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— THE —

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— PUBLISHED BY —

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BEEVILLE, TEXAS, : : : October, 1898.

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E. R. Jones, MILANO, TEXAS.

THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

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

Vol. IV.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, OCTOBER, 1898.

No. 6.

SOUTH TEXAS BEE-KEEPERS' ASSOCIATION.

MORNING SESSION; SECOND DAY.

Continued from September Number.

W. W. Downing;—I have had no experience with different races of bees, except the Italians, and think they are the best.

John Bell;—I prefer the Italians.

Ray Royal;—I like the Italians the best as they are the best to handle, and I can find the queens in them much better than I can the blacks.

How is the best way to increase bees?

W. W. Downing;—Clip the queen's wings and let them swarm naturally.

F. L. Aten;—I increase mostly in the fall. Raise my queens in August and have them ready.

Mr. Davidson;—I wait until they are nearly ready to swarm, then open the hive, take the queen and a part of the bees and put them on a new stand. I have no experience in increasing in the fall.

J. B. Salyer;—Let them swarm naturally.

Mr. Stachelhausen has the same opinion as Mr. Davidson.

How to keep down increase.

Mr. Aten;—The best way is to give them plenty of room, and let the queen go where she pleases. Scatter the brood, and give them empty combs in the brood nest.

Willie Atchley has the same opinion as Mr. Aten.

Mr. Stachelhausen has the same.

G. F. Davidson;—Scattering the brood will help to keep down increase but they will swarm.

Mr. McPhail;—Let them swarm naturally, and let the swarms go to the woods; this will keep down increase.

An opportunity was then given to any one that wished to become a member of the association. After which 28 new members were enrolled.

The convention then adjourned, to meet at 1.30 P. M.

EVENING SESSION; SECOND DAY.

A committee, consisting of the following named persons, appointed to take a list of all present. Committee; Miss Carrie Faust and

Will Davidson; following is the list of those present:

M. M. Faust, Floresville, Tex.

Ray Royal, " "

Miss L. A. Faust, " "

David McKenzie, " "

W. J. Wheeler, " "

W. M. Woolsey, " "

Sallie A. Royal, " "

Miss C. E. Faust, " "

Miss Berta Sanderfur, " "

Miss Rena Sammons, " "

Lizzie Adams, " "

Miss Carrie Faust, " "

James Faust, " "

Allie Dickey, " "

C. G. Fitzworth, " "

L. L. Beard, " "

G. R. Cavender, Dilley, Texas.

L. Stachelhausen, Cutoff, Texas.

R. C. Rutherford, Mineral, Texas.

W. A. McPhail, Gallines, Texas.

F. L. Aten, Round Rock, Texas.

J. B. Salyer, Jonah, Texas.

J. M. Bell, Fairview, Tex.

Miss Lizzie Bell, " "

Willie Davidson, " "

Frank Davidson, " "

John Bell, " "

J. D. Bell, " "

G. F. Davidson, " "

Mrs. G. F. Davidson, " "

J. C. Bowls, " "

N. H. Carmecheal, Marcelina, Tex.

C. P. Selby, Amphion, Texas.

Amanda Atchley, Beeville, Texas.

Rosa Atchley, " "

Willie Atchley, " "

J. M. Childress, Stockdale, Texas.

J. L. Crabb, Kenedy, Texas.

W. W. Downing, Pettus, Texas.

T. I. Tipton, Caliveras, Texas.

W. W. Cavender, Dilley, Texas.

The officers elected were as follows; G. F. Davidson, of Fairview, President; M. M. Faust, of Floresville, Vice President; E. J. Atchley, of Beeville, Secretary; Miss Amanda Atchley, of Beeville, Treasurer. It was resolved by the South Texas Bee-keepers' Association to extend the right hand of good thanks to Mr. & Mrs. M. M. Faust, and the good people of Floresville for their kind entertainment and the hospitable manner in which they welcomed and cared for the association.

The time and place of the next meeting was then taken up, which resulted in Beeville, Texas, being selected as the next place, at the home of the Atchleys', and first Wednesday and Thursday in August, '99, the time. The convention then closed with the following discussions on deep and shallow frames for extracted honey.

Which frame is the best for extracted honey? Deep or shallow?

L. Stachelhausen;—My opinion is given already in an article of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN, July, 1898.

The main advantage is the manipulation of whole supers instead of single frames in the apiary and the

use of a bee-escape, whereby all manipulation with frames and brushing and shaking off of bees is avoided. This does away with one of the most disagreeable tasks in the apiary.

Certainly the bee-escape could be used also with 8 or 10 frame Langstroth stories, but these stories are too heavy for manipulation when full of honey.

By the manipulation of stories it was said, that many bees would be killed, when one story is to be set on top of the other. With a little practice and care not a single bee need to be killed. I am fully convinced that I do not kill more bees by manipulating my shallow stories than any average bee-keeper will kill manipulating the frames.

The shallow frames have other advantages: Two shallow frames can be uncapped quicker than a Langstroth frame. In the extract-or two shallow frames are handled at once with one hand, like a Langstroth frame. In the apiary ten shallow frames are taken from a hive quicker than a single Langstroth frame is taken out and brushed off. A super with ten empty frames is set on the hive quicker than a single Langstroth frame is hanged into the hive.

Another objection was raised. It is said, the bees would not work as well in the shallow supers as in the

higher Langstroth stories. This is against all experience. When many years ago some few bee-keepers used shallow extracting supers before we knew anything of a bee-escape, or anything like it; for instance the Dadants', they did so because they were of the opinion that we should not give more surplus room to the bees than they can occupy at once and this advantage seemed sufficient to them to take the well known disadvantage of two different kinds of frames in the apiary.

Another advantage of shallow frames is, that we have less trouble with burr combs than by higher frames. All this considered I use the same shallow stories now for brood chamber too and am quite satisfied with this arrangement.

J. B. Salyer;—Well, as I am young in the cause and have had no experience with the shallow frames, I will give you my views from a business point. Honey is what we are in the bee business for and we all admit we get more than double the amount from the deep frame. We only have one-half as many frames to handle. The only advantage the shallow frame can have over the deep is that they are lighter to handle and do not have to be wired. On the advantages of the deep frames are, 1st. They are interchangeable with brood

chambers, and in building up nuclei and weak colonies you don't have to go to the brood chamber to get a frame. 2nd. In the event you want strong thrifty colonies the deep frame is far ahead. The deep frame with eight thousand cells, the shallow with about three thousand; the queen only uses the center of frame, and will go as close to the outside on one as the other, consequently you get more brood from the deep. 3rd. You extract more honey from the deep frame in the same length of time. 4th. It takes as much time to put up the shallow as the deep frame. You have twice as many foundations to put on, you have twice as many frames to space, twice as many supers to handle. Now, my friend Aten is a deep frame advocate, and is the best extracted honey producer in central Texas. I will leave the defence of this subject to him.

