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OCT. & NOV. 1891.

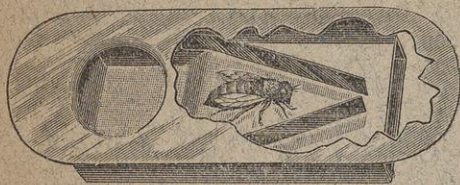


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UNIONVILLE, MO.

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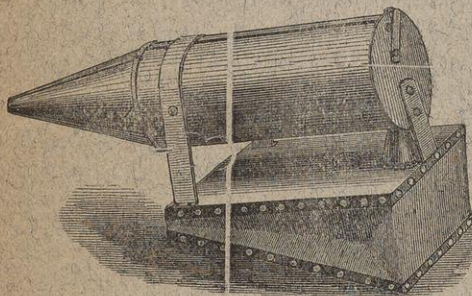
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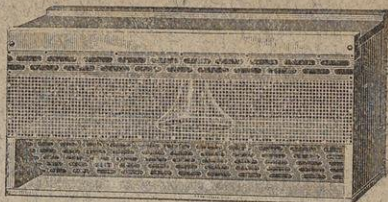
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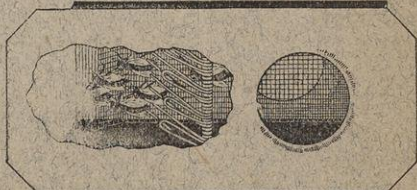
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MISSOURI BEE-KEEPER.

VOL. 1. UNIONVILLE, MO., OCT. & NOV., 1891. NOS. 8 & 9.

THE CONVENTION.

Sedalia, Mo. Oct. 7, 1891.

Missouri State Bee-Keeper's Association was called to order by Vice-Pres. G. P. Morton at 1 p. m. The secretary being absent, A. A. Weaver was elected as temporary secretary.

Proceedings of last meeting not being available, a partial report was read from the MISSOURI BEE-KEEPER. Approved.

Secretary's report read and approved. Roll call. Eleven members responded.

Report of standing committee on World's Fair.

Election of officers deferred to the morning of the second day.

Incidental items.

Matter of experimental station considered. Decided to appoint E. F. Quigley as a committee to investigate and report at next meeting.

A lecture to beginners by G. P. Morton.

LECTURE.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen: It becomes my pleasant duty on this occasion to lecture the "Beginner in Bee-keeping."

There is so much to be said, so much to be offered on this subject

that I hardly know what to say or what to leave out. In almost every line of business, education peculiar to the business is the first requisite to success. In pointing out the way to beginners in bee keeping, I must lay stress on this one point and insist that they *buy* and *read*, *study* and *practice* at least one of the many good books on Bee Keeping. Become a constant subscriber for one or two good bee journals and read them and keep posted on the progress in your profession. After you have read bee literature awhile, buy two or three of some-one of the many good movable frame hives that are offered for sale, have them filled with large, early swarms. See and know that each swarm has a vigorous and prolific queen, then attend to each hive and assist the bees in filling the hive with straight combs, and all worker combs. Now you will find something you don't understand and I will not be present to tell you what to do. Refer to your books and journals and practice what they teach. Don't talk about luck in bee-keeping. Don't worry about moths. Don't say that these things cost too much, and that you have not time to attend to all these

things. If you once understand the business, it is less trouble and less expense to succeed than to fail. It costs less to do anything right than to do it wrong. But if all these ill omens follow in your wake in bee-keeping, I would advise you to get out of the business, or not commence in the business of bee-keeping.

While you are advancing this far in bee-keeping, make other subjects a special and careful study. Learn to know when a hive is queenless by the actions of the bees out side of the hive. Study the succession of honey planty in your neighborhood. Know at any time what your bees are at work on. Learn to double up weak colonies and weed out weak and puny queens, and keep all stock strong. Commence at the closing out of one season to prepare your bees for the next. Protect your bees against the cold of winter and heat of summer, and especially don't expect them to winter on the wind. To review and condense; become a student of apicultural literature. Use movable frame hives; secure straight combs; keep all stocks strong; study the habits of bees; study the honey flow and its source; become acquainted with all the modern fixtures and supplies in bee-keeping, and buy only those that will pay their way; know at all times the exact condition of your bees; allow them plenty of winter stores and protect them from the extremes of cold and heat.

J. G. Banning wants to know how to tell when a colony is queenless?

Discussion followed by E. F. Qu gley, who thinks to detect Queenless colonies, in spring they will not be found carrying pollen.

E. R. Garrett thinks that is not safe as he has seen them carrying pollen when queenless.

John Consor thinks the best way to detect queenless colonies is to open the hive, and if queenless, the bees will be found running over the frames as if hunting something, or as if lost.

Mrs. J. W. Null bears testimony to the same.

G. P. Morton says that by the action of the bees in their flight from the hive. He recommends opening the hive and ascertaining beyond a doubt. He thinks the pollen theory is not safe.

J. Consor says that you will find the bees hunting outside the hive and pulling at dead bees.

E. R. Garrett says to straighten combs that are crooked, cut the combs and reverse ends.

Mrs. Null wants to know how to detect fertile workers?

G. P. Morton says a colony with a fertile worker is one which has been deprived of the queen and the means of raising a queen. To detect you will find a little scattered brood having raised caps, or shot heads, containing drone brood and sometimes butts of queen cells, or even full developed queen cells with a drone larva in it.

E. R. Garrett says to get rid of a fertile worker is to remove the hive some distance from the old stand, shake the bees off in the grass and set the empty comb and hive back

with a queen in, and when the bees return they will accept her.

G. H. Ashworth says to uncap the drone brood and give them a queen.

Uniting bees, discussed freely.

Missouri as compared with other states for honey production, by A. A. Weaver. No essay on account of statistics not being complete. Subject discussed to some extent by Banning, Consor and Morton.

Subject of ascertaining the number of bees in each county by conferring with the assessors; advised members to make an effort in this direction.

Carniolan bees as compared with Italians, by E. F. Quigley.

ESSAY.

In comparing the two races, Carniolans and Italians, they were kept in the same yard for three years. With a steady honey flow, Carniolans stored more surplus honey than the Italians, with about same per cent of swarms. With a poor honey season, the Italians came out ahead. Italians are as prolific up to the commencement of the honey flow, but check brood-rearing and fill a part of their combs with honey. While the Carniolan keep up brood-rearing until late in the fall, using up their stores, and in many cases require feeding for winter. Carniolans swarm many times when no honey is being gathered. It is claimed they are very gentle. They may be in their native country. I did not find them as gentle as Italians. My queens were from the best breeders in this country. In keeping the two races for three seasons

the Italians gave more honey with less labor and stings.

Discussed at length. Albino bees also included.

Report by Mrs. J. M. Null, subject condensed by E. F. Quigley.

Italians considered preferable to all other races.

4 p. m., Recess of 30 minutes.

4:30 p. m., Question box organized.

EVENING SESSION.

7 p. m. The convention called to order.

Question box opened by committee appointed for the answering of questions. G. H. Ashworth, J. S. Atkins and J. W. Clark, committee.

