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MOON'S

BEE WORLD.

A GUIDE TO BEE-KEEPERS.

VOLUME 1.

MAY, 1874.

NUMBER 6.

[For the Bee World]

Recollections of Other Days.

MR. EDITOR:—Forty or fifty years ago, before the days of bee moths railroads and patent hives, it was not only a satisfaction, but real pleasure and reasonable profit to own bees. The time for robbing was looked to with an interest, by young and old—scarcely second to the log rollings, corn shuckings and quiltings, common at an early day. We'll never see such times again.

When a marriage took place, the young couple, in true bee style, left the old place and set up for themselves. Some weeks before the nuptials were celebrated a house-raising was had on the land, or near the homestead of the grooms father, whither the couple removed the day after marriage. Marriages in those days were almost always in the fall of the year. A good crop started the youngsters courting. Instead of silver plate jewelry and tinselled presents, the old people gave them a start by gifts of a bed, bed clothes, stands of bees, poultry, cooking utensils, etc., etc.

Bees kept themselves—had no insect enemies, and the harvest was

equal to the laborers. All vegetation seemed to fairly sweat honey. It was not uncommon for a gum to swarm four or five times, and all do well.

When the gums "got rich," which was so adjudged about corraseling after the crops were "laid by," a certain day was fixed upon to rob, and the neighbors of every age and size were invited in. It was not unusual for settlers to own fifty and one hundred gums. The neighbors began dropping in late in the evening, and trays, crocks, piggins, chuns, and rolls of old cotton and flax rags being prepared and in readiness about sundown, the fun commenced.

Quilts, bed sheets or counterpanes were tied so as to bag at the bottom, and the gum placed on the edge of benches and rocks. As the men prized off the top, it was a part of the business of the women to blow in smoke, in order to drive the bees down into the bag from their stores. Such clouds of smoke, such smuggling, such sneezing and coughing, and eyes running water!—no need of sodorifics. Sometimes the weight of the bees were so great, and the string being tied none too secure around the gum,

it would give way, or slip off, and then there was fun. "Rats to your holes." Every one who held a light caught scissors, and there was a general stampede of the children for shelter, with hair full of bees. The air with sounds was startling. "As bees buzz out wi' angry fyke," Mrs. Stallings, stout and sandy-haired, brushing the dough from her fingers, cries out, "What on earth!—who's that hol'rin so? I do wonder if that's my Tabitha Jane! The Lor-sa merev! What you go thar fer? Didnt I tell you not to go down thar 'bout the bees, you little fool you? and with that she lays hold of Tabitha Jane, with her left hand, and with her right, spank, spank, spank, she produces upon the person of her Tabitha Jane, a counter irritant; and leaving to Father Time the cure of the smarting spanks. Three different kinds of weeds are bruised and applied to the parts stung.

After as many were "taken" as was intended or desired, the honey was carried into the house, picked, and assorted—the nicest and best pieces to itself for market, and a small particle put away for company and special occasions, while the black comb and that containing bee bread with no inconsiderable sprinkling of larvæ, was left in the trays, and the children allowed to eat without stint or restraint as long as appetite lasted. What the children left was squeezed out by hand and the balls of comb, bees and bee bread put in a vessel filled with water for mathiglin.

The female part of the company who were not helping about the bees were assisting in getting supper. When it was announced, such a sight we'll never see again. You've heard of tables groaning beneath the weight of eatables. If tables ever groaned they did, for such piles and stacks of honey, hominy, stewed pumpkin, potatoes, black eyed peas, pork and corn dodgers, are not found upon tables these days.

Before eating commenced the man of the house appeared at the foot of the table, holding up a big flat glass

bottle, chuck full—the picture of Washington on one side, and the American Eagle surrounding the Coat of Arms of the United States on the other, blown in the glass, the contents intended to assist the appetite, and to promote good feelings. He announced "ladies first, the Parson next, and then permiscus." The bottle passed round. All smiled. This agreeable ceremony over, after grace, the matron with frilled cap, gracing the head of the table, addressed the parson first, he being the most important personage present. "Will you be helped to sage or sassafrac tea, parson?" Choosing sassafrac—it was only on occasions like these that the second question was asked. "Will you take long or short sweetening?" The sweetening consisted of maple sugar (home made) and molasses. Occasionally during supper some one would jump up, dart behind the house, and call for light—bees were crawling.

After supper the youngsters arranged themselves in pairs, and marching in a circle, spent an hour or two singing "Old Sister Pheby," and "Walking on the green grass," and

"Rocks are glued with ginger cakes, And girls as sweet as candy"—with hugging and kissing at the end of each song and play. Such times.

It was usual for the women and juvenile part of the company to remain over night, and go home next morning. Before retiring—feeling some uneasiness, and having some misgivings as to creeping things being carried to bed. The women after divesting themselves of some outer articles of apparel, would place a wax and tallow dip candle in the middle of the floor, and stand round it, peeping on the inner side, while turning their cutly sacks, hunting and removing insects that might disturb the nights repose.

Away in the dead hours of the night when "slumbers chain" seem strongest, comes a whine from the trundle bed, a-hic, a-hic, a-hic, and continues to get louder and louder until it wakes up mammy. "What's the matter,

Johnny?" "Oh, mammy, my BREAST does hurt so bad—s-o b-a-d; a-wah, a-wah, a-wah—bawling, rolling, and tumbling. A hearty dose from the camphor bottle, sets Jonny's BREAST at ease, but he was never afterwards fond of honey. Such times we'll never see again.

H.

Murfresboro, Tennessee.

Answer to Oglethorpe

Come along and bring as many as you can to the convention at Oxford in August. I will second your motion to amend the constitution so as to provide for semi-annual conventions. There will be no difficulty in making the change; but I do not know but what I will oppose you in the selection of a place for the next convention. While I would like to visit Athens, the home of our old and venerable friend John H. Newton, I am for Calhoun or Resacca, Ga. We have more bees in our county (Gordon) than there is in any county in Georgia or Alabama.

To our South Carolina friends who asked the question if they could become members of our association by paying the fee of fifty cents, I will say yes, come along, or send your fifty cents to Capt. C. O. Stillwell, Rome, Ga.. We will be pleased to have you numbered among us, and meet with us. If the convention ever meets at Calhoun or Resaca, we will give you as much "hog and hominy" as you can can digest, with honey to cap off with. Come along. OOTHALOGA.

Rambing Notes.

FERTILE WORKERS.

It is my opinion that fertile workers are nothing more than a defunct queen produced from brood too far advanced at the time the bees tried to make a queen from brood not having any eggs on hand, or brood young enough to produce a fully developed queen, and the name "fertile worker," not ap-

propriate, but more properly a defective, or unproductive queen.

HIVING SWARMS THAT SETTLE IN LARGE TREES.

I keep a tin bucket with a lid punctured with holes to give air, and spring to fasten it down securely—some fifteen inches deep—long handle, so as not to interfere with the opening and shutting of the lid. When bees swarm and settle high up in large trees I send a man up with one end of a rope in his hand, the other end tied to the handle of the bucket. When he reaches the bees he ties the rope to a limb, and draws up the bucket partly filled with water and a brush (I find a brush much better than feathers to take off bees) he saturates them well with water, and brushes them off into the bucket. After he has got the most of them in he closes the bucket and then examines to see if the queen is left out; if he does not see her he lets the bucket down by the rope, and the bees are carried to the hive they are to be put in, emptied out in front of the hive, and the bucket sent back with a bunch of rags fired, with which he smokes the bees still left on the tree, and they soon leave and come to the hive. If bees cluster near the ground, I generally put them in the bucket by shaking them off of small limbs, and carry them to the hive where I wish them to stand.

WINTERING, ETC.

I do not know how many stands I carried through the winter, as I bought all winter until I had some fifty odd stands. They all done well until after the spring opened, and then commenced working and getting plenty of surplus and large broods. Then the cold wet weather set in, and for two months, but few days they could do anything but consume the surplus on hand. I found some twenty swarms entirely destitute—killing their drones, and with no brood unsealed. I commenced at once to feed, but so many swarms being destitute, robbing became a life and death struggle with the whole apiary, to such an

extent as I have never before witnessed. Some six swarms came out and settled—four of which I transferred to other hives. They being in box hives, to try and save them, I carried to houses and kept them shut up entirely for three or four days, until they had commenced storing what I fed to them, then carried them to their stands, and these so far have done well, but one swarm which the robbers, I think have reduced too low to recuperate—one of the above, I found the moth so plentiful in the comb, that I could not use it for transferring, and took comb from a deserted hive for them.

I had one swarm that I could not by feeding so plentiful, induce them to stay in the hive, after they had come out some four times and been returned they come out and flew about for half an hour without settling. I know they had lost their queen, and knowing she was with them on the previous day, (having seen her) I commenced searching for her, and soon found her on the ground not able to fly. I put her on the bottom of the gum several times, she still every time making an effort to fly. At last I put her in the hive, and in ten minutes (the bees then flying,) entered the hive, and in five minutes time they come out in a hurry and settled on a tree. I gave them a good wetting, hunted up the queen, clipped her wings and returned her with the bees to the gum and they are now doing well. I think it best to clip the queen always after having the first, and they swarm out.

My experience in feeding is, that there is no safe mode of feeding to prevent robbing, unless carried to a house and kept closed up until you have fed sufficiently to store surplus. Every way that I have tried starts robbing, and in a large apiary I find it better to loose a few swarms for the want of food, than start a general disposition to rob. The loss in the latter is much greater than the former. I think I have had bees enough killed by robbing, caused by feeding in the apiary, to make a good swarm every day for ten or fifteen days at a time. It is

surprising to see the number of bees one strong swarm will kill in a day, when fed sufficient to bring to them swarms of robbers. With me at present, the most perplexing thing in bee culture, is to devise some plan of feeding that robbers wont find out, and not thus disturb the harmony of the apiary families.