M. M. Faust;—Having been called upon for my views relative to any advantages which the shallow, or half depth supers may have over full depth, for extracted honey, would say that Mr. Stachelhausen has covered nearly all of the vantage ground along this line, (which I endorse) but he has left unsaid one thing which I consider to be of great importance, and know it to be so in my case, (having my apiary located upon open ground where

“old Sol” has a fair whack at it.)

How do I know?

From experience and observation. I would here state that there is very little originality about me, along the line of bee-culture, and all that I know is what I have learned from others, by studying their theory, and putting it into practice. Consequently I have adopted the shallow super which I have placed over about two hundred and fifty hives. Since which I have never had a “melt down,” so common with the full depth frames, and I reckon that the most of you know what that means. In my case, it generally means the loss of a colony of bees; especially should it occur during a honey dirth. Neither is this all, but I find that they almost invariably fasten the comb securely all around to ends and bottom bar; so much so, that it introduces the question:

Why are not those frames of honey merchantable goods?

We believe that they are; especially so, if we have the end bar same width down to bottom bar, as the Huffman is at the top, in which case the combs cannot press together in shipping; same as sections. Now we are not going to contend that, stored in this way, it is going to produce altogether so good an appearance as in sections, but we are going to assert, THAT



A Small Portion of The South Texas Bee-keeper's Association in Convention at Floresville, Texas. August 17 & 18, 1898.

WE CAN PRODUCE AS FINE HONEY, IN ALMOST AS ATTRACTIVE STYLE, AND CHEAPER THAN IN SECTIONS, and in this way meet many honey consumers who think they cannot afford to use 12 to 15ct honey.

Now we are listening for Mr. Aten to ask; why do you not try it? I will; but would suggest that a few others try it too, believing, that once introduced, at the figures we can AFFORD to produce it, (compared with that of producing sections) that it will tend to revolutionize trade along this line.

F. L. Aten;—I take the position that deep frames are preferable to shallow frames; first, because we have less than one-half as many to handle for the same amount of honey. The deep frames are eight inches between the bars, while the shallow frames are only three and one-half inches. Bees will not work as readily over so many bars and spaces, as over solid combs. We are now talking of full drawn combs; every man in the extracted honey business should have full combs as soon as he can get them, and keep them from year to year; they are the most valuable articles about the apiary.

I have 80 hives with three extracting supers above the brood nest; would it not be foolish to put six shallow supers on the same hives? Mr. Stachelhausen just

now spoke of the deep frame supers being so heavy as he uses the bee escape. On being asked how he put the escape under the supers, he said he lifted them off one by one. What do you think about that? With the bees coming out over the edges of the supers and smashing them as you put them back to their places.

Six shallow supers taken off full of bees and placed back would kill a great many bees while putting on the bee escape.

The way I do is to smoke the bees some and they will go down as fast as you can take the frames out and place them in the box set to receive them. Take a hive, nail a board 18 inches long on each corner, for legs; then four more boards at right angles, for handles. Two men can easily carry three full supers of full frames. This can be carried into the honey house.

With one man and myself, we commenced at one o'clock, P. M. and by sundown we had 1400 lbs. taken out and 1100 lbs. of it extracted.

It takes just as long to handle shallow frames after they have been extracted as it does deep frames but you must handle $2\frac{1}{8}$ times as many to get the same amount of honey. How can we expect them to work better on shallow frames, as we leave all the supers on all the time?

It is hard to keep an extra lot of combs in this country, as the moth worms are so bad; so I never try to use the bee escape, and without the combs we would not have room for the bees in the brood chamber.

Bee Cranks.

(By S. F. OZBURN.)

This in answer to Dr. Philips' article in last month's SOUTHLAND QUEEN, styled Two Bee Cranks.

Now I don't know what Mr. Tucker will say about it; I doubt if he will answer it at all, as he is a good, easy going fellow and takes everything in good part. As for myself, I am perfectly willing to be called a crank as a crank is a pretty good thing to have on some occasions. Now I know that Dr. Philips does not want to wage war with me for he is a brother deacon in the baptist church and it is generally conceded that us baptists never fight each other. See? Then again Dr. Philips has the reputation of being a great jaw breaker (dentist). So I suppose he aims to hold his reputation with the correspondents of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN, and judging from what my friend Bankston says relative to the new bee foundation he will have to get up soon and work late to hold his own as a jaw breaker. Again, Bro. Philips says in another article that he is a novice in apiaculture. So I think by putting all three of these together, being a deacon in the baptist church, a noted jaw breaker and a novice would be sufficient grounds to excuse brother Philips. I will say to my brother

bee-keepers of Texas that I am sorry to inform them that the honey crop of this immediate part of the state is almost a failure. I have two small apiaries; one is in my hotel yard, No. 300½ Elm St., and the other is about three miles East of the city. I have sold all of my extracted honey at 10 cts. per lb. and I believe that I could sell several thousand lbs. at the same price if I had it. Do you know that there is a secret in marketing honey that some folks have never learned? Well, there is, and it is this; they try to unload right slap dab into the first grocery store that they come to, and of course the grocery man will buy it as cheap as he can, and will only offer about one-half what it is worth; after they have called on two or three merchants and are told about the same thing by all of them, they soon become discouraged and the poor old hay-seed will say, wal you merchants are bound to rob us farmers any how, so I guess I will let you have it at five cts. Now let me tell you how I do it, and any farmer can do the same if he has got the grit and nerve. I walk with a firm step right in at the front gate and ring the door bell with as much nerve as if I was worth a million. Then I show my honey to the very best advantage possible, pointing out all of the

good qualities, and I seldom ever fail to make a sale. If I can't make a large sale maybe I can make a small one. A few years ago I sold 4000 lbs. of extracted at 10 cts. and about 1500 lbs. of comb honey at 12½ cts. in a town of about 1200 people, and every grocery in town had honey to sell. So you see it is mighty easy to sell it; all one has to do is to know how.

By the way, I guess that I am a member of the Central Texas Bee-Keepers' Association. I joined at Cameron, moved to Waco and have lost run of the association; if my name has been dropped from the roll please reinstate me and have the secretary to inform me of dues if there is any.

Waco, Tex., Sept. 6, '98.

Has Fun Selling Honey.

(BY F. J. R. DAVENPORT.)

TO THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN: Well, those queens I bought from you are sure dandies. You can book me for one dozen, to be delivered to me next may. My bees have done a land office business this year; I have taken 4144 lbs. of nice section honey and 570 lbs. of extracted. I have 16 supers with shallow frames I will take off this week, put in cans that hold six gallons and sell in bulk. I have 110 supers filled with nice

snow-white honey made from cotton bloom. I will send you a bill head that I paste on my honey crates; they sure help the sale of honey. I have a name for my honey; the honey that is capped over white I call Free Silver honey and honey that is capped over yellow I call Gold Bug honey. I have a great deal of fun selling honey.