Q. Will inverting frames cause the bees to tear down queen cells?

A. Think it would.

Q. What encouragement should bee-keepers hold out to farmers to sow honey-producing plants?

A. No inducement unless profitable to farmers also.

Q. What are the most certain indications of bees swarming?

A. To see them coming out.

Q. Will bees swarm without drones?

A. Yes,

Q. Has any one tried alfalfa in this country and with what success?

A. Yes. With varied success.

Essay: Can bee-keeping be made profitable in connection with other business, and what other business? by R. L. Moore. No essay appears. Subject taken up and discussed to some extent.

A. Small fruit, poultry, blacksmithing, country store, hotel &c.

Condensed by E. F. Quigley; one or the other will suffice.

Question box.

Q. What is the greatest mistake you have made in bee-keeping this season?

A. Making too big calculations on the honey crop; allowing bees to swarm too much; extracted too late in season.

Q. Are bees ever a nuisance?

A. No. They are useful in fertilizing all kinds of fruit, besides storing honey.

Adjourned till Oct. 7, 9 a. m.

Meeting called to order by G. P. Morton. The following officers were elected:

Pres. G. P. Morton, Prairie Home; Vice Pres. Central Mo., John Conser, Sedalia; V. P. for northeast Mo., J. W. Rouse, Mexico; V. P. for southeast Mo., J. W. Clark, Clarksburg; V. P. for southwest Mo., E. R. Garrett, Appleton City; V. P. for northwest Mo., J. S. Atkins, Missouri City; Sec., W. S. Dorn Blaser, Higginsville; Treas., Mrs. J. M. Null, Miami.

Q. E. R. Garrett, What is the duty of a Vice President.

A. Look after interests of the Association in his territory.

Report of standing committee on World's Fair. Report favorable. Committee granted further time. Moved and seconded that the Chair appoint five members to act as a World's Fair committee. One month granted to secure a member near St. Louis.

Appointment on fair committee: P. Baldwin, Independence; John Nebel, High Hill; C. C. Clemons,

Kansas City; J. G. Banning, Brookfield.

Committee on resolutions: E. F. Quigley; E. R. Garrett, Mrs. J. M. Null.

BEE ESCAPES.

G. H. Ashworth thinks they are a great labor saver.

John Conser has tried nearly all kinds, most of them work well. The Porter lacks ventilation. Discussion condensed by J. G. Banning. Bee escapes can be profitably used to reduce the labor of taking off surplus honey.

Essay by Byron Iiams, Worcester, Mo.

ESSAY.

"What is the best way to build up Colonies in the Spring to prepare for the Honey Harvest?"

Allow me to leave out the words "In the spring" and I will do my best to tell what I know about the above subject.

There is nothing that I can say that will be new to those of you who read the bee literature of today. However, old ideas on the subject will bear repeating. My time to commence building up colonies for next season's work, is in September. I would see that all colonies had good, young, prolific queens, and that they had ample room to deposit eggs at that time to rear plenty of vigorous young bees to keep up the vigor and vitality of the colony through winter and early spring, and at this time we should see that each colony has honey enough to carry them thro not only winter, but at least until May. If a colony is populous in bees I have yet to see a single

ounce of honey wasted by leaving it with the bees. They want plenty of room for brood, then if there is room for it, 50 pounds of honey will do no harm. I think it was A. D. Ellingwood that said the more honey a colony had the better it wintered, and I agree with him, if other conditions are right. Now we are ready for winter, and here is how I winter my bees: I winter on the summer stands, and run my bees for extracted honey. I use the simplicity hive with hanging frames. I mention the above so you will the better understand details. First, I raise the rear end of the hive two inches higher than the front. Now take off the cover, take out the extracting frames or combs and four inches from back end of hive lay a lath or strip of any kind across the frames on top, now take shingles (or boards of any kind will do) and fit closely over the brood frames, having them fit up close in front. If there should be two or three inches open space left at the back end of the hive it will be all right, in fact, I prefer it that way. Over the shingles and the open space at the back end of the hive spread an old burlap sack or old castoff clothing, chaff cushion or anything that will be warm, cover the boards enough to keep the moisture rising from the bees from freezing on them. Herein lies the success of the plan. The moisture accumulating on the boards finds its way down and out at the front end of the hive, leaving the bees dry and warm and consequently healthy. The open

ing or space at the back end allows a little ventilation, all that will be needed. So much for fall and winter, now we come to Spring management, and if the above has been done right the bees will almost do the rest themselves.

Doolittle, Hutchinson and others recommend an outer case for spring. Perhaps in their latitude it would be best, but south of latitude 40° I don't think it would pay to use them.

What does this convention say about it?

I would leave the top covering on until the latter part of April or if cool until the middle of May. We have too many warm sunshiny days to allow our bees shut up in a double walled hive. The direct rays of the sun on a single walled hive in our sunny state, warms our bees up and warns them to be up and doing ere the fields are white with clover. In other words, it makes them hustle.

The all-important item in spring management, is plenty of good, wholesome food for brood rearing. This they must have or our flowers will bloom in vain, and when a brother bee-keeper asks us about our honey crop we will only greet him with a shake of the head and a sickly smile.

Just as soon as the weather will permit, every colony should be examined, and combs of sealed honey given to those that need it. Weak colonies and those that are queenless should be united. How to feed bees that are out of stores? is an unsettled question. A great many

believe in daily stimulative feeding, but where one has one or two hundred colonies, Oh! my! it would be too much of a job for me. It wont do.

Doolittle says a frame of honey hung out side of the division board and the bees allowed to carry it around, is best. We do not all have division boards or a hive so constructed that we could use them, then what? I say it is best to see that enough honey is given in the fall to last to the middle of May. If some colonies should run out of honey before there is any to gather by all means feed them. Give them honey if you have it, if not give sugar syrup. I prefer to fill combs with either honey or syrup and hang in the hive. Do this late in the evening to prevent robbing. A great many bee-keepers object to spreading brood. In the hands of an experienced apiarist it is only second in importance to feeding, but I would say to new beginners, "go slow," I know whereof I speak. I would spread, if weather is favorable, just as soon as I find from four to six frames of brood, move two frames of brood to outside of brood nest, placing two empty combs next, then balance of brood and the remaining empty combs to the other side. In from four to eight days, according to the weather and the condition of the bees, we can spread the brood again, and here we must exercise caution or we will spread too much. If the weather is nice and the colony an average one, I would divide the combs with brood, in placing those

with hatching bees out to the side of the hive and empty combs in the center. The above is for a ten frame hive. If we use a smaller hive commence sooner, that is, with a less number of combs filled with brood. If there are no cracks in the hives, entrance contracted to right size, and packed warm and snug on top, I do not know of more to be done. I know it pays one to draw a frame of brood from a strong colony to help build up a weaker one. Perhaps those of you who have all the colonies you want could unite weak colonies to better advantage.

Adjourned to 1:30 p. m.

Q. What would be the best plan to build up the bee interests in the state?

A. Stick to your business.

Q. Is it the duty of all bee-keepers to join the Union?

A. Yes, if he can afford to pay the dues.

Q. Is it right for one bee-keeper to move in on the territory of another who has the pasture fully occupied?

A. He has a right, but it would not be profitable.

Report of committee on resolutions received and adopted.