LOSS THIS SEASON.

It is my opinion there will be a greater loss in bees this season South, than for many years.

I knew a man once who gently took his bees off of a tree in a large silk handkerchief. He put several small switches in the handkerchief to make it set out long enough to reach cross the handkerchief. Tied the ends together and carried the bees when he wanted to live them, and in this way he carried his bees through the country to sell. I once bought a swarm of him, and he brought them eight miles in his handkerchief, and on the way, they had built a peice of comb as large as the hand.

G.

Floyd County, Ga., May 7th. 1874.

Bee-Keepers Association.

EDITOR BEE WORLD:—Are the officers of the bee-keepers association of Ga. and Ala., doing any thing to create an interest in bee culture, and to make known the objects of the association? It seems to me that they should be up and doing, it is expected of them, it is their duty to do so. They should bear in mind that those who put them in office expect it of them. It so happens sometimes, that some men are willing to enjoy all the honors of an office, and are content to do nothing else, and look to others to do their work for them. I dont say such is the case with the officers of our association. I hope not, but it occurs to me it is time we had some evidence from them that they do appreciate the position they, occupy, and are disposed to make good and faithful servants. We have heard from none of them but our Secretary, Thos. J. Perry. We would be glad to hear from our worthy President, Vice President, Corresponding

Secretary, Executive Committee, &c., to know whether or not they are at work trying to build up and foster our association, and make it a blessing to our Southern people. It has been entrusted to their care and keeping for the time being. If they don't manifest some interest in this matter who will. The thing can't live and prosper by itself.

If I knew what to say or what to do that would awake them up, I would most certainly do it, if it was to sprinkle a little cold water in their faces; though I would expect to get a fight on hand in the case of our President. He is a hard old case, but a mighty clever old man. I would throw a big dipper full in Borden's face if I were near enough, and risk the consequences sure. But seriously, Mr. Editor, I do think somebody is not taking that interest in the next convention they should—why is this so? I do not know unless it is they have the old disease that our Southern people have had so long, and which has proved so fatal with them. They all stand back with their arms akimbo, waiting for somebody else to do what they themselves should do. No life, no enterprise, no nothing but self. Can't you sting them a little, or put a coal of fire on their backs? Do something and that soon.

POLK.

May 7th 1874.

Bees as Architects.

Man is obliged to use all sorts of engines for measurement—angles, rules, plumb-lines—to produce his buildings, and to guide his hand. The bee executes her work immediately from her mind, without instruments or tools of any kind. "She has successfully solved a problem in higher mathematics which the discovery of the differential calculus, a century and a half ago, alone enables us to solve at all without the greatest difficulty." "The inclination of the planes of the cell is always just so that if the surface on which the works are unequal, still the axis running through it is in the true direction and the junction of the two axis forms

the angle of sixty degrees as accurately as if there were none." The manner in which she adapts her work to the requirement of the moment and the place is marvelous. In order to test their ingenuity, Huber glazed the interior of a hive, with the exception of certain bits of wood fastened on the sides. The bees cannot make their work adhere to glass, and they to build horizontally from side to side. He interposed other plates of glass in different directions, and they curved their combs in the strangest shapes, in order to make them reach the wooden supports. He says that this proceedings denoted more than an instinct, as glass was not a substance against which bees could be warned by nature and they changed the protection of the work before reaching the glass, at the distance precisely suitable for making the necessary turns—enlarging the cell on the outer sides greatly, and on the inner side diminishing them proportionately. As the different insects were working on the different sides, there must have been some means of communicating the proportion to be observed, while, the bottom being common to both sets of cells, the difficulty of thus regularly varying their dimensions must have been great indeed.—Scientific American.

For the Bee World

Patent right for Bee Hives.

MR. EDITOR.—I see in the different bee journals, much said in regard to patent bee hives, and various opinions as to which is the best hive of all now before the public, and not satisfied with recommending their particular favorite; but presume to dictate to all others, how they shall put them before the public, and sell the hive or patent; one argues that it is not right to sell patents at all, but manufacture them and sell the hive with the patent; another choose to sell his patent and let the buyer manufacture for himself, I confess I cannot see any point in the argument against the latter, or why any one should complain; certainly each one has a perfect right to sell as

he chooses, and no doubt prompt to do so by interest. All, I have no doubt are after the "almighty dollar," and take the road they think shortest and quickest to get to it. It is true when one manufactures, and only sells his patent and hives together, he makes a profit on his hive, and contracts the price of same, while the other only sells his patent, and the buyer makes the profit on manufacturing. There are so many now before the public that one in making a selection is very apt to find himself in the same predicament as the boy was, when looking in the woods for a fishing pole, passed all the nice poles in search of something better, and then selected a very crooked one, the worst of the lot.—Any one having invented a hive for which he has obtained a patent, has a vested right for the time to said patent and the laws protect him in the same, and from any infringement on said patent by others, and if he chooses to manufacture and sell the hives, let him do so, and another choosing to sell his patent and not manufacture, no one has a right to complain.

G.

Floyd County, Ga., May 4th, 1874.

The hive question is one that has awakened a deep interest in the apiarian department—Time and money has been spent, much of it unprofitably. The inventors of course, claiming superiority over each others improvement, and some not even satisfied with this, they continue with their wranglings about this one or that one selling his improvement. It matters not how good the hive may be, it seems to be a sin for him to sell in any other way than to manufacture and sell his wares, instead of territory. This to us sounds too much like twiddle dee and twiddle dum. The careful observer can readily see, that dollars and cents are the leading feature in these wise movements. It cannot be possi-

ble, that one of our bee-keepers, the one pursuing the right to manufacture is any more honest than the one who wishes to pursue the course of selling his improvement, in a way to let each do their own manufacturing, or can it be possible the former cause is more honorable. We have found those that complained the most, was generally the one having an axe to grind. He probably could not sell so plentifully of his cheap wares—not willing and content to let his brother bee-keeper have the same privilege to conduct his business as he prefers to with his. "Oh, consistency, etc.," were it not for so much fault-finding and contention about bee hives, &c., how much more pleasant the occupation of apiculture would appear, and be appreciated. Let us hope for the better, and be willing that every one paddle his own canoe.—ED.

To make Bee-Keeping Profitable in the South.

First, what is most needed is enlightened bee culture. This will enable the South to turn out tons of honey where does not now furnish pounds. It is well known to most of bee-keepers and especially those in the South, that the great honey harvest is in the months of April, May and June, and still later in the fall, during the extreme hot weather it is very dry, consequently the honey plants are not able to secrete but little honey. This scarcity of honey is caused mostly by dry weather. Should the season be favorable, occasional showers, we then could expect to realize a profit from the apiary during the warm part of the season. We have found the most of the bees in the South are wintered on their summer stands, and are more or less exposed to the warm sun during the winter as well as the summer months; they seldom have any protection whatever, consequently fly every day or so during the winter, and

if they are not getting honey, they must be consuming, and much faster than when they remain quiet. Nothing more adapted to remedy this, is to keep some cheap shade over them, to prevent the warm rays of the sun, from warming them up, uncouraging them out, when it would be for their good to remain quiet in the hive.— This would not only prevent a consumption of honey, but a great loss of bees, as many as are encouraged to come out that never return, the air is chilly, and they fall to the ground.— In this way the swarms become reduced in numbers, so much so by the time the season for work arrives they are greatly reduced, hence a loss to the bee-keeper. Bees breed in proportion to their strength, both as it regards numbers, and amount of four. A prolific queen is very necessary for a large brood. We have found that it is not necessary to be to the expense and trouble of making quilts to protect bees in the South, as some have to do in the cold Greenland North. We have examined bees every week during the winter, and could not find any frost inside of the hive, and had it have been as cold again, we very much doubt that it would have been found in any swarm of bees were there were bees enough to protect themselves. There will be a great loss of bees this spring. Bees wintered remarkably well. The spring opened fine—they started large broods, the hives were filled, and their stores exhausted with a large family on hand. The long continued rains, they consumed all the honey, and they either starved in the hive, or swarmed out, providing they found a time between the rains, and would enter other swarms and share the same fate, death. Those that examined their bees, and fed them, now have them in fine condition. Many swarms had a supply to carry them through, and now are strong.—ED.

[For the Bee World]

Italian Bees.

EDITOR BEE WORLD:—I have been asked by several parties what I thought

of the Italian bee, compared to the black or gray bee. If you will allow me, I will answer through the BEE WORLD. Although my experience and observations have not been so extensive as many others, yet I am satisfied that the Italian is by far the most profitable bee from the fact that they are the most industrious, will work when the black and gray bee are housed, and in addition to that they are more docile, not so easy to irritate which is a very important thing with me.— Those I got of you are fine and doing well, would not give one of them for two of the black or gray bee.

Yours Respectfully,

THOS. J. PERRY.

Rome, Ga., May 6th, 1874

Queries.

QUESTION.—Are all drones alike virile or is a drone bred from an unfertile queen, or fertile worker, capable of perpetuating their species?

ANSWER.—We have failed with such drones in every single instance, never had a queen fertilized by them, and believe them to be worthless.

QUES.—Have you ever had a queen fertilized after she commenced laying?

ANS.—We have, we once placed a young swarm, as soon as they come out, and were hived in a dark room and commenced feeding on the seventh day. The queen commenced to lay, and the eggs proved to hatch nothing but drones. On the sixteenth day we placed them out doors, at about eleven o'clock the queen came out, passed off and was gone about fifteen minutes, returned apparently not meeting the drone. In about twenty minutes came out again and was gone nearly thirty minutes. Returned evidently showing all signs of meeting the drone. We closed the entrance of the hive to prevent her making her escape, and placed them in a dark room and fed as before. Examined them every day, and soon found the queen was laying worker eggs. Since then have had several cases. A queen will repeat her flight until the seventh or eighteenth day, and perhaps

longer had she been previously confined.

QUES.—Does a queen ever loose their disposition to meet the done.