I strike some in town that have bought some cap and ball honey cut out of nail kegs and old boxes all messed up and it is almost impossible for them to sell it. The low price of cotton is going to get a great many of the boys in the nine hole and knock style higher than a kite. Another cotton crop like unto this and they will have to fall back to first principles, cook at the wood pile in a long-tailed skillet and go to mill a horse-back.

Brother and sister Atchley, when you come up to the Dallas fair be sure to come to see me and any of the babes.

When through taking honey I will send in a report of this years' crop.

Nosh, Tex., Sept. 26, '98.

The San Francisco Post reports that "a captive bee striving to escape has been made to record as many as 15,540 wing-strokes per minute in a recent test."—The Australian Bee Bulletin.

Poor Season In Ills.

Mrs. Jennie Atchley;

As I have not heard from you in a long time I concluded I would write you a few lines. I have the same stock of bees you sent me about three years ago; they are as good as the best, and if there is any honey in the flowers, they will find it. This spring was a very poor honey season; it was very wet during white clover bloom and then turned very dry. There was plenty of clover but no honey in it on account of too much rain. This fall the honey crop is fair, but not as good as last fall. I am selling my honey at 15 and 20 cts. per section $4\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{7}{8}$.

Don't you edit a bee paper now; if so I wish you would send me a sample copy if you please.

The state fair opens to-morrow, Monday, Sept. 26, and closes Oct. 1. There is going to be quite a honey and bee show this season.

The crops were very good in Ills. this season; fine crops of peaches, but the apple crop is a failure; no cider nor apple butter this winter. O but that peach butter; that beats apple butter for me. Irish and sweet potatoes are fine. Of course you know that Illinois is king as far as corn is concerned; we had corn one season that made one hundred and twelve bushels per

acre. But 40 to 50 bushels is about the average one season with another. How are the crops in Texas.

C. V. MANN,
Riverton, Ills., Sept. 25, '98.

Another Bee Crank.

Dear Mrs. Atchley;

Excuse me, but I must tell you what a bee crank Mr. Clement is getting to be. He found a bumble bees' nest in his barn loft and forthwith he hived them, but I do not think he succeeded with them so well, as they were all dead in a few days.

Respectfully,
Mrs. Clement,
Eyrie, Texas.

Hand-holes or Cleats.

While at Dr. Miller's last week I could not help noting how much easier it was to lift hives having cleats for handles than those having hand-holes only. Dr. Miller has been a strong advocate of cleats; and after trying the two forms—the cleats and hand-holes—I am afraid I shall have to acknowledge that the former is better, although I have always talked the other way, because the hand-hole looked neater, and did not stick out in the way. I do not know, but I think we can devise a combination of cleat and hand-hole that will be both neat in appearance, and yet give a good firm grip on the hive. We are at work on different models now.—
Gleanings In Bee Culture.

Some Bees Gather Better Honey Than Others.

(BY L. B. SMITH.)

I see a good deal being said in the bee journals, of late, about the Italian bees gathering better honey than the blacks, or natives, and thought perhaps a bit of my experience and observations along that line might be of interest to the readers of THE QUEEN..

I came to this portion of country eight years ago, and at the time there was nothing but black bees in this locality. Early in the spring of the first season I had a colony of Italians shipped to me from my old home in Johnson Co. All this time I was looking about and trying to locate the different honey plants in this locality, (many of which was new to me) among them was a jaggy weed that I was sure was a good honey plant. And I am almost sure too, that this plant I am speaking of is what they call Canadian thistle, in the north.

But to return: I asked a good many old time bee-keepers about this new honey plant, but they said honey bees never worked on them. But I was sure there must be some mistake about this, as I had seen large numbers of bumblebees working on them and I was sure they did yield honey and later on, I had the satisfaction of seeing

my Italians working on this plant in great numbers, but not a black bee could be seen on this plant for I kept a close watch to see if I could see any. To further show that Italians will, and do work on plants that our native bees will not I will say that we have here in this locality three varieties of horse-mint. The earliest variety is a low, spreading plant with white blossoms. The other two varieties are much alike, only one has purple blossoms and the other cream colored blossoms. The first named variety I never saw a honey bee working on until I got the Italian bees. I have had my Italians gather considerable honey from this variety of mint while the blacks were doing nothing. And again I never saw our native bees gathering honey from the prickly pear blossom; but the Italians will gather honey fast from them some seasons. Such was the case this season. It may be said, what does all this have to do with Italians gathering better honey than blacks.

The answer is this: If our Italians will work on blossoms that the native, or black bee, will not, or can not, is it not reasonable to suppose they would gather good, clear honey from some of those plants, while the native bees are gathering honey dew, or working on melons. We all know that bees will gather

almost anything that is sweet when there is nothing yielding a good honey for them to work on.

I have witnessed these things a good many times, and would be pleased to hear from others on the same subject.

Lometa, Texas.

Queen, Worker and Drone.

(BY L. STACHELHAUSEN.)

While at present some bee-keepers in Germany are producing the most adventurous hypothesis in the science of physiology and biology of the honey-bee, our American bee-friends prefer practical questions, to scientific puzzles. I think the right way here would be, like in most other cases, the middle of the road, and so the readers of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN may excuse, if I strike some scientific questions to-day.

A queen is said to be a perfect female, and a worker an undeveloped female. Dr. C. C. Miller, in "Gleanings," doubts that this is fair to the worker, for parts fully developed in her are left undeveloped in a queen. R. L. Taylor, in "Bee-keepers' Review," thinks it is entirely fair.

I am of a quite different opinion. According to the present knowledge in anatomy and physiology of the honey bee, neither the queen

nor the worker are perfect insects; and in the same way the drone is not fully developed.

The sexual organs of the queen are as perfect as they can develop in a bee, but all organs connected with the nourishment are more or less undeveloped; consequently the queen is no perfect insect, and if she is no perfect insect, she can not be a perfect "FEMALE" insect either. In the worker bee the sexual organs are very little developed, while the organs of nourishment are perfect. The drones too, have partially developed organs of nourishment.

In fact, the three different kind of bees in a colony are so much dependent one of the other, that we are forced to call the colony the true and unit organism, but not so a single bee.

The worker bee can not propagate her own species and every colony without a queen or without the means to raise a queen is hopelessly lost. The queen, as well as the drones, without the aid of worker bees, can not even nourish their own body nor the larvae and will starve to death in a very short time.

It is known that the queen, as well as the drones, are fed by the workers with chyle for the necessary nitrogenous food. They feed themselves with honey. Both chyle as well as honey are digested

food, prepared by the workers, and for the digestive organs of the queen and drone remains hardly any work to do, in fact, these organs are imperfectly developed.