Warrensburg selected as the next place of meeting, in April 1892. Date left to the executive committee.

Moved and seconded that the medal of N. A. B. A., be awarded to J. S. Atkins, for best comb honey.

Q. Is wooden comb guides reliable?

A. No. Foundation is better but costs more.

Q. Will bees winter on honey dew?

A. Some think so, others had no experience.

Q. Is it advisable to follow the craze for fancy queens at high prices?

A. For honey production it is not.

Q. What constitutes a colony of bees?

A. A regular sized hive full of combs, bees and a queen.

Ordered that the secretary be instructed to buy books for keeping the business of the association.

Report of committee on resolutions:

Resolved, That we, the State Bee Keepers Association, extend thanks to the people of Sedalia for their interest in our meeting.

Resolved, That we extend thanks to the proprietor of the Sicher hotel for hospitality received.

Resolved, That we extend thanks to the County Court for the use of the court room.

Resolved, That we extend thanks of the association to the press for courtesies received.

Resolved, That we offer our sincere thanks to the retiring officers for their untiring zeal in behalf of the association.

Resolved, That we regret extremely the accident that occurred to Mrs. Schack, and that she and her family have the sincere sympathies of the entire association, and we also hope it may not prove serious.

E. F. QUIGLEY,
E. R. GARRETT, } Com.
MRS. J. M. NULL. }

How can we best educate beginners, keeping only a few bees, not to ruin the honey market for those who are making the production of honey a business?

I think the above is a conundrum as well as a question, and of much importance to bee-keepers of the latter class. I do not know that these beginners or bee-keepers in a small way may ever be educated not to ruin the market. We are too busy to visit each one and try to persuade them of their duty in the matter, and the numbers of them are legion, who take no papers devoted to bee culture, consequently are not posted concerning supply and demand or the quotation of prices.

We have felt it to be a duty, in consideration of the interests of the business, to encourage, at least, a price that savors of the "live and let live" principle, and this may be said of the average bee-keeper who makes this business a means of support; who knows that his time is money; that the laborer is worthy of his hire, and feels that for value received he should have a reasonable return.

Since the truth confronts us, that dealers will buy as cheaply as they can; also, that some of them are not as honest as they might be, in representing the market to the party offering honey, and so far as we know the first honey on the market is supplied by these people, in small lots, in all conditions and mixed grades, to the grocery trade first, until a low price is common. Then the commission men say: "It

was the farmers themselves who run the price down. We would rather keep it up. The more we can realize for our consign or the higher our commission, etc." I see no remedy but this, which has been somewhat satisfactory to us, viz: to make no offers until the market is cleared of this cheap honey, and until there is an active demand, as now. In July our grocers were very indifferent when approached in regard to honey, saying: "Oh! honey is plenty this year. We can buy all we want very cheaply." Now this apparent plenty has proven a mirage, their cases are empty and their customers are asking for what they have not, and when a bee-keeper of some reputation as a producer of honey comes in they are ready to hurry up front with a very pleasant greeting, and with the next breath ask: "How much honey can we have? We are entirely out and would be very glad if you would accommodate us."

There is some consolation in knowing that the honey placed on the market at an indifferent price is mostly of an indifferent grade, or at least in an indifferent shape, and the people are getting a little more particular about how the honey looks as well as how it tastes. The painstaking producer is not slow to learn that his honey must be in clean and attractive shape, and the person who has had his ideas of the pecuniary resources of the business enlarged by reading a circular or some glowing account in an agricultural paper will sooner or later get disgusted after rush-

ing into the market with the first honey he has for which he receives such small returns. If enterprising bee-keepers would only do so, the country might be canvassed and the honey from these small producers bought up to great advantage, it seems to me, not allowing it to reach the market at ruinous prices and until properly classified and put into neat shape.

Some educating might be done at our agricultural fairs. Everybody, nearly, attends one or more days, and to the credit of the general public he it said that very many attend in a spirit to be benefitted by the displays and to learn all they can. However, our county societies are slow to realize the importance of our pursuit, and as yet offer scarcely any inducement to bee-keepers to make an attractive display. If we do, must do so by the love we have for the work and by the desire to lend a hand towards the uplifting of the cause and the bettering of the general interests of the apriarian. Trusting no one with the display but one who knows the business, not only the A B Cs, but the a b äbs as well, and who is willing to instruct according to his best sense and judgement when opportunity offers.

The question involved in this paper is one of importance and yet veiled with such misty uncertainties that I feel very uncertain as to whether I have touched any point to advantage. Yet a point may be gained if this paper starts a discussion and we get the sense of the convention. Hoping that you will

consider the difficulty of the question—and overlook shortcomings—I am, with best wishes for the success of the Association in convention assembled.

Very Respectfully,

MRS. MILTON CONE.

Chillicothe, Mo., Sept. 29th, 1891.

MRS. J. M. NULL.

What are the essential qualities for making a successful bee-keeper?

No doubt the powers that be feel highly amused at the very ridiculous predicament in which they have placed me. But as they wield the whip of authority, when they bring the long lash cracking around my head I know full well enough they expect me to respond, and that too in my very best manner. I may as well confess right here that I feel the utter hopelessness of me, a woman, and one so thoroughly imbued with Millerism as to not know that she knows anything, ever indicating to these practical, intelligent and successful veteran bee-keepers the essential elements of success.

At the same time, I feel sure that if I do have to beat an inglorious retreat there are those present with large hearts and yet larger intellects who will bravely come to my rescue.

“What are the essential qualities for making a successful bee-keeper?” There are a number of things to be considered outside of the man. A good location, a good season, a good strain of bees, with a plentiful secretion of nectar.

Then the man must possess every quality that would make him suc-

cessful in mercantile or professional life. He needs the qualities that would carry him to the front in any other business. First of all, a love for the pursuit which will beget enthusiasm of which will be naturally born all other necessary qualities.

The first born I should christen courage—physical and moral.

Physical courage that will banish all fears of stings or any disastrous results therefrom. Imagine, if you can, the successful jockey who is afraid to handle his own horse, or the teamster who through fear would attempt to harness his frisky mules from the end of a ten foot pole. And should the milkmaid stand in fear and trembling and shrink and cower at each movement of the cow, how long would it be before old Brindle would be mistress of the situation? Had man been a slave to that old tyrant fear, think you the grand powers of steam and electricity would ever have been discovered, controlled and utilized.

Moral courage is in demand to enable us to stand by our rights when they or our pets are assailed and maligned. Were it not for the indomitable moral courage of the persecuted and that noble band of defenders, the managers of our National Bee-Keepers Union, where would the business of bee-keeping be to-day?

Patience should come next to courage. Patience to endure the attacks of our little pets, always remembering that they are endowed alone with instinct, while we are supposed to possess reason;

also, that this very propensity to sting is more of a protection to our calling than any tariff bill ever formulated by man. We should be armed with patience to handle them humanely, never jarring them unnecessarily or cruelly crushing them, thereby invoking their just wrath on our hands. Patience over the ignorance of those who insist that bees soil the clean washed linen at all times of the year, or that they destroy sound fruit by stinging it and causing it to rot, or that they interfere with the grazing of stock, etc., etc. Patience when the different parts of the hive refuse to adjust themselves automatically. Patience when the help seems entirely oblivious to our interests. Patience when robbers utterly refuse to be controlled. Patience over the long days in June when instead of the eight or ten hour system we are compelled to adopt a fourteen hour system, and that too with the mercury hovering around one hundred. Patience when anywhere from five to ten swarms issue at one and the same time, thickening and blackening the air with the flying hosts. Fortunately, we are promised relief right here through the swarm catcher.