ANS.—They will, should the weather be favorably, the queen will continue her excursions every day and sometimes two or three times in one day, and thus continues it for several days. We have known them to come out for seven days in succession.

QUES.—What is the cause of some queens being so much lighter in color, than others. Are they as pure?

ANS.—They are as pure, the different shades of complexion is no more to be wondered at than that of the the human family. In one family we see some that are so light in complexion, that perhaps a brother or sister, differs so great that by some they would not be considered from the same family, and simon pure. Now take the one of the lighte complexion and they choose for themselves a partner of the same complexion. Their offspring would be almost without color, and the way to breed light colored queens, is to select from the lightet queens every time, and the result would be a light queen. But we would not recommend this way of breeding, or at least to carry it too far.

QUES.—Do you consider the light colored queens as prolific as those of a darker shade, say a leather or a chest nut or a tan color?

ANS.—Not as a general thing. We have had some light colored queens very prolific, but have found that those of a darker hue was the most prolific.

QUES.—What is the cause of their not being so prolific, if there is a cause, which there must be. If they are not as prolific, as it cannot be in the bred, unless there are two kinds of Italians?

ANS.—It has been supposed by some that the very light colored queens have been bred from strains of blood running in that direction, so far that they, to a certain extent, have established a class of bees that they are not as prolific. However, some of our most reliable breeders, contend that

they are equally as good and prolific.

QUES.—Which do you consider the best to breed from, a queen of medium size, or a very large one?

ANS.—Our experience has been that we have found those of medium size by far the best—the best and most prolific queen we ever had was the smallest one we ever saw. We obtained her of Rev. A. Salisbury, of Camargo, Ill. She was small indeed, with a black tip on the end of her body. She raised the finest and the largest and most uniform bees we ever had the pleasure to see. Her queens were almost invariably marked like her, and equally as prolific. To look at her, she was very inferior; not like those VERY LARGE yellow queens we read so much about.

QUES.—What kind of queens would you advise us to buy, large or small?

ANS.—First buy nothing but the pure if you can get them. Be sure you buy of men that will warrant you a good queen, and nothing else. We have scores of good breeders that will take pride in sending you a pure queen. To be sure they charge you a little more, as they are willing to warrant you a good one, or refund the money. These are the breeders to buy from.

QUES.—Would you advise me to buy cheap queens, and take my chance in getting a good one.

ANS.—Do as you please about it, we look upon it as a lottery, where there is no blanks. But it would be better to be something like, you put in one dollar, and your ticket draws twenty-five cents any way. It is much better to put a little more with your money, and be sure you get what you want—a pure queen, than to be taking your chance of getting that you do not want. Then we say buy nothing but good queens, and of men that will warrant them to you.

[For the Bee World.]

From Maryland.

Mr. Moon:—I have a stock of Italian bees rather singularly marked, and would like to have your opinion with regard to them, or in fact, any ones opinion will be thankfully received.

There seems to be two distinct races of bees in the same hive. One is very beautifully marked Italians, with rather a redish cast—more so than what Italians generally possess. The other half have three beautiful yellow bands—from the band to the end of the bee is quite white—different from what I ever saw before. I would like to hear if you ever saw any thus marged; also would like to know if there was any sure process or reliability in getting a queen fertilized in confinement—would like to have same stock of bees, and if I cannot get them thus fertilized I may move them away from the other bees, that I may secure fertility with the same blood.

My bees are doing very fine indeed; they have wintered well on their summer stands. I may at some future time give my views on upward ventilation. I have young queens of this year raising.

I am well pleased with the BEE WORLD, and hope to be able to send you a few more subscribers, thereby aid you in your noble and worthy enterprise.

D. A. PIKE.

Smithsburg, Md.

The bees you describe are no doubt a cross between the black and Italian bees. Although they are so uniformly marked, and of the two different colors or marks. They breed about equal or about one-half of them resemble the Italians, and the others partake more of the nature of the black, although differently marked.

We have had them when mixed answer about the same description as given above—there being almost, or the two distinct colors is no more strange than to see two distinct com-

plexions in the same family of children. It is not an unfrequent thing to see some families nearly one half, resembling the father, and the other half resembling the mother. There being the two separate and distinct marks is only evidence that your queen is a good breeder. The next cross will probably be more mixed. Would be glad to hear from you at any time.—

[Ed.]

Don't suffer your hives to be exposed to the noon day sun, for it frequently occurs. Fine colonies are lost by the honey becoming so warm, that it melts and falls, and drowns the bees. Some have discovered this after it was too late to remedy it. We would advise shelter from mid-day sun, rain, snow and the cold winds of winter.

The bees will never fail to repay you for all that you may do for them.

Reply to Polk.

On page 164, Mr Polk's letter with regard to the association, we agree with you, that great interest should be taken by the officers of the association, and every effort should be put forth to make the association one of interest, and to try to get up an interest that may be felt through the bee-keeping fraternity; and to urge any one to take hold with us, and unite in the great work before us. But we do not like to be stung or sting any one. Therefore you must excuse us from that; but we are willing to do anything within our power to build up the association, and influence bee-keepers to attend the convention at Oxford, Alabama, in August, and we tender our columns to those in charge, or any one else who feels like aiding in the enterprise, let's hear from the President the Corresponding Secretary, and the Executive Committee. We feel quite sure the railroads and steamboats will

carry you at reduced fair, to and from the convention, but application should be made in time, that all necessary arrangements may be made in time.

We look forward to that convention with more than ordinary interest, believing that much good will result from such a convention.

Then, friend bee-keepers, take hold of the work.—Ed.

For the Bee World.

From Kentucky.

MR. EDITOR:—The April number of the WORLD is just before me—two weeks behind time.

On page 128, fourth paragraph your printer has made me say DIED for DID, which destroys the sense of the subject spoken on, unless the readers could see it was a typographical error.

Friend Kretchmer on page 131—“Queens that will duplicate themselves,” and how to raise them, has given my views and practice exactly. I will add that I generally use new comb, not over a year old, for queen raising. It is a rare thing to raise bright queens in old black comb, unless it is by a strong stand in a good honey yield. In this case they will cut away part of the old comb, and build the cell of entire new material.

Friend Hollett, on page 134 asks me in all seriousness, “Is Italian queens reared by black bees as good as those reared by Italians?”

I confess if there is any difference in color of the queens or their progeny, I have never noticed it. The first two or three years, I reared mostly from black bees, but for the last three or four years I have reared entirely from Italians, having no blacks about me.

I will say to friend Davis, on page 143, I am not condemning the queen nursery. I was merely giving my reasons for laying it, with all nurseries aside. That I could not persuade bees to accept an unimpregnated or virgin queen, unless she is hatched inside the stand I wish to introduce her to. I know that Mr. Moon, Gallop, Novice and others have given methods in which they said they had no trouble.

I have tried all their methods—so it appears that one can do what another cannot.

Friend Davis gives me a method in fourth paragraph, how to get the bees to accept a virgin queen; but let me ask him, and all intelligent bee men, if exactly the same method cannot be practiced just as easy without the use of a cage or nursery? The bees being all from the hive No. 4, that the cells were reared in, what is to prevent putting a cell in each frame without a cage, and make the necluses on the 9th day before either of the cells hatch. I have done this with perfect success in every instance.

But let me ask friend Davis one question: Suppose you had, say eight or ten queens to ship off from full stands, or even necluses, on a certain day, say Monday. (for a long distance I always ship Monday so as to reach the destination before Sunday.) Now suppose you wished to introduce virgin queens to these soon after removing the queen—how would you do it if the virgin queens were not hatched inside of the very stand you wished to introduce to. I forgot to say in case you had no fertile queens ready, and your cells were ten days old the Friday or Saturday previous, would you cut out the cells and place them in the nursery, and let them hatch inside the same hive, then risk introducing them after sending off the queens above named? Now this is the question I aimed to ask in the last article you refer to. I repeat, in every case like this I have failed to introduce virgin queens.

I will now tell you how I do in such a case, and with entire success: I cut out the cells on the ninth day, and place them in a small wire cage, and put a cage in each of the stands I intend to remove the queen from, even if it is three or four days before the day I intend to remove her. If the cell hatches before I remove the queen it does no harm. She then acquires the scent of the bees she is to be introduced to. I prefer for this purpose, smaller cages than those in the

nursery, and in eight cases out of ten I put in no feed, but press the cage a little between two combs of sealed honey, being careful not to injure the cell in the least.

I have frequently sent off queens when the cells were nine and ten days old, and for fear the cells may hatch if left any longer, have put them in the cages, and put the cage in the hive at the same time I took out the queen to ship off, and if these cells did not hatch in twenty-four hours I took them out of the cages and put them between two frames on top, and in nine cases out of ten all was right.

I again ask friend Davis and Moon, Novice, and all prominent bee men for a safe and sure plan to introduce virgin queens to full colonies, neclases that they were not hatched in, and when I find myself in possession of the SURE and SAFE plan, I will then, and not until then, see the use of the nursery.

R. M. ARGO.

Lowell, Kentucky, May 6th 1874.

In introducing queens, and more particular virgin quees, there cannot be a doubt, there are some failures, but as a general thing, for we are speaking as such. There are failures in almost every branch of rural industry. We all know that when we have favorable seasons we have good crops, providing all diligence has been manifested, if not its a failure, so with the introduction of queens into queenless colonies. Should the bees be an gry give them enough to eat, and be sure and give enough, by placing the queen very quietly on the comb, and you can very readily see whether the workers will own her, if they do not it will be better to give both the bees and queen a good dose of honey from their own hive if convenient, and there will be but little or no danger.

As to the mistake which occurred in the word died instead of did in your article, we discovered and marked, but

by some mistake was no corrected and went to press with the mistake, which we dislike for several reasons. First, it is very unplesant to see, and especially for the writer, again, it gives Novice so much uneasiness, we dislike much to see him itch so terably, and we must try and make the printers do better. Please excuse us friend Argo, for we verily believe that our readers, or a great proportion of them will see that its a typographical error.—Ed.