The digestion in the chyle-stomach of the worker has proceeded so far that the formed chyle is ready to diffuse through the wall of the stomach into the blood and can be assimilated at once. More than this, the characteristic chyle corpuscles, in the bee identical with the blood corpuscles are present in a considerable number already when the worker bee regurgitates this chyle and feeds it to the queen, drone or larvae. In fact, physiologically there is no difference between this chyle and the blood of the honey bee; so we see that the blood which circulates in the body of the queen and the drone is prepared in the body of the worker bee, in fact, is the blood of the worker bee, and that the bee feeds the larvae with her own blood.

Some years ago the question was discussed, how the queen or drone can inherit the characteristics and instincts of a worker? We see this problem has no difficulty any more as soon as we recognize the colony as the true organism.

If the blood of an animal can inherit something of the germ forming the rudiment for another animal of the same kind, it can not be

done in any other way than by these blood corpuscles, and as I showed above, these blood corpuscles in the body of the queen and the drone derive (a large part of them at least) from the body of the worker.

These chyle or blood corpuscles are cells; their mother cells are in the internal part of the chyle-stomach, when the chyle now passes the stomach wall of the queen more of these corpuscles are mixed with it, so we see the blood corpuscles of the queen are of two different origins. They descend partially from the body of the worker and partially from the body of the queen. The same thing is correct with the drone.

This explains another problem. According to the parthenogenesis a pure Italian queen mated to a black drone, should produce hybrid workers, but pure Italian drones. Long experience in queen breeding teaches that such drones are not desirable, and a careful queen-breeder selects drones from colonies with purely marked workers. This can be explained by the influence of the worker-bees in three different ways.

1. The hybrid workers feed the queen with chyle; consequently the hybrid blood forms partially the eggs from which the drones will develop.

2. The hybrid workers feed the drone larvæ with the same chyle. This influence is surely of less importance than the first one.

3. The hybrid workers feed the grown drones their chyle or blood and so have indirect influence on the sperm produced by the drone.

Now a few words on the question: how is it possible that the same larvæ can develop to a queen or to a worker bee?

According to the evolution theory it is very probable that the predecessor of the honey bee was a fully developed and self sustaining female, like wasps of to-day and that by and by separation between queen and worker took place. When a part of the older female larvæ received a less nourishing food, the sexual organs could not fully develop, while all organs necessary for nourishment must fully develop; because no nourishment could take place, if this would not be so. Contrary the queen larvæ receive fully digested food only during the whole larval state, her organs for nourishment are very little used and consequently do not develop, while the concentrated food causes a perfect development of the sexual organs. This change of course did not take place at once and suddenly, but now it is inherited to the bees and takes place like the other developments at the proper condition.

Cutoff, Texas.

Bee Talk.

(BY H. H. HYDE.)

Here we are; L. Ltachelhausen, on page 542, July Gleanings, again emphasizes his statement of some time ago, in *THE QUEEN* that bees do not thin out the midrib of comb foundation in the majority of cases when drawing it out. He states that the German and most American bee-keepers agree with him; he, however, states that some bee-keepers say they have hundreds of combs built from foundation where the bees had thinned the base. He insinuates that these men were all mistaken and that had they known what they were talking about, would have agreed with him.

And the strange part of it all is that Mr. E. R. Root agrees with him.

I suppose I am one of the men he thinks mistaken, for I am here to refute every word he says. After noticing his statement in Nov., '97 *QUEEN* I have been watching very closely the *modus operandi* of comb building and I claim (not know) to know something about it. I have come to the conclusion that bees always (not sometimes) thin out the base, or midrib, of foundation more or less (depending on the honey flow) as well as thinning out the side wall. This has been the case with every comb I

ever examined and they are a good many, as I run 325 colonies of bees. I hardly see how there could be so much difference, for locality would hardly have any effect. While at the C. T. B. K. A. the 1st of July, Mr. E. R. Jones, F. L. Aten and myself had a discussion on this very subject and all agreed as I do. A reference was made to the Nov. '97 article in question and some of us repaired to Mr. Aten's bee-yard (ostensibly to get the temperature of a colony of bees). We examined several frames very closely after being drawn out and it was found as I have said. I will ask Mr. Stachelhausen to answer this, as I cannot conceive how bees should act so differently not over 100 miles apart. He says it would take certain implements to tell exactly, (granted) but to my eyes there is so great a difference, and it is seen so plainly that no implements are needed. Suppose, friend Stachelhausen, you make the measurements and report.

A bee-keeper, in one of the journals, says that when a queen occupies a new comb she commences on the opposite side from the other brood combs. Correct, because the pollen is always placed next the brood; hence, the nearest side is full of pollen at first.

Later. At it again! On page 3

of July QUEEN Mr. Stachelhausen says he guesses he is behind the times for using a novice extractor. Certainly he is, for no bee-keeper, after using the Cowan, will ever use the novice. This (Cowan) is the best extractor on the market in my opinion.

"All the honey that bees are getting now is gathered from cotton" is an editorial on page 16 July QUEEN. Glad to know that the editor has changed his opinion, for more than once I have heard him say that bees gathered no honey from cotton bloom. With us cotton is our main plant for honey during July and August and usually produces a very good crop of honey of fine flavor. The flow from cotton is a long and continued slow flow.

Hutto, Tex., Aug. 20, '98

Never Rubbed His Back Against a College Wall.

(By J. R. JASEK.)

In the last number of THE QUEEN I noted that on your trip West you found the honey crop to be rather short, and even with you it was not very abundant, so that you are compelled to buy honey to fill pressing orders. Well, you may have one consolation as there are with you others equally as bad off,—little or no honey this year. I am one of them. Although the past

winter and spring the outlook for a good honey year was excellent, horse-mint being present in numbers untold, yet at the critical time—May and forepart of June—the rain failed to make its regular appearance, consequently everything green dried up; the bees made a poor showing, but very little honey was gathered. Cotton also was not very promising, at least in the spring, having been mostly planted over and this then checked in its growth by aphids and therefore so very late that its blooming would come right in the middle of the hot season, and the nectar liable to be dried out by the summer heat before the bees have had access to it. Yet the late rains brought it (cotton) to such a perfection and luxuriant growth, not noted for many years, that my hopes of a good honey flow again revived. But, oh! With the damp weather, so unusual at this season, also boll-worms and boll-weavils, which, by the way, were totally unknown in this vicinity, made their appearance, and knocked my aircastles all to pieces, by destroying the greater part of the cotton blooms while yet in the square state. Such a year is not very encouraging for a bee-keeper, neither for his ambitions nor his pocket, a rather cold clash on his enthusiasm. But we have to take it as it comes and be thankful.