A few years ago I happened to have a very energetic uncle and aunt visiting me during swarming season who had kept bees in the long ago, and notwithstanding all my protestations to the contrary, every time a swarm issued they were on hands, with all the force they could command, drawing for

that purpose even from the streets, and equipped with tin pans, buckets, etc., created the most unearthly, distracting confusion imaginable. One of our tanners remarked he never could divine how we managed to wear out so many stew-pan bottoms until then and there revealed. All this was very trying at the time, but as memory paints those days I invariably laugh, at least to myself, when good Aunt Mary's earnest face presents itself and I can almost hear her say as she did then, "You *must* do something to save your bees."

Women bee-keepers especially need patience to brook the jibes and jeers of their own sex, because they are bee-keepers.

Then our endurance is put to crucial test on the arrival of the high-flying, fashionable caller with a multitude of fine airs and dressed in the very latest of styles, while we, purchase, are bedaubed from head to foot with wax, honey or propolis, or all, but under these conditions do we not ourselves feel considerably "stuck up?"

Again, custom denies woman the privilege of giving vent to their pent up feelings through profanity, which seems to be a source of great relief to many of the "Lords of Creation."

Dadant has said ours is a business of details thus implying the necessity of patience. We need patience over a short crop or no crop at all, severe winter losses, foul brood, etc., but the patience that will endure many defeats and even hardships will secure success

at last. Adversity, not prosperity, develops and brings to the front all there is in a man. Some may aver that many of our best bee-keepers are devoid of patience, but I should advise, unless you have a surplus stock of it, do not embark in the business of bee-keeping.

On the other hand patience must not develop inactivity. Laziness travels so slowly that poverty soon overtake him. The young man who thinks of little but fast horses and stylish turnouts or the young lady whose mind is mostly engrossed by dress and beaux, would, most probably prove failures as bee-keepers.

Our watchword should be, "Eternal vigilance is the price of success." An apiary neglected or mismanaged is worse than a farm overgrown with weeds or exhausted by ignorant tillage. Yet many, both old and young, will read a book on bee culture and then waltz right into the business just as sure of a golden success as though the book was equal to the lamp of Aladdin and all they had to do was to rub the leaves and take in the treasure.

Heddon says that if there is any business in this world that demands industry, skill and tact to insure success, it is this business of ours. He also says: "The earnest desire of succeeding is almost always a prognostic of success." But I do not exactly like to quote from him for as you are aware he is not in favor of the gentler sex as bee-keepers. Let me warn you that if any of you are disciples of his in this respect don't make things dis-

agreeable by so expressing yourselves. If an earnest desire of succeeding is a prognostic of success, allow me to ask, as a sex which of the two, women or men, are the most devoted to a cherished cause or the most ambitious to excel? But as he has done so much to make the business available to women, through the desirable brood chamber principle, we can readily forgive him and look forward to the time when our sex, by their works, shall demonstrate to him and the world that he is laboring under a mistake.

The successful bee-keeper must possess an elastic temperament. There are always two sides to everything, and should we feel disposed to repine we should leave the discouraging page and give the leaf a turn and read from the other side. If, after reading to the bottom of the page, we feel no better we might borrow from one of our more favored city friends their book of Leife's Thoughts and Experiences and read from that the discouragements and trials, the close financial grip oftentimes given them by the fickle God of Fortune and the many discomforts of city life, hemmed in from the pure air of the country, away from the green fields and forests, compelled to breathe the hot, vitiated, smoke stained air of the crowded city. Think you not we might find solace in the comparison?

The successful bee-keeper must be quick and observant. Scientific knowledge is useful, but practical knowledge is indispensable. He

must understand the flora of his locality and have his colonies booming at the right time. He must be rigidly economical without being penurious; must be ingenious and adapt himself to circumstances.

Where is the bee-keeper who feels himself or herself overburdened with sagacity when in the disposition of his product he has to meet the stratagem of the commercial world with all of its distrusts, jealousies and rivalries, chief among which is adulterations.

Once more, to be successful we must be progressive. A man who knows all about bees and does not believe that any more can be gained by reading bee journals, new books, attending conventions, etc., will soon be far behind the age. Let us each one see to it that we belong not to this class. Deliver us from being fossilized. Missouri has within herself all the elements necessary to enable her to rank with any of her sister states. Shall she take a back seat? Fellow bee-keepers, it remains with ourselves. Let us look upon our calling as dealing with one of God's wonders and try to emulate their persistency, constancy and patience and in this way and in no other shall we merit and gain success.

JOHN CONSOR.

Bee-keepers, I have before me the Contracted, Queen Restricted, Non-swarming Bee Hive.

Contracted being eight or less frames if desired, also expanded by the interchangeable of frames, taken from the hatching box on side

or rear of hive and set in brood chamber to be refilled by the queen with brood and allowing the queen more room, thereby getting a booming big colony of bees by the time the white clover honey season commences, and the bees in a humor to work with a will, having no inclination to swarm because the queen is not cramped in her household duties; meantime the young bees are hatching by the hundreds and returning to the parent hive from the rear box, loaded with the unsealed honey above or around them, and taken the same to their mother queen and storing it in the surplus boxes above, being tiered one above the other, as room is required.

Restricted, because the queen can not pass to the combs that are being emptied of young bees in the hatching box, on account of perforated metal being in her way and not allowing her to pass. This hive is double walled, having division boards on sides, being air tight, having rubber edges set in saw kerfs, and dead air space back, being warmer in winter and cooler in summer. Also a fixed frame hive having a movable rack in bottom that can be shifted from side to side without taking out frame, held firm by the spacers, being self spaced, making a loose frame for manipulation, or a fixed frame for hauling to out apiaries. Cases being full size of hive and allowing separators to pass between each section or less, and can be emptied of its entire contents by inverting, leaving but a rim to be used on top

of hive in winter to contain a cushion on top of brood chamber for protection to the bees; thereby doing away with any extra boxes for special use. Cases resting on wide and thick top bar frames, faced in brood chamber, have no use for honey boards under case when running for comb honey, as there is no bur or brace combs connected with cases.

A five pointed bee escape, to get the bees out of surplus boxes when to be taken off. This escape will clear surplus boxes in less time than any other bee escape known. This escape does not smother bees, as you will observe the bees can get ventilation all around four and one-fourth inch circle plate on bottom of board and have free escape to the hive below, but a bee can not return.

In regard to the advantages of the Contracted, Queen Restricted, Non-swarmer Bee Hive: All bee-keepers having actual practice can form an opinion when they see the simple methods and when I tell them I have been testing this hive on the different methods for years, and the last two years after perfecting the hive as you see it, have not had a swarm from any one hive having the attachments connected, and have had ninety-six boxes on most colonies run this season, and most all honey got this summer was from non-swarmer hives, many finishing sixty-four boxes. Experimented with ten of my worst hybrids, this season, given to swarming at times, the whole honey season, and usually storing very little honey.