Ask your neighbors to subscribe for the BEE WORLD. If they can't pay for it for one year, ask them to take it for six months, if he can't do that tell him to try it three months any how. The BEE WORLD is the only journal of the kind published in the South, while there is several in the North and North-West.

The Age of the Honey Bee.

BY PROF. A. MENZEL.

Like the greater number of domestic animals and cultivated plants, we find the honey bee a companion of man already in the earliest periods of history. The most ancient records mention her presence on the island and coasts of the Mediterranean and the Black Sea and speak of her as being almost universally diffused in the interior of the Continents of Europe, Asia and Africa, so far as the travels, the trade and the military expeditions of the ancient extended—as in Egypt, Syria, Greece, Italy, Gaul, Germany, Thrace, Sicily, &c. Everywhere to, is the honey bee spoken of as indigenous in those countries, and nowhere in the annals of antiquity are we told that this highly useful and interesting insect was transferred from one country to another by human intervention or instrumently.

Still further back, in the dim dawns of history, partly in the era of the sages, we are assured of the existence of the bee, by the accounts given

us of the already general use made of honey, the product of the unwearied gathering and storing impulse of this insect a product at one time a romantic, refreshing and in vigorating, and which in connection with milk, has ever been regarded as an evidence alike that of the fertility of the soil and of the happy condition of the human family in those days—the Golden Age. In the mythology of the Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans, the bee occupied a distinguished place, and it is significant of the intimate relation which must at one period have subsisted between the earliest civilized nations, that common popular faith in each of them held that the honey bee originated from the putrefying carcasses of oxens, and that the name of the sacred bull of Egyptians is perpetuated in the latin word *apis*. The first traces of bee culture, also are found everywhere back in the saga period. Thus in Spain, the Cunctes, dwelling near Tartessus, ascribed the invention of the art of procuring honey to their ancient fabulous King Gargoris, while the Greek and Romans attributed this merit, as well as that of first placing bees in prepared habitations, and domesticating them, to their gods or the descendants of their fancied deities—to Dionysos or Bacchus, the son of Apollo and the nymph Cyrene—regarding Thessaly as the scene of these important improvements.

Again, yet further back in prehistoric times, from which no written records, reports, names, or dates survive but of which remains of weapons, implements and utensils, of buildings and building materials, of garments and personal ornaments, of animal and vegetable comestibles, and human bones, furnish intimation of the state of civilization among the inhabitants, we find unmistakable indications that the honey bee was then already, very commonly and extensively cultivated. From the stone age and the period of the Helvetian pile structures, utensils of clay, regularly perforated, and more or less well preserved, have come down to us, which, according to the judgement of the best antiquarians,

were used in draining honey from the comb, in the manner still practiced by the peasantry in many districts of Switzerland—though others incline to think they were used in the manufacture of cheese. The fossil organic remains frequently found in the same localities, point out conclusively the same classes of plants and animals which are found at this day still in intimate connection with the life and habits of the honey bee.

And again, still further back in the abyss of time, in those remote eras in the progress of the development of the earth, which preceded the elevation of the Alps, and which by their various remains of fossil organisms, demonstrate that a subtropical climate, with a medium temperature of 66 degrees once prevailed in what is now Switzerland. In the upper miocene we find beside the petrified remains of various flowering plants of honey-producing or honey-loving insects, and of enemies of the bee and her products, belonging to other families of the animal kingdom, a fossil honey bee also of that special family of which only one variety has ever been cultivated—namely the *apis mellifica*. The only specimen of the honey bee in a fossil state hitherto found, occurred in the insect bearing stratum of the quarries of Oeningen.

It was first recognized as an *apis* by Prof. Heer, from the nervures of its wings, and named *apis adamittica* by him, as it differs in this respect from the *apis dorsata* Fabr., besides being somewhat smaller. On the other hand, it is larger than the *apis Indica*, and the *apis florea*; but it is intimately connected with the *apis mellifica*, and may rightly claim to be regarded as the forerunner if not progenator of the latter.

Thus we find the honey bee existing geologically as an inhabitant of our earth ages before the appearance of the human race, living doubtless as now, in orderly communities, laboring for a common purpose, and leading her wonderful life in all its interesting relations with the industry, the love of

order, the neatness and loyal devotion to the queen, the brood, and her associates, which still distinguish her. Then, as now, no doubt vigilant and courageous in conflict, feeling and expressing pain or pleasure, and causing herself to be respected among her foes by her envenomed sting; storing up honey for herself and others, and forming cells artistically from self engendered wax. Nothing warrants us to assume any changes in her instincts and habits, since her corporeal frame, adapted to her inclinations and impulses, has undergone no change in twenty-two centuries which have elapsed since the time of Aristotle, when she was always ready universally diffused—being invariably the same, whether in the genial clime of the tropics, or exposed to the severer temperature of the rigorous North.

Place your hives out of the reach of toads, for they can soon destroy a strong colony if they can get near enough to the entrance to catch them, as they pass in or out. Watch the toads late in the evening and at night.

Bee Hives.

We are often asked what kind of a bee hive we use in our apiary; and would recommend for general use.—First the readers of the BEE WORLD, as well as those of other bee journals, well know, that we have ever made it our business, not to be recommending, and much less condemning bee hives through the journals of the day. Certainly we have had plenty of it both pro and con. We have the evidence of this in some of our bee journals, men who make their journals almost a speciality to advertise their traps, and cheap wares. Well this is their own business not ours, neither shall we complain as they have an undoubted right to publish as much as they please, as the evidence in the case is clearly shown

that they wish to make money, and they propose to make their journals an advertising medium to accomplish their ends, they undoubtedly have so much confidence in their wares. Perhaps they think they are doing more to advance the cause of apiculture in this way, than any other. At present we decline taking any stock with regard to bee hives through the BEE WORLD. Its true we have an add in its columns, the same as others take, we consider this sufficient for any intelligent person. The hive we use in our apiary, while it seems to be a great desire of some to condemn any other than the peculiar hive they use, we propose to let every one use such a hive as he chooses, believing that we are doing in this just as we would be done by. If my neighbour bee-keepers does not like the hive we use, is it right that we should be continually finding fault through the press, we think not. We have often thought that we would reply to some of the articles that appear through the press but we have not, and our mind is not changed, that we could use the pages of the journal to a better advantage than on some bee hive should we express our opinion upon this subject in favor of any particular hive, we should expect to see the fire fly, and it would need more than one journal to settle the hash, therefore our friends will excuse us at present, as we have no disposition to entail upon our readers any more unnecessary, and uncalled for controversy. We are of the class of peace makers, and seldom ever say much, unless we are forced to it. We are sorry to say that we have been compelled to speak out, though in a very mild terms. But when men cannot find business of their own, and are

so ready to obey the apostles injunction, "look not every man on his own things," "but every man upon the things of others," unfortunately for the worlds progress, and the happiness of man that such minds have failed to redeem the world from ignorance. But the subject of bee hives is now undergoing a thorough and canded trial. What suits one does not always suit another, therefore let us say there is several good hives now before the public, and some claims more on the way. At least there is room for all, but in choosing for a hive, besure to choose one that first contains frames, second, that its made both simple and cheap as possible, always bear in mind that the simpler the hive the better, it should contain the requisites of successful bee keeping upon the most simple and easier plan.—Ed.

When any bee-keeper visits our city, it would afford us much pleasure to have them to call at this office, wether or not they wish to subscribe for the ournal.

The Apiary.

The worker bees are the smallest bee in the hive. They are generally termed neuters, that is neither male or female. They are properly undeveloped females. Yet under certain circumstances they will produce eggs—when there is no queen; by the loss of their queen, which is often the case in the second and third swarms; when the queen leaves the hive for fertilization, which is the case in all second

and third swarms. As soon as they are old enough, which is generally from two to four days, sometimes longer—the old queen having left with the first swarm, the eggs that were laid by the old queen have by this time passed in the larvæ so that in case the young queen is lost they have nothing to rear another from; consequently the swarm must be lost, unless supplied with eggs from another. In the case of this loss, the strong instinctive powers of the workers to reproduce their species are brought to light. There are some of them sufficiently developed. They will lay eggs, which we have seen them do in several instances; and one great proof of their not being sufficiently developed as perfect females is that they lay nothing but drone eggs, and but few of them. The comb they make is principally drone comb, which is contrary to their nature, but the loss of the queen, and being destitute of the means to produce another, seems to prove to them that they soon become extinct without the proper material to rear another. We have made a great many observations upon this one point, and have experimented a good deal, and we believe that they are undeveloped females, whose ovaries are not sufficiently developed to enable them to become perfect mothers, such as will produce after their own nature, producing the three different classes of bees in the hives, yet they possess the natural affection and care for their young, feeding and nursing them and preparing for their wants, and will even risk their lives for them. They will cling to them as quick as a mother to a child. They gather the honey build the combs, feed and care for the queens. Their great delight seems to be to gather the honey, and to reproduce their species. They seem to control the entire colony in everything. When the flow of honey commences, then they commence with double the vigor, and the queen will commence laying in proportion to the amount of bees and honey, and as fast as an egg is dropped in the cell, the worker will give it the amount of food necessary

to bring it to a state of maturity. They seem to understand what is required in every particular case, doing nothing at random. When there is a sufficient amount of bees in the hive and brood in the combs, they will build their queen cells, several in number, so as to be sure to have enough in case of a failure. They remove an egg from a worker cell to a queen cell. They feed and protect it from the time it is placed there until it comes forth a perfect queen. The old queen is not allowed to come near or molest it while in the hive. If she could get near it she would destroy it at once. As soon as the queen in the embryo state is sealed, the workers will lead the swarm. Frequently they will come out, and the queen being unable to fly, on account of being heavy with eggs, remains, and the swarm will return and generally come forth the next day, when the queen having deposited a large number of eggs, will come with the swarm. Here is one fact: Let me caution the bee-keeper and those unacquainted with the facts. We have picked up as many as seven queens in one season that were unable to fly. They made the attempt to fly when the swarm came forth, and dropped on the ground. The bees could not nor would not have found her, and would have returned back to the parent hive, and remain there from eight to ten days before they would come forth again, and if, during that time, a scarcity of honey should take place in the forest, the workers would destroy all the young queens but one; consequently there would be no more swarms for the season. Again, if at the time of the hatching the young queens there should be one to three windy or rainy days, the workers invariably destroy all the embryo queens. They are governed by great instinctive laws, and do exercise reason, which we will show hereafter.—Ed.