The past years, excepting 1897 which generally was a very good honey year, I was able to sell all the honey I produced in the home market; but this year it looks a little different. On account of the bad cotton and still worse prices the farmers, with but few exceptions have little or no money to spare, most of them hardly able to settle their old debts, consequently there is but little demand for honey, and so I shall not be able to sell at home even that little the bees have scraped together. Of last year's crop I have left on hand 3 large barrels of honey, of course candied; this I will keep for my own use at home or apiaries. Of the present season's crop I should like to sell at least 5 barrels wholesale; the rest I am holding for the home market. In case you should be wanting in honey I would be very glad to sell them to you, being sure to be treated right. The honey is in whiskey barrels, well waxed, each holding about 48 gallons or a little over, all being regular 50 gallon size. Along with this I send you a sample to judge by as to quality of the honey and to enable you to make your bid. The honey is a little darker than usual; I suppose having been so slowly gathered accounts for the darkening; yet it is thoroughly ripe, as I do not extract before it is fully capped.

This reminds me that having gained so much valuable information by reading the many articles appearing in *THE QUEEN*, written by friends who neither spared time nor work to make public their experiences and methods of manipulating, and share the benefits arising therefrom with other friends of the little bee, I too, feel bound to give in return some little hint, which possibly might be of use to some bee-keeping friend. True, it is but little, but does not, as Doolittle says, all our knowledge of bee-keeping consist of little things?

When extracting, many have certainly noted that the bees are much more easily shaken or brushed off of combs fully capped than of those but partially capped, as they have but little hold on the even surface of the cappings, and no chance to cling to the walls of the open cells and play hide and seek in the empty or partially filled, where they are safe from smoke or brush. I must remark here that I am not given to brushing the bees off of single combs or handling singly the frames of the extracting super. I prefer to remove the whole super at once. Though the lifting of a full depth, 10 frame (Langstroth size) super is rather telling on one, it can be done, and I prefer this to taking out the frames one by one, shaking

and brushing the bees and running the chance of being stung by infuriated bees. Such operation takes lots of time and invites robbers, especially in a dearth or slakening in the honey flow; while removing the whole super at once they get not the least opportunity to stick their noses where not wanted.

With some the Porter bee-escape may work alright in cleaning the super of bees, but I was unable to make it work to satisfaction; too many bees remain, even if the escape board has been put on the hive the preceding evening. Sometimes I found to my sorrow that ants had taken advantage of the lessened number of bees and helped themselves accordingly. Besides this such hives cannot be left standing in the sun very long or the whole will be pretty soon a nasty mess of melted or broken down comb and honey; our southern sun does its business of warming things up but too well. The supers must be removed the following morning after inserting the escapes. But, pray, can that be done every time? I say, not. One does not know what the next day may bring. I have been there, this thing has happened with me.

My *modus operandi* is very simple. Have ready a good wheelbarrow—I prefer one with a flat base (platform), a stout screw-

driver, a good smoker in first class trim (Clark's will not do for me, as it gets too hot and burns out too fast) and a light box to stand on when lifting the third story—the full one. Now don't puff smoke in at the entrance, as this drives the bees upwards where they will fill themselves, and are much harder to dislodge, a great amount of smoke would have to be used, so that honey might get tainted. They must be taken unawares. With the screw-driver pry off the cover a little and commence smoking and keep on pumping the smoke while taking the cover off and lay it aside, blow all over and between the frames, and you will be rewarded to see the bees, retiring before the smoke and stampeding downward, but don't give them a chance to stop and dip their heads in any open cells. While doing this force the screw-driver between the stories and with a twisting motion pry up and move the super sideward, which operation breaks all burr combs between the upper and lower story, the frames are loosened and the super easily removed without lifting at the same time some of the lower frames. (Here I must say a word in defence of the self-spacing frames, as in case there are any burr combs gluing together the two sets of frames the sideward motion is certain to

push the common frames together, while with self-spacers this is impossible.) Now set the removed super on the wheelbarrow covering it quickly with a robber cloth, put the cover back before the bees commence pouring all over the top edge of the hive, which they are sure to do, especially, if the colony manipulated happens to have but two stories. Everything must be done quickly and the whole operation takes not over two minutes, if the combs are fully capped, if not, it lasts a little longer. Upon arriving in the extracting room with the load, you will find that but few bees remain, and these mostly young ones, they being, as it seems to me, a little slower in finding their way down. These few can easily be brushed off on some extracted combs. Those congregating on the wire cloth of the window are left there until evening, when they will cluster and are put in a swarm catcher, and disposed of how one sees fit, either for strengthening weak colonies or nuclei, or a new nucleus may be formed. The bees, being young and filled with honey, are accepted by other bees.

The extracted super I don't put back till sunset or a little before, except during a good flow. If returned in day time those colonies receiving them are apt to be attacked by robbers, these being, as they

are, attracted by the voice of the bees flying out in considerable numbers from those colonies.

The idea of a "robber cloth" I got from Dr. Miller, who described it either in *Gleanings* or *American Bee Journal*, cannot recollect in which the description was. As I have not seen it mentioned in *THE QUEEN*, it might just as well be repeated here, for the sake of those who had no opportunity to read it in papers mentioned. It is simply a strip of ducking the width of the hive or a little more and sufficiently long to cover top of hive and then so much more that it can be tacked on both ends between two strips of lathing a couple of inches wide, the length being the width of the cloth. If laid on top of the hive, the wooden strip hanging on the two ends, stretch it sufficiently to prevent robbers getting under it and in the hive. I find it very convenient while working with bees at any time as it can be easily handled with one hand while the other sometimes is engaged in doing something else.

If you find any part of the foregoing worth the space in *THE QUEEN* you have the free use of it. I told all in plain language, not having rubbed my back against any college wall.

Praha, Tex., Sept. 15, '98.

Friend J.—It is not always those with

college educations that are the most instructive writers. Book learning is good, but practical knowledge is better; or at least so if we have to do without either, give us practical knowledge. Your not having rubbed your back against a college wall does not make your article any the less interesting and instructive. (Ed.)

New York Quotations.

Receipts of new crop comb honey have been heavy the past week; quality averages better than last season, with a good demand. We quote our market, as follows:—

Fancy White	14 cts. per lb.
No. 1 "	12 " " "
No. 2 "	11 " " "
Buckwheat	8 ¹⁻² to 10 " " "

Market is in good shape for extracted honey. We quote as follows:— [lb.
White Clover & Basswood, 6 to 6¹⁻² cts. per
Amber, 5¹⁻⁴ to 5³⁻⁴ cts. per lb.
Southern, in barrels, 54 to 60 cts. per gal.
Beeswax, dull, at 25¹⁻² to 26¹⁻² cts. per lb.

Write us for shipping directions.

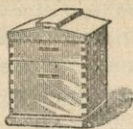
FRANCIS H. LEGGETT & Co.,
Sept. 26, 1898. New York.