The Southern States.

CONDUCTED BY

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY,

Farmersville, Texas.

Send in your subscriptions at once for MISSOURI BEE-KEEPER, 50 cents a year. Remember its price will soon be higher.

* *

Honey is selling in our market at 8 cents, extracted 10 to 12½ cts. I sold some at these prices last week. Good honey is in demand.

* *

The Boll worm destroyed our cotton bloom to some extent and we are cut short of our usual crop and our farmers also suffer on account of the loss of cotton.

* *

See that all your hives have prolific queens this month, for this is the time we get our winter bees while the Brown weed is in bloom, and provide your bees with all the empty comb they need as they seldom build comb these cool nights but will store considerable honey if combs are furnished.

* *

I have shipped nearly 1000 queens to date and they still go off by the dozen. I am now testing two hundred queens for next springs early orders. I will run five hundred nuclei next season, Providence permitting. I have one of Doolittle's best \$6 queens, one from Alley's \$100 queen, one of J. W. Taylor's, and one of Otto J. E. Urban's and I expect to raise as fine queens as can be produced in

the world. I also have a fine breeder from S. F. & I. Trego, so you may expect to hear from me next spring.

* *

Be careful about introducing a queen in Texas to a colony that has been queenless four or five days for if you do not tear down all cells she may be released at once and lead off a swarm instead of tearing down the cells. I once lost a very fine queen that way, for at this time of year we are not apt to be looking for any swarms.

* *

As I promised friend J. F. Teel, an article in Sept. number, I will give it now as I overlooked it last month. Now, I would not ordinarily, keep upper stories on in winter in this locality. First, because we have so many sudden changes that we often loose very heavy. Say to-day is nice and warm and within fifteen minutes we have a hard northerner, the thermometer falling from 60° to 25° or 30° and I have seen a pint or more of bees perish in the upper story while if no super was on we would loose no bees. Second, Our bees winter here in close quarters, for what winter we have here hurts stock and people worse than the winter in the north, so it is hard on the bees too. Of course a large powerful colony of bees will go through O. K. under almost any circumstances. I have other objections but haven't time to discuss them now, for it is 8 o'clock a. m. and at 9 I leave on the train for a week.

JUDGING A QUEEN BY HER LOOKS.

We had supposed that the day had passed when any one would undertake to decide by a queen's looks whether she produces pure bees—whether she was imported or not, etc. But, twice this season we have had customers who claimed and presumed to call a queen not what she was represented to be, simply from her looks, after an exhausting trip through the mails. One man says he showed her to all the best judges in his neighborhood and they all pronounced her to be a hybrid. In the other case, our customer had received an imported queen, which, after a while, failed to lay. On being informed of this we at once sent him another best imported—in fact, one of the best queens we had in our apiary. Without introducing her at all, he looked at her, then carried her to a friend of his who was presumed to be a judge, and they together looked at her, and decided that she was just like the old one, because she *looked* like her; whereupon these two wise friends mailed her away to Medina again. We are glad to say that she came through all right. We do not propose to take any more risks in trying to satisfy such unreasonable people. Now, please let us have it understood, that, if you are going to judge a queen by her looks, you had not better send to us. Our queens are to be judged by the workers they produce, and the work that these workers do. Of course, we like to have a good-sized queen; and if she is light in color, we are well aware that it

goes a good way with some people. Very few queens, after a long trip through the mails, look very bright or large. When the queen is received, if there is any life in her at all, give her a chance, and do not complain until there is something to complain of.

Moral:—When anybody claims to be so wise as to be able to tell what a queen is worth, simply from her looks, set him down either as very ignorant in bee culture or very dishonest.—*Root.*

REPORTS:

As the season of nectar has just closed, I will say that on the whole this has been a fair bee season. have some that made a surplus of twenty-five pounds to spare. But of late we have had two very severe frosts that ends the honey business. But alas! that prince of honey of honey plants stands unharmed. Nectar and bloom can both be seen at this writing. Last spring I started with two weak colonies and now I have fourteen, by Strickland Bros. system of increase, and plenty of honey also. That honey plant mentioned is "*Malsemory Sine Lycopodium Sulgari*," and belongs to the potato family. It is not a weed, but a vine, assuming a bush form. In case of pruning, may be made useful as well as ornamental.

C. L. STRICKLAND.

Peabody, Kansas.

THE NORTH AMERICAN BEE-KEEPERS' CONVENTION.

As previously stated, the meeting of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association will take

place at Albany, New York, Dec. 8 to 11. Our president has been working hard, and has secured reduced railroad rates from Chicago and the Mississippi River, and from the South. The meeting promises to be the grandest in the history of the association, and we hope the West will send a good delegation. Besides the personal members' attending, we expect every local and State association to send one delegate or more.

This will be a good occasion for Western bee-men to become acquainted with the noted bee-keepers of the East, nearly all of whom will attend this meeting. Bee-keepers desiring to attend will please send their names to either the President, Mr. P. H. Elwood, of Starkville, N. Y., or to the undersigned, as we intend to publish a full list of those that are expected to be present. C. P. DADANT,
Hamilton, Ill. Sec.

BEE KEEPING FOR PROFIT.

Dr. Tinker's New Hand Book. It gives his new system of management of bees complete, telling how to get the largest yield of comb and extracted honey and make the industry of bee keeping a profitable one. The work should be in the hands of every progressive apiarist. It is well illustrated. Price, post paid, 25 cents. For sale at this office.

Our failure with Doolittle's cell cups was caused by a virgin queen being in the colony at the time. The bees worked a little on them but soon stopped.

Missouri Bee-Keeper

ISSUED MONTHLY BY

BEE-KEEPER PUBLISHING CO.

Unionville, Missouri.

ONLY 50 CENTS A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

Advertising Rates made known on Application.

E. F. QUIGLEY, Editor.

THE BEE-KEEPER IN JAMAICA.—

We have a regular subscriber in Jamaica. How is that for a youngster?

The Missouri State Bee-Keepers Association has 106 members. Let us make it 200 by next meeting. Let everyone get somebody to join. It is to every bee-keepers interest to become a member.

The *American Bee-Journal* comes to us as regular as Thursday of each week, rarely missing a single day. We wish our journal could be as prompt, but then the *A. B. J.* is twenty-five to thirty times older.

We will take your subscription for any bee-book or journal at publishers price. It does not matter if you are not a subscriber to our journal, we will treat you just as well. All subscriptions will be forwarded promptly.

The method we gave in July BEE-KEEPER for requeening with cells, works fine, but there are no drone but choice one in our apiary. We hope to get a perforated zinc on the market by another season that will let out a queen but not a drone, so this method can be used on a colony of black bees having black drones in the hive.

Mr. E. F. Quigley, editor of the MISSOURI BEE-KEEPER, published at Unionville, Missouri, is quite a young man and devoted to the bee business. His is a very handsome monthly magazine.—*Sedalia Bazaar*.

The *White Mountain Apiarist* is to have a blue tinted cover for October. We are glad Bro. E. is succeeding with the *Apiarist*. It takes good material and printing and a few other qualities to make a good bee-journal.

