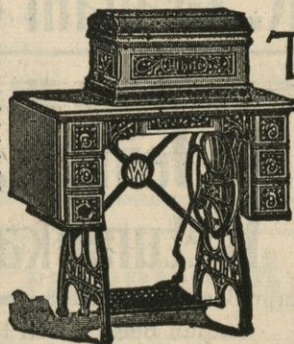
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FRIENDS:—The hives to hand in good condition. I am more than pleased; the lumber is good, and the workmanship is all right to, and a few, (one or two) pieces of each kind allow for splitting. Please accept my thanks for the way you filled my order. Yours Truly, MERRILL W. SMITH, Cuero, Texas.

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