A Few Things That Bee-keepers Should Know.

They should know when to divide their bees, when to stop taking honey, when to put on and take off supers, when to feed and how to feed, when to requeen and how to requeen, and above all things they should know how to sell their honey. To do this they should read the *Journals* and keep up with the times. (W. A.)

OUR SCHOOL.

Mrs. JENNIE ATCHLEY,
INSTRUCTOR.



I have just returned from Corpus Christi, and on the way down Sept. 21st, asked for you or any of your family at the depot at Beeville; also on my return Sept. 23rd, but could not shake hands with you as you were not there. Would have been happy to meet some of you.

By the way, I wish to ask you something about exhibiting bees at fairs as I have never exhibited any and wish to do the very best at a big fair soon. If possible I wish to show them in a glass case on frames with wooden doors all around so they may either be opened or closed up. If possible would like to have it so if wanted the queen and the work of the bees can be seen from the outside.

Just wish to exhibit one colony as I have a very fine one and the managers of the fair are begging me to exhibit bees and honey so of course I wish to do the very best I can and make it as nice as possible. Have seen bees exhibited in glass at fairs many times, but I wish to have something of the very nicest, and best. Will you be so kind as to give me a few pointers on this?

UDO TOEPPERWEIN,
Leon Springs, Tex., Sept. 24, '98.

Friend T.—The reason, or one reason at least that we were not in town when you passed through Beeville, was, the most of us were also gone to the gulf at that time. To show bees to the best advantage, only use one comb, a fairly new one with plenty of brood and honey, and the queen can be easily found on one side of the single comb when if two combs are used the queen can hide between them. A glass case can be easily made by any carpenter if dimensions are given him.

Will you kindly give me a little information on the five band golden Italian bees. 1st. Are they as good honey gatherers as the three banded Italians? 2nd. Are they as much inclined to swarm as the three banded Italians? 3rd. Are they as much inclined to leave and go off to the forests after swarming as the three banded Italians, and are they as easy or easier to handle than common Italians.

Joseph D. Dove,
Criders, Va., Oct. 3, '98.

1st. The 5 band bees are just as good honey gatherers as the three bands, or at least I think so when a good strain is used. 2nd. The 5 bands do not, as a rule, swarm as much as 3 bands with me. 3rd. I do not know, as I seldom have a swarm leave of either race. The 5 bands are just as easily handled as 3 bands, or mine are. On all the above points opinions differ, so it will be best for you to give the matter a test, or I think it would.

Will full blood Italian queens

produce full blood drones when mated to hybrid drones?

W. J. RUSSELL,
West Grove, Iowa, Sept. 24, '98.

Friend Russell.—I do not think that any queen, pure or otherwise, will make drones according to her own blood when mated to different drones in color to herself. In fact I know that pure Italian queens mated to hybrid drones will make hybrid drones and not pure ones.

Do you think bees can be successfully kept here in this part of Colorado? The climate is cool. Springs and early summers somewhat windy. Mornings nearly always pleasant. Winter nights cold, but the days pleasant. Alfalfa clover grows in abundance.

MRS. C. E. GLYNN,
La Jara, Col., Sept. 19, '98.

Yes, I think bees will do well where alfalfa clover thrives. There are a great many successful bee-keepers in your state. Your description of the weather seems favorable for honey secretion.

Please tell me through THE QUEEN whether I had better keep the snow away from my hive entrances in winter? I like THE QUEEN very much and will send you a subscriber when ever I can.

W. T. Peppers,
South Ottumwa, Iowa, Sept. 25, '98.

Friend P.—I would not take the snow away from the entrances unless it was blown and banked up unusually high,

as the snow will all be away by the time the bees ought to fly. I have had snow cover my hives for weeks at a time in Tennessee and no damage was ever done that I could see, but those not covered would sometimes fly too soon and die on the snow. I wish to thank you for your kind words. I will appreciate any subscribers you send.

The untested queen bought of you this spring is doing well, but some of her bees are dark and some very yellow. Will it do to breed from her?

A. G. ANDERSON,
Waring, Tex., Sept. 19, '98.

Friend A.—If you are not after a uniform color and want honey instead, and your queen is prolific and her bees good honey gatherers, I would advise you to stock up with her queens, but if you are after ALL pure bees in color regardless of other things then get a pure queen for a breeder.

I have one question that I wish you would answer in school for me. I have a few colonies of bees that the honey ferments. I extracted some of it, and in ten days it had a scum on it one and a half inches thick, and it still had the same sour taste. Can you account for this? Only a few colonies store that kind of honey.

W. H. Madeley,
Rogers, Tex., Aug. 15, '98.

Friend M.—Your honey was capped before it was thoroughly ripe and the weather being damp and warm, it fermented. I have often seen such honey in wet seasons.

THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

E. J. ATCHLEY, - - Editor and Business M'gr.

...ASSISTED BY...

WILLIE, CHARLIE AND AMANDA ATCHLEY.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY, Editress and Manager
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Entered at the Post Office at Beeville, Texas, for
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BEEVILLE, TEXAS, OCT., 1898.

Beeswax is now down in the old
rut again. 18 & 20 cts. cash or 25
cts. in trade in this part of the
country.

G. W. Hufstedler has been moving some of his apiaries this month to better grass. He thinks he now has a good location.

Do you love your bees John? Yes. Well stay with them. Do you love yours Tom? No. Then give them to some one that does.

We need a good rain in this neck of the woods, and we must have it this fall or early winter or our cakes will be dough for 1899 sure.

If you love your bees only for what money you obtain from them, then it is the money you love, and not the bees, and that is love divided against it self, and it wont stand.

W. Z. Hutchinson, of the Review, is taking in the fairs this fall; he was at the Springfield, Ills. Fair, the first week in October. Guess we will have the fairs reviewed soon.

We are still having it hot and dry, and we have been robbing the other way lately. We have just fed one of our out apiaries of 100 colonies 1000 pounds of sugar syrup and honey mixed, and this is robbing from the pocket to help the bees, in stead of robbing from the bees to help the pocket.

A full report of the United States Bee-keepers' Union began last week in American Bee Journal; it starts off well and promises to be a real treat, so better not miss that treat.

How do you like the looks of Robert Hall? We will try to give you a short chapter from the pen of this noble man each month till finished, which will kind o' break the monotony.

Notice the quotations of Francis H. Leggett & Co. in this issue. These people are trying hard to build up a better honey trade in greater New York. Lets help them all we can.

There have been land cheers for our travels to be continued, but we are crowded out this month, as we have so much good matter that must go in. We will try to resume our write ups on the wing in a near future issue.

We have received a photo of a new separator, invented by H. H. Hyde, of Hutto, and Louis Scholl, of Hunter, Texas. We hope to be able to show you a cut of their separator soon, together with their description of same.