[For the Bee World.]

A Simple Hive.

I have been requested to describe the hive I use. It is only a modifica-

tion of the Langstroth, as are all frame hives that I have seen; but is more simple and less expensive, as I think, than that hive. The dimensions of the brood chamber and of the frames, are identical with those of the Langstroth.

The chamber is 18 inches long, inside measure, $14\frac{1}{4}$ wide, and 10 deep. I make a four inch portico in front, but this is not very important. The sides I make two feet long and two inches deep. The ends are $14\frac{1}{4}$ inches long; the front one is $8\frac{3}{8}$ inches deep; the rear one $9\frac{1}{8}$ deep. The sides are nailed on to the ends, making a box of the dimensions above mentioned. The tops of both end pieces are all $7\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch below the tops of the sides. This is done for the purpose of allowing the end pieces to form shoulders upon which to suspend the frames. Between the lower edge of the front end piece, and the bottom of the hive, a space of $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch is left for the ingress and egress of the bees. Boards notched and jointed together, or nailed across the whole bottom of the hive.

The cover is $22\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, and $16\frac{1}{2}$ wide. A rim made of strips $\frac{7}{8}$ of an inch thick, and $1\frac{1}{4}$ deep, is nailed on to the under side of the cover, so placed as to fit nicely around the outside of the brood chamber. A strip an inch deep is cut out of the upper part of the side pieces, from the front of the hive back to the front of the brood chamber, to allow the front side of the cover to enclose the upper front end of the chamber. Immediately over the portico, and in front of the side of the cover, a board about 3 inches wide is nailed across from one side to the other. The roof of the chamber drops upon this board. For the purpose of holding the hive together more firmly, and of forming a catch by which to lift the hive, a cleat about an inch broad is nailed across and just even with the upper edge of the rear end of the hive.

This completes the boxing of the first story. In this story I use ten frames, running from front to rear.

In time of extracting honey, I generally use only nine frames. Each frame is made of four pieces—top, bottom, and ends. The top piece is made of a strip $\frac{7}{8}$ of an inch square, with a flare made for the purpose, a tongue $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch thick, and brought to a feather edge, is run upon the lower side of this strip. This forms the comb guide for the bees. The other pieces of the frame are made of strips $\frac{3}{8} \times \frac{7}{8}$. The top piece is 19 inches long. This gives it one-half inch projection at each end, to rest on the upper edges of the ends of the hive. The frame when completed, is, outside measure, $17\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, and $9\frac{1}{4}$ deep. It is suspended in the hive by the ends of the top piece of the frame, resting upon the upper edges of the ends of the hive.

For an upper story, I have a box, without any bottom or top, made to fit nicely upon the lower brood chamber. It does not cover the portico. It also holds ten frames, and when set in place, is covered by the cap of the lower story. By beveling off the upper edge of the frames in the lower story, and also the inner lower edges of the ends of the upper story, the two boxes may be made to fit together very exactly.

If comb honey is desired, instead of extracted, the upper chamber may be filled with caps, set upon the frames, or upon small strips laid across the frames.

This is as brief a full description as I can give of the hive I use. It is NOT PATENTED, NOR DO I HAVE ANY TO SELL. Any person who can use a saw and hammer, can make one for himself. It suits me better than any hive I have seen. I have had the single story hives made for about one dollar each, including material. When I make them myself, which I generally do, they do not cost much over half that amount.

And now I must beg the printers not to make so many blunders in this, as were in my former article. I counted until I found over two dozen errors in that, and then I stopped counting.

In many places it did not express my ideas at all. I know I write a bad hand, but do, friend printer, try to make some sense out of this, if there is any in it.

M. C. HESTER.

Charlestown, Ind.

You are right, friend Hester, when you say that you write a bad hand. There is some of your writing that is very hard to make out—again it is plain enough. Probably you are somewhat like myself, when we write in a great hurry, we are apt to make some mistakes which will cause a blunder with almost any one. We shall try hereafter and be a little more careful, and see that it will be readable if nothing more. Please write as plain as possible, and if our devils are not more particular, we will send them to the wind-mill press, and run them through that. Then if they cannot do better, we will ship them. Don't be discouraged brother Hester, they say there is a better day coming—so send along your articles, and we will try and get them correct.—Ed.

Swarming.

For some days before swarms issue the bees may be seen clustering at the entrance of their hive—though we have seen some swarms that would come forth when but little or no indications of a swarm. When honey is abundant, and bees plenty, you may look for them to come forth at almost any time from the hours of ten to three in the afternoon, (first swarms,) second and third from seven in the morning until four in the afternoon. Have your hives ready, and in a cool place. Be sure they are both clean and sweet. They will need no washing of herbs, or salt water, or whisky, to induce them to stay. They need to be protected from the hot sun. Should the sun strike the hive, it is very apt to compel the bees to leave—they cannot stay where it is too warm to work their wax.—Ed.

[For the Bee World]

Transferring Bees.

MR. MOON—Dear Sir:—As many of your readers are novices in apiculture, they want to know exactly what we mean, when we speak of “transferring bees,” and how a TRANSFER is made. I propose to write a short letter for beginners in bee culture, and your readers who are experts, can just skip this page.

By transferring we ordinarily mean taking the bees, brood, honey, and comb out of an old box, or gum hive, and putting them into a frame hive. To begin with, the operator needs a broad knife, a table, some wide plank, a hammer, cold chisel, vessels for the honey, bees-wax and rosin, and some smoke rags. Melt the wax and rosin together in a long vessel. After subduing the bees, take the old hive to a shady place, set it on the table with the head down, cut the comb loose on one side of the hive, then cut the nails and take the plank, or side off. Next take out the honey and brood comb, carefully brushing off the bees with a bunch of feathers; lay the comb on the plank, and cut to fit the frame, being careful to put it in as it stood in the old hive. Dip the edges of the comb into the melted wax and rosin, and stick into the frames. As soon as cold, they are ready to put into the new hive. Every small piece of comb may be stuck into the frames. When all the frames are filled, or all of the comb used up, place them in the hive; sit the hive on the table, and spread a newspaper with one edge on the bottom board of the hive. Everything being ready for the bees, now brush them off of the old hive into a tin pan, or the hand, and put them down in front of the new hive; have some one to knock on the back of it, and the bees will go to it as readily as pigs will go to corn. As soon as the bees have gone in, so that it is certain the queen is secured, place the hive back on the stand from which the old one was taken, and the work is complete. Should the bees show

any disposition to sting, a few whiffs of smoke will quiet them.

S. M. H. BYRD.

Cedartown, Georgia.

The supplying of bees with food, in any season, but especially in Spring, is of great advantage to them, as it cheers their spirits, and rouses them to breed earlier than they otherwise would. I would therefore recommend to every bee-master, to give a little additional food, even to hives that have abundance, in order to revive and exhilarate the bees, and encourage them to hatch their young families, early in the season.—BONNER.

Hives, or the habitations in which bees live, breed and work, have been made of different materials, and in different forms, according to the fancy of people of different ages and countries. Melissus, King of Crete, is said to be the first who invented and taught the use of bee hives.—BONNER.

For the Bee World.

Clipping Wings of Queens.

MR. EDITOR:—Briefly we wish to notice an editorial extraordinary in May number of the American Bee Journal, on the above subject. After giving a portion of the proceedings of the meeting of the North Eastern Beekeepers' Association upon the subject, where it “was fully discussed, and a number of the most experienced beekeepers gave it as their decided opinion, that clipping a queen's wings does not injure her capacity for usefulness,” he says:

“We have never tried this practice, and are therefore liable to be considered incompetent to say anything against it. But we can at least be permitted to state why we have never tried it—* * * * ringing pigs' noses, picking the feathers off live geese, cutting off the combs of game cocks, and the like, are all of a piece with clipping the wings of queen bees—* * * * though no serious evil may result from its being done once in awhile; it must entail weakness if done continually—* * * * If every bride were de-

prived of an arm on or before her marriage, we are of the opinion that the mutilation would tell disastrously upon coming generations."

Now this naturalist and teacher never having TRIED it, would it not be better for him to have said nothing about it, but left the subject with practical aparians, and the visionary whom he styles "one of the best apiculturists, both as to theory and practice on the continent.

Is this editor and critic in searching into the mysteries of nature, and theorizing on natures' laws, endeavoring to impress upon us the doctrine that "ringing the nose" of swine for successive generations, will result in a whole litter of pigs, some day, with iron or brass rings attached to their snout, or successively markings with under-bit, and swallow-fork, on porkies parentage will produce piggies with a like mutilation on their organ of hearing, besides "entailing weakness?"

Who supposes that Adam at creation had any use for a pruning knife? What would you think of the fruit-growers of this age refusing to use this implement, because the Creator causes young sprouts to grow up around, and water-sprouts upon his apple trees, and a superabundance of runners from his grape vines?

"If every bride were deprived of an arm, etc." This is not an analogous case. The editor was certainly lost for an illustration. The wings of the queen bee are not clipped until after fertilization. She is perfect in all her parts, when she meets her spouse. If the editor had said after conception, instead of "on or before marriage," he would have been nearer a simile.