A PLEASANT TIME.—Those present at the State meeting seemed to enjoy themselves. Everything worked against us, bad season, fairs, &c. Let everyone make a special effort to get a good attendance at the next meeting.

We send copies of the MISSOURI BEE-KEEPER containing proceedings of the State Meeting to all members. We have saved the Association considerable in the way of printing and postage. We should be pleased to enroll all members of the association on our subscription list.

COLD WEATHER "HUMBUG."—Some queen breeders are puffing their new strain of bees as such early risers, get out and pick the field all over before other bees wake up. We want beginners to paste the following in their hat: "Very few flowers secrete nectar on cool nights. The main nectar bearing flowers require warm weather. Carniolans were boomed for their 'get up early' qualities, but they didn't do it." Our bees will gather honey when it is to be

found in the blossoms, and if you get out early you will find them going after it as soon as it gets light.

We shall commence a review of apiarian implements, bees and methods next month. If you have any points to give, send them in.

What do you know about anything connected with bee-keeping? Have you tried anything new? Tell us about it. Look around and see if you can send in something for next month.

Bro. Vandruff, ex-editor of the *Bee World*, has promised us some practical bee notes in the future. Bro. V. has had the experience and these are the ones we want to help out the beginner.

Dr. Miller has lost his Punic queen. We expected to find his "Hybrid" Punic bees around here this winter when everthing was froze up stealing our honey. But hold on, Punic don't believe in stealing.

ALBINO BEES.—We have made some inquiry lately about the above bees from those keeping them, and they are well pleased with them. We consider them only a light variety of Italians but they have some qualities to be desired in any bee.

The BEE-KEEPERS obituary was written some months ago, but for tunate for us, no date was added to it, and from the present indications it will be some time yet before the date will be needed. We are sometimes tempted to give our readers

a glimpse of the many letters we receive from our subscribers and friends.

It is said that a new bee journal has been born. We have not seen it so cannot judge of its quality.

Look over our clubbing list. It may be you want some of the books or journals. We will be pleased to supply you.

HILL BEE FEEDER.—We have been using this feeder some this fall. It is the most satisfactory feeder we ever used.

A JOURNAL BINDER.—Mr. J. W. Clark, of Clarksburg, Missouri, handed us a journal binder while at Sedalia, that is ahead of any thing in this line we have seen. We will give an illustration as soon as a cut can be made. Mr. Clark will mail you one for ten cents.

After January 1st, 1892, we will give our subscribers a free advertisement of honey dew for spring feeding. You must make a low price on it as sugar is cheap. Now, friends, if you have a quantity you want to dispose of, send in your address with the amount you have.

A DOUBLE NUMBER.—This issue of THE MISSOURI BEE-KEEPER is a double number. We desired to get the proceedings of the State Meeting under one cover, and being behind with our issue, we decided on this course. To do so we are giving our readers much valuable information and hope you all will lend a hand to increase our circulation. We send a copy of this issue to all names on our books.

Patents on bee hives are on the boom again. We would advise all inventors of bee hives to look up the old patents before they put any money into their new idea. The patent office will allow patents on things that are old and discarded long ago. Friends, you had better turn your attention to improving your methods, with the good hives we already have.

We are testing a good many strains of the Italian bees this season. The queens giving the best satisfaction came from S. F. & I. Trego, John Nebel & Son and W. H. Laws. We have others that came too late to test their qualities this season. These parties shipped promptly. Some orders placed ahead last winter have not been filled yet. Such business is very damaging to any breeder.

Since the question of Golden Carniolans was brought up this summer many able writers have discussed it and plainly shown that we were right in the matter. We are positive that young queens do not go far from the apiary they were reared in, but drones from other apiaries come to where the young queens are, while drones in the same yard with the queens go to other apiaries from one to two miles away.

Black bees are being reviewed lately, having several friends defending them. Some think they could be bred up to a better bee than they are now. We don't think so; their queens have been reared by nature for many years

in the swarming season. We don't deny they have some qualities to be desired, but in comparing my own apiary with others all around here, our Italians are ahead. Large apiaries of black bees have not stored a pound of surplus honey this season.

In regard to the loss in mailing queens we extract the following from a letter received from John Nebel & Son, High Hill, Mo.:—"We have to date (Sept. 22,) shipped a little over 950 queens and have replaced but eight that died during transit, and we think the cause was in our candy at the beginning of the season. Have not replaced one since June, during which time we have sent about 700." Our own loss was mostly early in the season. We have since discovered the cause, or think so. The candy was not made as it should be, and dried out.

Our English bee-keepers know nothing of the so-called Punic bees. It is strange that such a wonderful race of bees should not be known near its own home, and they would ship them to far-off America. The American Boomers copy their praise of them from what is said about them by the only boomer across the water. Bees have to become climated in this country before their qualities can be decided upon. They say let them stand on their own merits. Yes, and while bee-keepers are finding out how they will stand, these boomers are pocketing the cash of thousands of poor people who are deceived by the puffing advertisements of men having these bees less than three months in their apiary.

Communications.

SPECIAL JOURNALS.

BY X. Y. Z.

One of the tribulations that the editor of a bee-journal has to labor under is that some of its readers seem to have the idea that beginners are the ones mainly to be benefitted. I say "tribulations," and I speak advisedly, for if a bee journal was published solely for beginners, where would the subscribers come from? Beginners should, all of them, read some good text book. No one can become a bee-keeper unless he has familiarized himself thoroughly with the principles of the pursuit, yes profession, for profession it is now surely. Having gained the knowledge and information that can be found in a good text book, then the journal can be read advantageously. Its province being not to teach the A. B. C. of bee culture, but to keep abreast of the times, giving its readers a digest of what is going on in the bee world. Posting them in regard to new methods and new ideas. The text book gives information in regard to the past and up to the day of publication, and then stops; but bee-culture advances, and with that advance the journal deals, and the one that keeps up best with the times is the one that will be most liberally patronized. The beginner is all at sea with his bee journal, knowing nothing of principles, but having first learned them, the journal becomes a chart that he can intelligently follow.

[Bro. X. Y. Z., we should have been glad to put your real name to the head of this article. Will say to our readers that it comes from a well-known writer on bee-culture. We have been asked many times to put a department in our journal for beginners, but they should get a good book and let the journals take up subjects that are nearer up to date.—ED.]

SOME CRITICISMS, ETC.

BY G. W. DEMAREE.

DEAR EDITOR:—Permit me to review some of the things which appeared in the columns of your issue of September, 1891.

WINTERING OF BEES:—There is little or nothing in the race or strain of bees bearing on the wintering question. Bees that have had regular succession in way of hatching brood and have been kept in good heart by the increase of stores up to the time of going into winter quarters will have the vitality to "winter" if their environments are otherwise favorable. Therefore, "wintering strains of bees" is a fad to "ketch suckers." The whole thing is in line with the "red clover strains," and other tricks to gull and rope in innocent suckers. This thing of "strains of bees" solving the "wintering problem" is not new. D. A. Jones, of the *Canadian Bee Journal*, who has handled more strains of bees than any other bee-keeper, and who lives in a cold climate where great care is necessary to winter bees, has given his testimony against the "wintering strain" fad. I have test-

ed the different races and strains of bees, and have bred up new strains by careful selection and I have found that nothing will take the place of healthy, hearty conditions.