We close the Central Texas report with this issue, and show the

faces of a portion of those in attendance. Pick out the ugliest person in the crowd and tell us who it is. Under the photo, we got the word "small" in by mistake, and did not notice it till too late. It should read a portion.

Willie leaves to-morrow, Oct. 13th, for Dallas, Sherman and Denison. He will stop at Dallas one day and visit the State Fair. He has shipped about 8000 lbs. of honey ahead of him and he will make sale of some before returning home. In about a week the writer, E. J. A. will leave for Ft. Worth on the same business.

We have had quite a big run on queens for October, and had to fire up the factory and make a lot of new queen cages this week. We mailed our usual heavy shipment of queens to Australia on the first of this month and the Post master at San Francisco says they passed that point O. K. and took the steamer for Australia Oct. 6th.

We are away behind on school, and we need a bigger school house and some assistant teachers. What will we do about it? Mrs. A. has been very much indisposed for some time, but her health is now improving and we trust that soon she will be able to hear the lessons of all the scholars, as we have been helping her out while she has been sick.

Comb honey is scarcer in these diggings than it has been for years, and still the prices rule low. We are of the opinion that it makes but little difference in this country whether much or little honey is raised, as it seems it does not rule or change prices. Guess people think they will only pay so much for honey, and if they cannot get it that way they will go without. Will some body tell us how we can make honey as staple as bread, or will it ever be done?

Promptly Mailed

Untested queens of the golden or the leather colored at 75 cents each; 3 for \$2. Tested, \$1. each, 6 for \$5. My custom grows every year, and my queens give satisfaction. I send queens to the leading bee-keepers by 50 and 100 lots. Safe arrival on all queens. Try my beauties.

W. H. LAWS, . . . **LAVACA,**
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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.

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An apiary of 150 hives of bees with modern appliances, good range, easy terms, in good climate for weak lungs.

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BEEVILLE, TEXAS.

1898.

Begin early by placing your orders now.

Free to
Bee-keepers.

Our 36 page catalog,
it tells you about
bees, hives, bee fix-

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How to manage bees

And produce honey

We get

THE A. I. Root Company's GOODS by the car load, thereby saving freight charges to nearby patrons. Are prepared to furnish most anything in the bee line on short notice at Root's prices.

IF YOU ARE

Looking for a good stock of Italian queens don't fail to give us a trial.

One, 2 and 3 frame nuclei a specialty.

John Nebel & Son HIGH
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HOLYLANDS!

I can now supply Holyland queens, untested, at 75c each, 6 for \$4.25, or 12 for \$7.00. Tested, \$1.50 each. Breeders, the very best, \$5.00 each.

WILLIE ATCHLEY, Beeville, Tex.

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—SEMI-MONTHLY.—

The representative modern Farm Paper of the Central and Southern Mississippi Valley.

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This is the last time this advertisement will appear, so send in your name at once.

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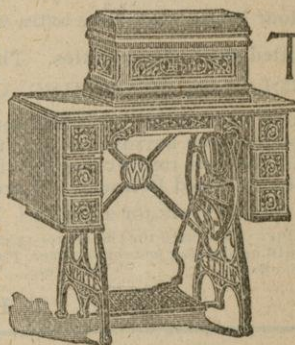
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FOUR MONTHS FOR A DIME.

The Largest Offer Yet.

We will give one colony of Italian bees to any one sending us 12 new subscribers to The Queen, with \$12. This offer stands good until January 1st.

Don't Sacrifice

Future comfort for present seeming economy, but buy the sewing machine with an established reputation, that guarantees you long and satisfactory service. * * * * *



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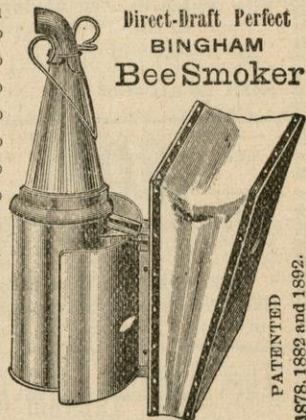
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CLEVELAND, O.

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Patented 1878, 1882 and 1892.

Smoke engin { largest smok- 4-inch stove { er made		Per Doz.	each
Doctor,	3½ inch stove	\$13 00-Mail,	\$1 50
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Little Wonder,	2 " "	4 75 "	70
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All Bingham smokers are stamped on the metal



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The four larger sizes have extra wide shields and double coiled steel wire handles. These SHIELDS and HANDLES are an AMAZING COMFORT—al-

ways 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.

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

DEAR SIR: 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, etc., W. H. EAGERTY, Cuba, Kansas, January 27, 1897.

T. F. BINGHAM, Farwell, Mich.

Are You Looking For It? WHAT?

Are you looking for Foundation to use next year? Then, don't look any farther; as DADANTS, have now been before the bee-keeping world, for many years, stands without a rival today. If you never saw any of Dadants foundation, send a Postal for free sample, together with their catalogue. They guarantee every inch of their foundation to be as good as sample sent, and no complaints ever come against it. They have also revised, Langstroth on the hive and Honey Bee, and you can scarcely afford to do without this large and valuable book. Post paid \$1.25. We sell every thing needed in the apiary.

CAS. DADANT & SON. Hamilton, Hancock Co., Ills.



ROBERT HALL.

LIFE OF ROBERT HALL.

INDIAN FIGHTER AND VETERAN OF THREE GREAT WARS.

(By Permission.)

CHAPTER I.

THE WORLD-BUILDERS.

It was Joaquin Miller, in one of his happiest moods, who wrote that "only the gods and the world-builders got to the West." "The weaklings and sucklings," he said, "died in the alkali deserts."

It required nerve to start, and strong men to survive the hardships of frontier life. Only a few of the old Texas veterans are alive to-day. Of these Robert Hall is, perhaps, one of the best preserved specimens of physical manhood in the State. He is now in his eighty-fifth year, and getting ready to attend the reunion of the old veterans on the 21st of this month at Dallas.

The subjoined sketch recently appeared in the columns of the St. Louis Globe Democrat, and since the picture is a good one and the article in every way pleasing to the old warrior, he desires to have it form a part of the first chapter of his biography.

"FIRST SHOT AT BUENA VISTA.