Ganders are very pretty birds, and in our country along water courses and near ponds, many may be seen. It is however, not for their beauty, for show, or for ornament, they are kept, for the same reason bees are for profit.

"For some years past," he says, "it has been customary with the best aparians to clip the wings of queen bees as a precaution against swarming."

This is news to us, and no doubt

will be to many bee-keepers, who practice it. We do not remember to have seen or heard of its practice as a preventative of swarming. If it has any effect upon the swarming impulse, we have never discovered it. However, our experience has been confined within the bounds of Tennessee, and we do not know what effect this mutilation would have upon a colony in Canada, or at other places where the "best aparians" reside.

"We object on principle," he says, "to the unnecessary mutilation of the creatures domesticated by man." What principle?—Creators first? Is it unnecessary to clip the wings of the queen bee, for the purpose for which it is really done? We have no idea that Abel "unnecessarily mutilated" his flock with sheep-shears—didn't need wool in those days. Man scarcely knew he was naked. Is that any reason why we should not practice clipping now?

"We believe," he says, "the Allwise Creator made no mistake in giving the queen bee wings, and that it is, on the whole, best she should be permitted to retain them."

The All-wise Creator made no mistake, when he gave the grunter a very long snout, with a propensity for rooting, and endowed with an appetite for worms and the roots of grass; but would man be wise to permit a herd to root up and destroy a valuable pasture (where they could graze and thrive without materially injuring the pasture and ground) because he had an aversion to "ringing their noses," or clipping off entirely, which is the common practice, the grisly end of the snout?

"The queen bee," he says, "had wings when the Lord God surveyed His finished work, and pronounced them good." Where he gets the information we know not. Does Moses speak of it? Have insects and animals undergone no change or transformation since creation?

"The Creator first," he says, "is of more weight by far than the creatures' fancy, and we are content in our bee-

keeping management, to conform to all the Divinely established laws of bee life, instead of trying to change or even presuming to suspend them."

We are told somewhere in the book of Genesis, that the Creator gave man control and "dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowls of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth," but nowhere do we find His fiat (order,) "not to pick the feathers off live geese," shoe horses, or "clip the wings of queen bees;" and we have never known "the Creator's fancy" to lead them to do either. It is for other purposes—not "fancy."

If "conforming" to all "Divinely established laws of bee life" is meant not running counter to their habits, instincts and disposition, but little profit would we realize by "conforming," compared with what we now do by "presuming;" and our learned adviser, if successful in his heresy, will soon be in search of a new field to scatter his wisdom; for like Othello, his occupation will be gone. We would have no use for bee-keepers.

"It is astonishing to see with what cool presumption some people constitute themselves advisors extraordinary." H.

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Combs should never be kept long before they are melted, for, though they be covered in a close box, the wax-moth will find a place to deposit its eggs in, and the young maggots will gain an entrance, to the destruction of the combs; after which, turning to perfect moths, they will prove very hurtful to your apiary.—BAGSTER.

Many people are fond of bees—indeed have a passion for them; but it is not enough to be fond of them, they must be skillfully taken care of, according to certain rules, applicable in every case, but more particular in bad years. Mistaken care annoys them—niggardliness ruins them.—DEGELIEN.

[For the Bee World.]

Sketches from Tennessee.

MR. EDITOR:—The aim of all correspondence to the bee journals, should be the advancement of apiculture, and those who condescend to the weakness of fault-finding in everything which does not savor to their dogmas are not using their talents in the great channel of progress.

Judging from the matter contained in some of the journals, there are a class of writers whose great aim seems to be to throw stumbling blocks in the way of further advances in bee culture, or especially to further improvements in

BEE HIVES.

The Langstroth patent having expired they seem to think that all patented improvements ought to be public also, and throw all the odium on patentees possible—classing them as a band of swindlers, unworthy the confidence of public favor.

That there are some that may defraud the unwary, we doubt not, but why this general condemnation of all for the guilty few. It is both unreasonable and unjust. Is it not evident to all unbiased minds, that those persecuted patentees have done as much or more for the good of apiculture than any other class of bee-keepers?

Apiculture would never have reached its present high state of perfection had it not been for energetic patentees and their agents, pushing their hives all over the country, thereby fulfilling the design for which patents are granted, that they may be generally disseminated, so that the greatest number may have the benefit of such improvements. Who dare say Mr. Langstroth did not bestow a blessing on bee culture, when he took a patent on his hive and sent it to the public. He received a fee for the right to use wherever sold, which was justly his need, for "the laborer is worth of his hire." And is it to be presumed that the acme of perfection should be reached in the first movable frame hive patented?

Improvements are going on in every

other branch of industry, and those making such improvements are looked upon as benefactors, notwithstanding their improvements are patented, while those having patents on bee hives, or sell them, are of all men the vilest. We more than doubt the propriety of such articles finding their way into the journals, as they tend to discourage further improvement, and in their stead we would encourage all improvements whether patented or not. If such fault-finding complainers would write more about bees, and less about patent bee hive men, apiculture might be benefited.

DARK, THEN BRIGHT.

In closing my last, I stated that bees had wintered here better than usual. Hives were generally pretty well filled with eggs and brood, but scant stores, when the weather changed and cold winds and rains set in, and although fruit trees were in full bloom, and were wasting their sweets upon the air, yet the bees imprisoned within their hives, did not dare to venture forth to even so much as get a sip of the wasting nectar. Consequently, the only alternative was sugar syrup, or some other artificial food.

Where feeding was not resorted to, the result was death to the weak, and a great prostration to the strong. Thus a great many bees in these parts have ceased their labors, and many bee-keepers have many stocks less to begin the season with than they anticipated.

But the genial breath of spring has come with May, and bees are now luxuriating in a wealth of sunshine and flowers, and building up wonderfully.

S. D. McLEAN.

Callicoa Maury county, Tenn.

Friend McLean you are correct in saying that the aim of all bee-keepers should be to advance the cause of apiculture. Again, the class mentioned as throwing stumbling blocks in the way of progress, has long been seen, yet we

have good reason to believe that the great majority of these writers, have the good of apiculture at heart, and are anxious for the cause to advance. We have carefully watched the progress of bee culture in this country, having had considerable experience from our youth up. We have carefully taken many valuable notes, as to the benefactors of this noble branch. At the same time we have a few notes concerning the many complaints against this mans infringement, etc., etc., while this course is to be deeply regretted. This great cry has arisen about patents on bee hives. A large class of inventors has had to battle against one, and strange to say about the time of the expiration of this one. There seemed to be a greater struggle than ever to kill every patent in existence, and, they go so far as to say no other hive has any merit whatever, and is an infringement upon the Langstroth patent, but scarcely any one uses the hive as patented, or first made, which was very good, but because one man prefers to use any of the hives, or at least any of the improvements it certainly should be his privilege without the consent of any of his brother bee-keepers.

Again, if a man has obtained a patent he has had to pay the government the same to get it as any other has done, and the law is bound to protect him. It is not our prerogative to say that Mr. A or B has infringed upon any man. It is the law that decides this question. We ask no man to adopt the hive we use, unless he prefers it, neither will we condemn any one because he prefers another. Had the space been given to teach practical bee culture that has been given to fight bee hives we certainly would not have seen the ignorance that now prevails in this

branch of rural industry. Let us lay aside this worthless hive controversy and try and teach apiculture as we should and great good may result from it.—ED.

Whatever may be the form or material of which hives are made, I strongly recommend not to be sparing with it, but to make them substantial. I would recommend that the boards be an inch and a half thick.—DEGELIEN.

There are no signs, absolutely certain, to know when bees will swarm. * * * The most unequivocal sign is, when the working bees do not go abroad, in as great numbers as usual.—DECONEDIC.

It has been said that bees have been known to live for years without swarming, and to fill vast cavities, even great hogsheads. This does not agree with their usual habits; on the contrary they never remain long in great communities; indeed their sole aim is to increase their species, storing up honey is only a provision to enable them to do so.—WIGHTON.

For the Bee World.

Our Bees and the Journal.

EDITOR BEE WORLD:—For one week now passed, our bees have been in the height of their glory among the bloom. Never were they more energetic according to their numbers. The fruit trees of all descriptions, are now profusely blooming, and the weather is fine for the bees and honey, and they are improving the shining hours, with busy hum, as best as they can, after being much reduced by a cold and extremely unfavorable and wet Spring.

Our swarming season of course, cannot be early this year, even with the Italians. They have gathered but little pollen until recently. We read in the BEE WORLD of swarming already being in fashion, away back in the month of March, in the Sunny South; almost enough to inspire a notion in us to be there with our bees, but if swarming begins here before the mid-

dle of June we shall conclude it is early with us, for the season. The Spring has been such as to cause us to feed many stock that were running out of stores, to keep them from starving, or swarming out and leaving their hives. A thing they often do when they anticipate starvation.

Friend Kellog wants to know if we ever tried an atomizer, to quiet our bees instead of smoke. Well, I answer that I have, but rather choose the smoke of rotten wood, as being more convenient generally, yet I like both at hand whenever needed.

I hope that all Southern bee-keepers will become so interested in the BEE WORLD, that they will all be like friend "G," of Floyd county, Georgia, never lay it down until read through, and its contents treasured up in the mind.—I wish however, that our friend hereafter will not be ashamed to give his name and post office address. I think it will better induce other bee-keepers to subscribe for the BEE WORLD, and I know the Editor wants all the dollars he can get on subscriptions to sustain the journal.

Friend Josey thinks the Sunny South should feel very grateful for the publication of the BEE WORLD in their midst. I think so to, and I trust the bee keepers in the region round about Huntsville, Texas, will do their part worthy of the enterprise. In fact it is their duty to do so.

My friend Knight has done a very commendable deed in calling the attention of bee-keepers to honey plants.—Nothing is more needed than to give more attention to the cultivation of honey plants and especially those alike beneficial, both for honey and other profitable farm products.