QUEENS WITH CLIPPED WINGS:—There is no need of losing queens with clipped wings if the apiarist looks after his bees as he ought to at swarming time. No queens need be lost in the grass or in any other way. If the apiary is left to run itself there will be loss of queens, and loss in many other ways, and if the queen's wing is not clipped there will be loss of queens, and of swarms too, if constant care and attention is not at hand.

FIXED FRAMES AND ACCURATE SPACING:—I guess that this old, old hobby will be ridden at stated intervals for all time to come. "Accurate spacing" catches onto the novice and holds him fast, and some supply dealers catch on and "hoop-up" fixed frames and accurate spacing because of the nibbling suckers. Those of us who produce both the comb and extracted article of honey, who know the value of interchangeable combs, know that accurate spacing is not only not practicable but undesirable. When I produce honey taken with the extractor I want wider spacing in the surplus cases than I think best in the brood chamber. About $1\frac{3}{8}$ from center to center of the combs is best in the brood chamber, but I want $1\frac{1}{2}$ at least for the surplus spacing. Now if my combs are movable these advantages may be had with just one

kind of frame. As to "handling hives," I handle my hives using my trap door bee escape, just the same as if the frames were fixed. I have tried all sorts of frames and when the "close end fixed frames" become "stuck up" with bee glue they become "fixed" with a vengeance that would defy any power less than dynamite.

RENDERING BEESWAX:—Several years ago I rendered all my beeswax with a big kettle and a nastier job could not be imagined. Now I use my cylindrical wax pan, solar wax extractor. It sits in the apiary and does its work in the best of style while I go about my business. My solar wax extractor, by means of its hollow melting pan, separates all the wax from the refuse, if properly manipulated, and gives the finest wax that can be had by any method.

QUEENS LAYING EGGS IN QUEEN CELLS:—Mr. Doolittle or anybody else to the contrary, none but very old queens that seem to foresee the end of their usefulness, ever lay eggs in queen cells.

DOOLITTLE CELL CUPS:—There is nothing necessary to perfect success with the artificial waxen cell cups but a thorough knowledge of proper condition of bees for cell building and the necessary skill to do the very nice, delicate work to be done in the preparation of the cells. In my own hands the plan works as surely as any other practical manipulation about bees.

ALL BEES DON'T GATHER HONEY DEW:—What innocent and shrewd guile is abroad in the world! I

suppose now we are to have a non "honey dew strain of bees." The simple truth is, bees are controlled by habit more than most creatures. If a colony of bees get started to work on honey dew they will keep it up by habit, and if another colony gets started to work on flowers that secrete nectar, they will stick to that by habit. Bees scour the circle of their flight in search of stores and some colonies strike it rich while others make a less profitable find. This accounts for the difference we see in the amount of honey stored by different colonies of apparently equal strength. Each colony has a peculiar scent of its own and this enables them to follow each other to any new find. Every experienced apiarist has seen these facts illustrated by the rapid accumulation of honey by some one or more colonies while the rest of the colonies in the apiary were at a standstill. And the same is seen in cases of robbing.

CONTRACTION OF BROOD CHAMBER:—The best possible contraction of the brood nest is solid combs of honey and brood in all stages. I have tested this matter when feeding back to have unfinished sections completed, and practice it in general apiary work. By this management no winter or spring feeding is necessary.

THE BEST ESCAPE:—I believe I have the best and simplest bee escape now in use. It saved me as much as the service of one good assistant the past season. When I get time to make some new ones I will send one to the editor of the M. B-K.

BROTHER AND FRIEND—EVERYBODY—I have waited and hoped long to see less of this thing in our bee periodicals. The terms are too sacred to see them profaned to utter disgust.

Christainsburg, Kentucky.

Well, Brother D., we hope this will be a warning to many that are thinking of investing in some of these "fads." Brother Doolittle is sounding a warning note, also, in regard to new fixtures, etc. We like fixed frames, but are leaning some towards the thick top bar hanging frame. A solar wax extractor is ahead of any other method we ever used. The failure with Doolittle cell cup was caused by a virgin queen being in the hive. She got in from a nucelus near by. Suppose we breed from colonies that stored white honey. There is a possibility of breeding up a strain of "hus'lers." Anyway we would rather take chances on that kind of stock. Send us one of your bee escapes when you can and we will give it a fair trial. We are getting quite a collection of escapes. We think it is time to call a halt. Many dealers are on the lookout for something new. They work it for a time and then drop it for something else. If we spend our earnings for new fixtures, what is the use of getting them. We want some cash left for our own use. Let us turn our attention to learning to use the good implements and bees we already have. Of course, the experienced bee-keeper can pick out the good, but beginners are the ones that suffer. Give us more criticisms.—[Ed.]

HONEY DEW NOT BAD FOR WINTERING.

BY JOHN NEBEL & SON.

The honey flow for this season having come to an end, preparing bees for wintering will be the next thing in order. Owing to the poor season in so many localities bees will be in very poor condition to winter in the best shape. We have always found that colonies which raised plenty of bees in August and September are the ones that winter best and make the best start in the spring. Very little spring dwindling will be found with such colonies.

The 20th of August found our strong colonies with plenty of bees, in raising these nearly all the honey dew gathered in brood chamber was consumed and its place was soon filled with Spanish Needle honey. Queens were crowded so they layed very sparingly, for the past month, and the consequences are our colonies are going into winter quarters with few bees, and these pretty well worked down. On this account our bees will not be expected to winter with good results. Though with with a great deal of care we hope to come out pretty well.

No doubt many are fearing loss the coming winter on account of the quality of food (honey-dew) their bees are to go through with. If our colonies had to winter on this alone, we would not let that trouble us much. In the winter of '87 and '88 we had all of this to winter our bees with. They came out as well the next spring as they did any other year. As above stated our colonies now have all Spanish Needle honey and we will not be able to give the honey-dew honey a test for wintering, unless we feed several colonies with it for

an experiment, which we think of doing.

The coming winter season will give trial to many of the new winter cases now so highly recommended. For small apiaries they may be quite the thing, but on a large scale give me the cellar. We would consider it quite an expense to get cases for some three hundred colonies. Then, too, the extra amount of stores consumed in out-door wintering, is no little item. We have given and are still giving both ways a trial, but out door we only give a few the trial, chaff packed and other ways. The best out-door wintering with us is when the hive is packed in a large box with six inches of forest leaves surrounding it.

[Bro. N., we are glad to hear from experienced bee-keepers that honey dew is not bad winter food. There is too much steretyped writing on this subject. It would be a "sight" to see three hundred winter cases piled up in a bee yard.—
ED.]

THE ASHWORTH BEE ESCAPE

BY S. E. MILLER.

Mr. G. H. Ashworth, Sedalia, Mo., sends me a bee escape which he asks me to test and report through the MISSOURI BEE-KEEPER. I have tried the escape and with your consent, will give results to your readers.

This escape is constructed on the trap door—or perhaps more properly speaking, on the "shove trap" principle. Having a number of teeth which the bees raise as they push against them, and when thro the teeth drop down behind them, thus preventing the bees from returning.