"Perhaps the most widely known

and most highly respected of all the old Texas veterans is Col. Robert Hall of Cotulla, Texas. Aside from the celebrity that he has attained as the hero of three great wars and twenty years campaigning on the frontiers of the Lone Star State, he is altogether a very remarkable man. If he should appear on the streets of St. Louis, or at one of the leading hotels dressed in his magnificent frontiersman's suit, it would require more than one policeman to keep the astounded public from crushing him, unless the old veteran took a notion that he did not need the services of a metropolitan peace officer. The suit that he wears on gala days and at the gathering of the old veterans is without a doubt the most extraordinary wearing apparel that ever covered and protected the body of an old soldier. He proudly says, 'I made every stitch of it.' The old warrior has been a great hunter, and he has been saving the skins of wild animals for forty years to make this wonderful suit of clothes. The coat is composed of over one hundred different pieces. No two are alike, and each is a piece from the hide of a different wild animal. A piece from the hide of every wild beast and from many reptiles and birds finds a place in the curious and attractive garment. Of course, skins of deer, bears, panthers,

wolves and wildcats make up the larger part, but a connoisseur in such matters would readily find pieces from a hundred other animals. The coat is trimmed, or rather ornamented, with the hoofs of 315 deer, the claws of forty bears, the tails of innumerable smaller animals and the rattles from hundreds of monster rattlesnakes. His cap is as wonderful as the coat. It is composed of very many pieces of pretty fur, and ornamented with a pair of antelope horns. The old warrior is 6 feet 4 inches high and 85 years of age. He walks with a firm step, carrying his head erect, and when he appears on the streets of San Antonio or at some gathering of veterans wearing this extraordinary suit, he is always the observed of all observers. He wears Indian moccasins of the most fantastic pattern, and sometimes carries a fine sword that he captured from a Mexican officer at the battle of Buena Vista. He fired the first shot in that famous battle. When Gen. Taylor received orders to cross the Rio Grande he looked around among the Texas troops for soldiers—Indian fighters—who were familiar with frontier warfare, and of the men selected to form the vanguard of his army the most conspicuous was Robert Hall, then a young man. Hall was a fearless rider and a daring soldier, always

eager for battle. His meritorious conduct in the early skirmishes soon caught the attention of the commander of the army. In the first battle of any consequence young Hall distinguished himself by leading a cavalry charge, and old 'Rough and Ready,' as the soldiers called him, rewarded the young man by making him a confidential scout and spy. The old man's eye kindles with martial fire at the mention of the name of Buena Vista. He thinks it was the greatest battle ever fought on earth.

"'Think of it,' he says 'We had less than 5000 men, and the Mexican lines stretched as far as the eye could see in every direction. I thought there was no end to them. I was in advance of our picket lines and as the enemy came up I raised my rifle and fired at an advancing column and galloped back to our lines. Gen. Taylor was not on the field at that instant. After the battle we learned that my first shot was not lost on the wind, and for that reason I possess a very fine sword which Gen. Taylor permitted me to keep.'

"The old warrior thinks he has been a hundred times under fire, but he regards the battle of the Salado as the only battle fought in Texas that is worth mentioning.

"It is well known to all students of history that the affair of the Sal-

ado was not a skirmish, but the old veteran regards it as ranking with Thermopylae. This occurred in 1842. The Mexicans and Indians, 1500 strong, and commanded by the veteran Gen. Woll, who had learned the art of war under Marshal Soult, were securely posted on a field well selected for military operations, when 200 Texans, under the famous old Paint Caldwell, charged them and started them on a retreat which did not end until they had crossed the Rio Grande. Mr. Hall was wounded in this battle. He has been wounded three times. At the battle of Plum Creek, where Gen. Felix Huston won a great victory over the Comanches, an Indian drove an arrow through Col. Hall's thigh. He kept on his feet until the battle was over, and then calmly asked a friend to pull the arrow from his leg. In this battle the Comanches suffered their final overthrow, and Texas witnessed the end of their long reign of terror.

"Col. Hall was born in South Carolina, and when a mere boy his people moved to Tennessee and settled at Choctaw Bluffs, now Memphis. They built at the mouth of Wolf Creek, as he remembers the name, the first house ever erected by white people where the metropolis of Tennessee now stands. He enlisted with a company of

Kentuckians, commanded by Capt. Earl in Harrison's regiment at Natchez, and marched straight to Gen. Houston's army in Texas, joining the patriot warriors a few days after the battle of San Jacinto. Col. Hall more than once stood guard over Santa Anna while the famous dictator was a prisoner in the camp of the victorious Texans. He served during the war, and then enlisted to fight Indians. He was one of the band famous in Texas history who followed and fought the Comanches that had murdered the Taylor family. The battle, which was a desperate affair, occurred on the banks of the Brazos, near where the great stream is joined by the Navasota, now a region of country under the highest state of cultivation and inhabited by the most wealthy and prosperous people in the State. At this battle the old gentleman says he had a close call for his life. He fought three Indians single handed, and making two bite the dust, he conquered the last one by breaking his neck with his fist. From the dead body of this warrior Col. Hall took the bloody scalps of Mrs. Taylor and her children. Col. Hall married a daughter of Col. King, another famous veteran, who escaped the massacre of Fannin's men, and he built the first house in the town of Gonzales, in 1837.

"When the Texas Rangers were organized under the laws of the old Lone Star Republic, Col. Hall and Gen. Henry McCulloch were aspirants for the office of captain of the first company organized, and McCulloch was elected by five votes. That was the first step in his career which led to the command of a great army. Col. Hall seems to regret that particular defeat, and laughingly says, 'I was just as good a soldier as Old Henry, and if I had been elected I might have become a great general.'

"He has been offered \$500 for the frontiersman suit that he sometimes wears, but he would not take \$10,000 for it. At the last reunion of the veterans, Col. Hall, in this suit, was the most conspicuous figure on the grounds. It occurred at Seguin, and at that time Gov. Ireland and Gen. Birleson were both alive, and they vied with each other in their attention to Col. Hall. 'Big Foot' Wallace, the hero of Mier, who also lives in this vicinity, accompanied Col. Hall to the reunion, where they were made to ride in a carriage, given a seat on the rostrum, and made to listen to the story of their battles, painted in glowing terms by the most famous orators in Texas.

"Col. Hall was a great favorite with Gen. Sam Houston, and they were always the warmest of friends.

He has the most beautiful hunting horn on the continent. This horn has a strange history. It is covered with beautiful carvings. Sea nymphs, mermaids, ships and dragons of the deep are so delicately intermingled that one could spend hours turning it about and admiring the wonderful work of the artist. It is very long, and at the large end are the words 'El Pirata.' Thereby hangs a tale. Just after the battle of New Orleans, Col. James Long, an officer who had distinguished himself in the great conflict and won the approbation of Gen. Jackson, led a small colony to Texas. He fell into trouble, and after a battle his little army was defeated, and Long was carried to the City of Mexico a prisoner in chains. His wife, who was a niece of the famous Gen. Wilkinson, who figured so prominently as a witness against Aaron Burr, remained in Texas and sought the protection of the pirate Lafitte, who was at that time located on Galveston Island. The buccaneer treated his distinguished guest with every mark of respect, and on one occasion gave a dinner in her honor on board of his flagship. While at the table one of Lafitte's officers showed Mrs. Long a horn, which he said had been taken from the dead body of a pirate.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)



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