You are right friend McLean to call upon brother bee-keepers, to shoulder the wheel, and help friend Moon in his noble work of publishing the independent BEE WORLD, to illustrate the apianian science in the South.

Yes, says, friend Stone subscribe for and read it, and long may its Moon preside and shine over its destinies—emitting a continual halo of light in

the pathway of every bee-keeper in this broad world of ours. N. J. Wooster of La., reports progress in honey gathering in his locality far in advance of us, up in this more Northern clime. May he still prosper with his bees.

JEWELL DAVIS.

Charlestown, Ill. May 8th, 1874.

Friend Davis, we have some very zealous workers in the South for the BEE WORLD. While we say this, we would not be understood in saying that the North does not appreciate the privilege of the journal here in the South—no, for certainly as far as we know, not an enterprising bee-keeper of our whole acquaintance, but what appreciates it, and wishes it success. Still we must acknowledge there are some that we have expected to hear from, if no farther, who we did anticipate would lend their aid in the support of a home journal. We ventured this enterprise in good faith, and one that no other person has ever dared to undertake, and we felt confident of the support of every bee-keeper in the South that wished to sustain a home enterprise. Many old, and some new veterans have worked for its support. We have to thank them for their kindly aid, their subscriptions, their communications, and their influence.

We shall try and make the journal a welcome visitor to every household where it may chance to go.—ED.

The age of a bee is at longest but a year, and the wonder is not that they live so short a time, but (considering how many enemies they have, and how many casualties they are subject to) that they live so long.—WARDER.

“The burying of the dead here some contrive,

Some nurse the future nation of the hive:

Some feed their young, whilst others cleanse the cells,

And some prepare the winter hydromel.”—WARDER.

A hive in June is a perfect study, a model of order, work, neatness and beauty; it is rich in interest to every one who has an hour to spare. About nine o'clock at night you cannot do better than listen for a quarter of an hour by your hives, and you will hear an oratorio sweeter and richer than you ever heard in Exeters Hall. Treble, tenor, and bass, and blended in richest harmony; sometimes it sounds as the distant hum of a great city, and at other times as if the apiarian choristers were attempting the hallelujahs which will swell from earth to heaven when all things are put right.—TIMES BEE MASTER.

It is almost impossible sufficiently to impress upon the minds of every person who keep bees the necessity of having their stocks all strong, for weak stocks are very troublesome, very expensive and seldom, if ever, afford any profit.—PAYNE.

[For the Bee World.]

Bees in Florida, &c.

MR. EDITOR:—I have deferred writing a second article with respect to your periodical for some time, for fear that you would have occasion to make another vain (I am glad to say), attempt at changing my sex; for, Mr. Editor, I feel perfectly reconciled, and am contented to abide by that will which destines me to be of male-gender for ever; more than that I am not ashamed to say that if it were in my power to do so, I would not assume the garb of the fair sex; and I am surprised to see that you are so desirous of augmenting their number at the expense of diminishing your own. Perhaps those who wish to be of the fairer sex and cannot be, the fops will think it strange that I am so anxious to get out of the “Ladies' Department.”

But enough of this. Sufficient to say that you, Mr. Editor, missed it that time.

I have just read the fifth number of your instructive periodical, and it is needless to say that it is replete with information. I think a more extensive

circulation of it is very important for apiculture. I believe it is destined to be an important branch of industry and wealth in the South, and to be successful in this, as well as in any other vocation we must be well instructed, therefore we need an instructor.

Suppose our farmers would bestow one half of the time and attention to apiculture that they do to the growing of cotton, and some other uncertain crops could the profits be compared? We of the South are slow to see some things.

Our original swarm has produced two swarms up to the present date; one natural and one artificial. The natural swarm occurred in March. Perhaps this seems rather early to some of our readers, yet I think there has not been a day too cold for them to work since they swarmed.

But we in Florida, even, cannot have all the advantages combined without some evil.

I have recently observed that the mosquito hawk, is perhaps the most destructive enemy the bee has here.—I know not how it is in other sections, but we have them here in great quantities. My fears were first excited from noticing them around when the first swarm occurred; I next observed them flying low about the hive, and saw one catch a bee and alight on a bush with it; I then came to the conclusion that they were committing highway robbery like the humble bee, but I soon discovered that they were not only robbers but murderers, they devour both honey and bee. The swarm was obviously thinned by them. The bees have a friend in the black martin, however, which feeds on the mosquito hawk. The martins are so few compared with the hawks, that I fear the bees will be greatly annoyed. I would like to know, through your columns, concerning this subject—whether they infest other portions of the country than this, and is there a preventative.

I think they are not able to catch the bees high in the air, but take advantage of the more tardy movement of

the bee when it is about to enter the hive. The mosquito hawk has a long body with short and sinewy wings and monstrous jaws, they perhaps are three inches long, and fly about principally towards evening.

There seems to be a great deal of difference in the different kinds of buckwheat; several have been disappointed in planting it by finding it to be honeylees, eventually. The rape should be introduced into the South, if it is what it is said to be. The flowers of the bay tree, contains a large quantity of honey, and it is very plentiful in Florida.

With regard to the temperament of the two species of bees, there is no doubt that the Italian is much less irritable than the black bee. Before the Italian bee took the place of the black I would generally just let them be, but now I fear them no more than mosquitoes.

There is a deal of discussion as to whether the nectar of nature is changed after being extracted by the bee.

Recent investigations fairly made by one seeking for the truth, have gone to prove that the substance is not chemically changed, while in the depository of the bee.

The investigator made the experiment with syrup of sugar, which after it was stowed away in the cells by the bees, was found to differ not from the original in taste. It is generally believed, though, that the honey undergoes a kind of concoction in the stomach of the bee, and becomes much thicker than in its undigested state, yet some think this change not made. It has often been observed, while the bee is depositing its honey in the cells that what appears to be the last of the honey disgorged, is of a different appearance from the rest; this is of the nature of cream, and is thicker than the rest. It seems to be very useful in the economy of work—serving to keep the honey from running out, by any accident, and also we are told to keep the honey moist.

Though this cream, or crust, appears to be the last quantity disgorg-

ed, it is not in reality so, for it seems to have been gathered from the first, and every fresh quantity of honey is added under, and not upon its surface. For this purpose it has been observed that the bee when coming loaded to the cell, first enters it, and with its legs pierces a hole through the crust, or cream. While this hole is kept open with its feet, the bee disgorge the honey in large drops which mix with the honey below. After this is done, before flying, the bee again closes up the hole.

There are many circumstances necessary to the forming of good honey, such as warm and clear air, a good state of health of the bees, and a quantity of aromatic flowers.

The ancients esteemed the honey of lillies and roses to be the best; and Strabo relates that there is a kind of honey in Pontus which is a strong poison, being procured by bees which feed upon hemlock. The honey of a certain portion of France was held to be superior to any else, on account of the rosemary which exists there. Newman's Chemistry says that boiling honey deprives it of that quality which produces the bad effects certain persons experience from eating it, even in small quantities.

Honey, it is said, exposed to a gentle heat, becomes thin and throws upon its surface the many impurities.

And now in conclusion, let me again remind you that I am not a Miss, that I should be put in the Ladies' Department.

T. VIVIAN MOORE,

Jacksonville, Fla.

In years when the season is cold and retarded, feeding must be attended to with the most unremitting care. In this case honey should be given, which has been preserved pure for that purpose.—SLATER.

"Like leaves on trees, the race of bees are found,

Now green in youth, now with'ring on the ground;

Another race the Spring or Fall supplies—

They drop successive and successive rise.

Ladies' Department.



For the Bee World.]

MR. EDITOR:—The present spring has been very backward, although we had quite early indications of an early spring, but too much cold weather for bees. Bees commenced to rear brood early and rapidly. The cold weather continued, which has no doubt been the destruction of more bees than was occasioned by the winter. Many swarms commenced large broods, and the cold weather continuing, they exhausted their stores, and the result was, they had to perish, and many swarms that would have had an ample supply to carry them through, had the weather been favorable, had to perish where they were not fed. The wise bee-keeper no doubt cared for his bees as the wise farmer does for his horses. This care is one of the great auxiliaries to prosperity in all branches of rural industry. This care is clearly seen by the farmer, for the care of his stock is the secret of his success. The farmer who calculates on prosperity will not neglect his fences—he well knows that his crops would be in perpetual jeopardy from the ravages of animals running at highway. So with the bees; the apiarian must look to his bees—they require care and attention, if they want food give it to them—they will pay you well for your trouble—even the very richest swarms properly and wisely fed, will richly pay for a little trouble.

Bees will not swarm as early north as usual, unless it may be some few strong swarms. Everything should be ready—hives painted and in their

proper place. Examine the bees often, destroy all the moth millers that can be found; in this way bees may be greatly assisted in their labor to remove the moths.

We are pleased to see the interest of apiculture increasing, and hope the BEE WORLD will be the means of doing much good in advancing the cause of bee culture.

EVA.

Bees, like most other corporate bodies, have a great horror of interference from without, and a'ways like to work their own reforms without the assistance of commission from other quarters. * * * The bee-master cannot meddle too little with his bees, and he must be a most particular scornful individual who would find the labor of attending a few hives too much for him.—WOOD.

It is estimated that there are two million bee-hives in the United States. Every hive yields, on an average, a little over twenty-two pounds of honey. The average price at which honey is sold is twenty-five cents a pound; so that after paying their own board the bees present us with a revenue of over eight million eight hundred thousand dollars. To reckon it another way, they make a clear gift of over a pound of pure honey to every man, woman and child in the vast domain of the United States. Over twenty-three and one-third million pounds of wax are made and given to us by these industrious workers. The keeping of bees is one of the most profitable investments that our people can make of their money. The profits arising from the sale of surplus honey average from fifty to two hundred per cent. on the capital invested.

EDITOR'S TABLE.