My brother and I put the escape under an extracting super and over the brood nest one evening about six o'clock. The next morning

about seven o'clock I looked in and found only about twenty-four bees in the super. I then let it remain for two or three days and when I looked again found that many of the bees had returned to the super. This I feared would be the case before testing it, as I noticed that some of the teeth or balls stood apart so as to allow room for a bee to pass between. This may have been caused by an injury received in the mails. However, I would suggest to Mr. Ashworth that he use the utmost care to secure perfect accuracy in the construction of his escape, and see that the balls or teeth work free and easy, then I see no reason why his escape should not be ahead of even the Porter, which is now, I believe, admitted to be the best escape extant. The advantage that Mr. A's. escape has over others, as far as I know, is that it admits of eight to twelve bees passing out at once, thus ridding the super of bees in a much shorter time than other escapes do, and is as above stated, it is made very accurate and works free throughout its entire breadth, that is so that all teeth drop at once of their own weight as soon as the bees have passed, it will certainly keep them out when once through the escape. What part propolis will play with the escape, I cannot say until further tested, but think not any. The escape is easily inserted in an escape board, and I notice on it patent applied for.

Bluffton, Missouri.

[Bro. Miller, we have tested the Ashworth escape, and find it works very well. It surely has more escaping room than any other. This escape is nearly the same as Dibern's Little Giant, and unless Bro. A. makes his all metal we would prefer the other kinds. We predict a short life for all trap door escapes, the working parts will cor-

rode in a short time and render the escape useless. We may be mistaken but time will tell. We hardly think that it is advisable to patent any of the escapes now, for the man that makes a good escape will get his share of trade.—Ed.]

BEE NOTES---FALL WORK IN THE APIARY.

BY M. H. DEWITT.

Well, well, Bro. Quigley, I see you are improving your most valuable paper, the M. B. K. Go on with your good work, I like to see your paper improving as it well deserves it. I take about all the bee papers published, but one or two, and I prize the MISSOURI BEE-KEEPER and the *American Bee-Keeper* above them all. I like the way you speak right out whatever you think. I hope the M. B. K. is here to stay. I am sorry, indeed, for the disappearance and failure of the *Bee World*, as it has been discontinued.

NOTES TO BEGINNERS ON HANDLING BEES.

To remove the first frame from a full colony, move several of the central ones nearer together, which will give sufficient room to remove one.

In opening a hive blow enough smoke under the honey-board, as you raise it, to keep the bees quiet. This rule also applies when handling frames, crates, &c. In handling bees be quiet in movement, and avoid as much as possible all sudden jars and thumps. The gentlest colonies can be made cross by rough handling.

To shake bees from a frame, take it by the two corners where the top bar projects, hold it horizontally in front of you and about twelve inches above where you wish to shake the bees, raise the frame a trifle and by a sudden movement bring it down six or eight inches,

giving it a sudden stop. This will throw the bees from the comb by the hundreds. The operation can be repeated several times, and the few bees remaining, brushed off. If the weather is cool it is often necessary to smoke them a little before they can be shaken from the comb. A little practice soon gives one confidence, and in a short time they wonder how they ever could have had such a dread of bees.

You should all examine your bees and if the haven't plenty of sealed stores they should be supplied at once with sugar syrup or honey; see that each hive has a good laying queen; take out a frame on each side of the hive and put a division board in their places and a chaff cushion with a Hill's device on the frames, and your bees will winter all safe if you have them good and strong. Shelter them from the cold, north winds as this is an important item.

GOOD LOCATION, ETC.

BY J. F. TEEL.

When I wrote to your paper last I spoke of having bee fever; I have had worse than that, I have been down with typhoid fever. Well I want to tell the readers of M. B. K. something about my trip hunting a fine country for bees. I was gone on this trip when I was taken sick. Mr. Root says there are very few places in the United States that will support 200 colonies of bees and them doo well. I found a place where 200 to 250 colonies can and are kept and 100 lb. honey to the colony is about the lowest yield. They will get 200 lb. to the colony this year, which is very common; the honey is of very fine quality and flavor. The place I spoke of is Southwest Texas, the honey is gathered from Catclaw and "Gauhejilla," in English "Wahei," also from Mosquete. One

man can easily manage 200 colonies and can make from ten to twenty thousand pounds. I can't tell for certain whether I will move down there or not.

I want to tell your readers how I unite weak or queenless colonies. Many ways have been advised, but my plan is simply this: Watch for a cool spell, when it is cool enough for the bees to quit flying, take the two colonies to be united, take all the upper story of the hive you want to add to, then put on upper story, they will soon all be found together; as the weather is cool they go together to keep warm. Managed this way I never had them fight but I never put any together during warm weather but what would fight and kill about half.

I will tell you how I prevent after swarming. The first swarm is worth as much or more than the hive it came out of. To prevent the after swarm, I go in about six or eight days after the first swarm, lift three frame of brood out of the brood nest and scatter it in the upper story and take three frames out of upper story and put them down in the brood nest. Let them stay until about the 16th or 18th day from the time the first swarm came out, then I go back and replace the frames I moved, by this time the swarming impulse will be over. I never had an after swarm when I did this way.

Let us hear from our customers who have purchased queens of us this season, let the report be good or bad. Remember we want our customers to have full value for their money. Anything not satisfactory will be made right. We have a location for next season that we can warrant all queens purely mated with good working stock and good methods. We propose to sent out queens another season that will be second to none.

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MARKETS.

CINCINNATI.—Honey.—Demand is fair for new comb and extracted honey. The supply of comb honey is adequate to the supply; that of extracted honey, in excess, of course, as usual at this time of the year. Extracted honey brings 5@8c on arrival. Choice comb honey 14@16c in the jobbing way. Beeswax—There is a fair demand at 23@25c on arrival for good to choice yellow.
Chas. F. Smith & Son, Cincinnati, O.
Aug. 20.

ALBANY.—Honey.—We have sold the consignment of honey referred to in last issue at 16c. Have some on hand at present. Would advise early shipments if only a few cases. Extracted, dull. We quote: clover in pound sections, 18c; 1½ lb, 15@16c. Chas. McCulloch & Co., Albany, N. Y.
393-397 Broadway, Albany, N. Y.
Aug. 20.

BOSTON.—Honey.—No change in honey market. Slow sale. Little new honey ready now to be sent in. Expect to sell at 18c for best quality. Blake & Ripley, Boston, Mass.
Aug. 20.

KANSAS CITY.—Honey.—Receipts of new comb arriving very slow. Choice white 1-lb comb, 15@16; dark 10@12; extracted, 6@8½. Beeswax, prime, 26½.
Aug. 20. Clemons, Mason & Co., Kansas City, Mo.

ST. LOUIS.—Honey.—Market dead dull at 5½c in barrels 7c in cans. Comb unsalable. Beeswax, prime, 26½.
Aug. 22. D. G. Tutt Grocer Co., St. Louis, Mo.

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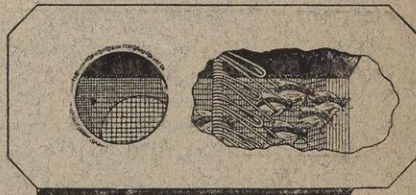
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