CORRESPONDENTS should send in their favors as early as possible that we may not be delayed the coming month.

PERSONS who fail to get the WORLD regularly should write us immediately and another will be sent them.

WE call attention to the advertisement of the Summerville Gazette in another column. It is a live paper and gives the news of the day in a readable, interesting manner.

ONE of the best hotels we ever put up at is the Rome Hotel of this city. Travellers would do well to remember that it has a good reputation, and that its patrons are always well cared for.

WE are pleased to see an increased interest awakening among our bee-keeping friends in the South for more knowledge in the art of taking proper care of the little workers. From this we are led to believe that the WORLD is being appreciated, a fact for which we are extremely thankful.

WE are frequently in receipt of calls from friends who desire to see the different styles of honey extractors with a view to purchasing. Advertisers would do well to send a sample of their extractors to this office, where we will exhibit, and perhaps dispose of them. State the price when sent.

IN this issue will be found the advertisement of Messrs. Hamlin & Benton, queen-breeders. They offer to sell tested queens, and are worthy of patronage.

IN H's article entitled "Profits of Bee-keeping," published last month, we find that quite a number of mistakes occurred, through an oversight of our proof-reader. The article was too good to be haggled in such a manner, and we hope we will be able to avoid such mistakes in the future.

EVER since starting our publication we have been delayed in getting out on time as we were compelled to hire it published. We are happy to say that in the future this difficulty will be obviated, as we have purchased a complete outfit for the WORLD. From this date we may say that the future of the WORLD is assured, as a great deal of unnecessary trouble and expense is thus saved. We now have a large and commodious office, and invite all our friends to visit us when in the city.

A NUMBER of our correspondents have lost bees this spring and are at a loss to account for it. It was occasioned principally in this wise. The warm, pleasant weather in early spring caused them to fill up with brood for swarming. Later, we have had rainy, cool weather, thereby keeping the bees confined, so that they ate up their stores, the result being starvation. Those that watched their bees understood the situation and helped them through by a little feeding, and now they are in a prosperous condition and swarming.

IN a recent letter from a friend in Wayne county, N. Y., we learn that bees have wintered tolerably well there,

the exceptions being, as usual, in favor of those who take care of their bees. The generally expressed opinion there is that bees do not pay as they ought, the main trouble being too long and cold winters. Those that place corn-stalks or straw over their hives on the approach of winter speak favorably of the result, and we presume that if it was more generally practiced there would be a gratifying decrease in the mortality of the bees. Here in the South such precaution is unnecessary.

WE publish an article from the pen of T. Vivian Moore of Florida this month. Mr. Moore denies the soft impeachment and says he is positively "not a girl." We will not contradict Mr. Moore, but he certainly said "he was a girl sixteen years of age," and we will send him his letter if he desires it. Friend Moore writes a good article and we would be loth to part with him through a little absent mindedness on his part. Visions of a girl of sweet sixteen was floating through his brain at that time, we will wager. Our lady friends should resent his implied aversion to being a Miss.

ITALIAN QUEENS.

WE have completed arrangements for the coming season whereby we can furnish pure Italian queens, warranted, to purchasers. They will be from the best apiaries in the United States, and we think will give satisfaction. Breeders guarantee safe arrival. Price \$5 each, or \$6 for queen and WORLD. On large orders a liberal deduction will be made.

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BUSINESS NOTICES.

To Bee-Keepers.

Having secured the assistance of Mr. Frank Benton, Secretary of the Michigan Bee-Keeper's Association, and favorably known as an enterprising bee-keeper of Michigan, I would state that the increased business of the apiary and particularly in the queen department, and the facilities for conducting the same, will enable the firm to send out during the season a large number of fine Italian queens, full stocks, etc. See advertisement.

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Any intelligent, disinterested banker, physician, merchant, tradesman, artist, mechanic, farmer, bee-keeper, &c., who has no direct or indirect interest in any rival patent.

Hundreds of my hives are in use in Southern Kentucky, around my home, and I sincerely believe that no one individual can be found who will have the hardihood to deny that my hive is just exactly what I represent it to the public. Send two stamps for circular.

J. S. PROCTER.

ITALIAN
BEES and QUEENS.
 BRED BY W. H. FURMAN.

At the Great Western



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I have the largest, purest and best stock of Italian Bees west of the Mississippi, and twelve years experience in breeding

Italians. Address

W. H. FURMAN,
 Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

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 Send \$1 or \$2 for
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It is the County Paper, containing all news of the county, and everybody in the county reads it.—Terms \$2,00 a year. It is a spicy, newsy paper, and is worth double the money. Try it for six months.

ITALIAN QUEENS.

In their HIGHEST GRADE of PURITY, for sale at

Reasonable Prices.



Satisfaction guaranteed in every particular.

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T. H. B. WOODY,

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PURE ITALIAN
QUEENS.

I have on hand for the Spring market, a limited number of Queens bred from select mothers. Price \$5,00, and shall be able to furnish pure Queens throughout the season, at reasonable prices.



A. SALISBURY,
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DEALER in all breeds of pure bred Poultry Choice Italian Bees and Queens Bee hives, Honey Extractors Bee Books and Journals. Agents wanted. A valuable work on Bee-Culture,

with price list, terms to agents, etc., sent for 10 cts

**GET THE
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HONEY
EXTRACTOR



IN THE MARKET.

My Machine will empty more honey in the same length of time than any other machine in the market, and without injury to the most tender comb.

For further particulars send stamp for Circular. Please give your name, postoffice, county and State, plainly written, to avoid mistakes. Address

R. R. MURPHY,
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IMPORTED AND

Home-bred Queens.

Gray's Improved Honey Extractor, Gerster's Wax Extractor, Queen Cages, Honey Knives, and Apsarian Supplies generally. Poland-China Pigs, bred from prize stock. Orders solicited and satisfaction guaranteed. Enclose stamp for further information.



A. GRAY & CO.

Importers and Breeders of Italian Queen Bees,
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SWEET HOME HONEY SLINGER

—AND—

ITALIAN QUEEN BEES.



The Sweet Home Honey Slinger is the only machine which suits us in every way. It is made substantial and well painted.

The tub is stationary and only the frame, which holds the combs, making it easy to start and stop.

It holds 200 lbs. and can be emptied in the evening when flies and bees will not annoy us. It can not be sprung, jammed or bent as metal machines.

One or two combs of any size or weight can be emptied at any time without shaking the machine.

No time is lost in fastening the Combs

The wood is white oak and will not rust or sour.

It is run by a superior set of gearing. No liability of getting out of order.

IT IS EASY CLEANED.

It has a tight fitting cover, faucet and handle.

ELIZA, MERCER Co., ILL., }
October 2d, 1873. }

D. D. PALMER:—I have used a Sweet Home Honey Slinger for two seasons, and would not exchange it for all the revolvable cans open tops, and all-day dripping machines in use. I cheerfully recommend it to all who wish a good durable machine.

JESSE BOGART,

All orders for machines must be sent early, as I shall only make as many as ordered.

Sweet Home Honey Slinger...\$15 00
Knives for uncapping, each.....1 00
Italian Queens, each, safe arrival and purity guaranteed.....\$5 00

I shall have a few pure Italian Queens to spare as soon as the weather permits. Orders shall be filled as received. "First come, first served."

Address D. D. PALMER,
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Italian Queens.

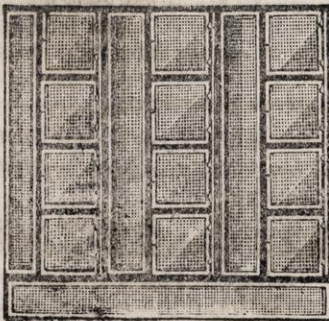
Fertilized in confinement and tested; price single Queen, \$4.00, two for \$7.00; full Colonies, \$15.00; Honey Extractors all complete for One Dollar each.

Send for circular. Address

A. N. DRAPER,
Upper Alton, Ill.



THE QUEEN



NURSERY.

This convenient invention is now ready for sale.

Model Nurseries with Individual Rights..... \$5 00
Township Rights..... \$15 to \$20 00
County Rights..... \$30 to \$50 00
State Rights on liberal terms.

Also I manufacture the best geared

HONEY EXTRACTOR.

in use, cheap and durable, \$12.00 each.

The Nursery Cages should be in every Apiary, for confining and introducing Queens. Send your orders to

DR. JEWELL DAVIS,
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Prolific Italian Queens.

I will raise pure ITALIAN QUEENS for the coming season. None but thoroughly tested Queens sent from my apiary. Circulars free. Address,

J. F. HERSHEY,
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ITALIAN BEES AND

Pure Breed Poultry.



I will furnish full stands in Langstroth's Hives, early in the Spring, at \$15.00 per stand, and QUEENS at \$5.00 after 1st of May, purely tested, and in their highest grade of purity.

Also Eggs from the following six leading varieties of POULTRY:

	Per doz.	Per doz.
light bramahs	\$2 50	Buff Cochins - - - \$4 00
Dark do	3 00	White Leghorns - - - 2 50
Partridge Cochins	3 00	Hodons - - - - - 2 50

I have a few pair of light Bramahs at \$5.00, and a few extra Cocks yet to spare; one part Cochin Cock, eight, months old \$5.00, White Leghorns \$3.00, and a few others.

My Poultry was selected with care from the best strains in the country.

Purity and safe arrivals guaranteed. For further particulars address

R. M. ARGO.
Lowell, Garrard County Ky,

Twelve Years Experience Breeding Italian Queen Bees.

PRICE FOR 1874:

One Queen..... \$2 25
Three Queens, each..... 2 12
Six Queens, each..... 2 00
Twelve Queens..... 22 00

All Queens warranted pure, and safe arrivals guaranteed. When otherwise the money refunded or other Queens sent. Address

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ITALIAN BEES for 1874.

Pure Colonies of Italian Bees, Queens & Hives.

Bred from the best imported stock.

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