

The progressive bee-keeper. Vol. VII, No. 12 Dec. 1, 1897

Higginsville, Mo.: Leahy Mfg. Co., Dec. 1, 1897

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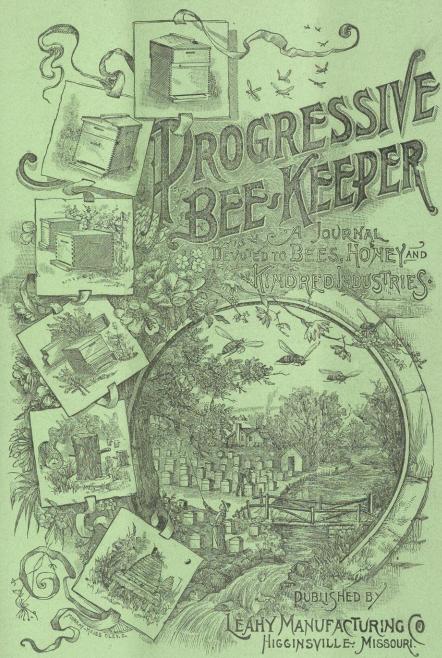
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De Lager 309 and 324

→ DECEMBER 1, 1897. ≥



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

ADVERTISING RATES.

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

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

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

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



Anyona sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain, free, whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. Oldest agency for securing patents in America. We have a Washington office. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice in the

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN,

beautifully illustrated, largest circulation of any scientific journal, weekly, terms \$3.00 a year; \$1.50 six months. Specimen copies and HAND BOOK ON PATENTS sent free. Address

MUNN & CO., 361 Broadway, New York.

CLUBBING LIST.

We will send the Progressive	Bee Keeper with
The Review	\$1,00)\$1 35
Greanings	
American Bee Journal	
Canadian Bee Journal	1 00 1 35
American Bee Keeper	50 85
Colman's Rural World	1 00 1 35
Journal of Agriculture	1 00 1 35
Kansas Farmer	
Home and Farm	50 15

BEE BOOKS.

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

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

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

Year Among the Bees,-by Dr Miller; price, 50c.

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

The A, B, C of Bee Culture, by A. I. Root; price, \$1.25.

Treatise on Foul Erocd, by Dr. Howard; price, 25c.

Address,

Leahy Wfg. Co., Higginsville. No.

A copy of Successful Bee-Keeping by w. z. Hutoninson. and our 1897 catalog for 2-cent stamp, or a copy of the catalog for the asking. We make almost everything used by Bee-Keepers, and sell at Lowest Prices.

OUR FALCON POLISHED SECTIONS are warranted Superior to All Others. Don't buy cheaply and roughly made goods, when you can just as well have the best. such as we make.

THE AMERICAN BEE-KEEPER, (monthly, now in its 7th year.) 35 pages, 5 c a r. Sample Free. Address. Sample Free.

W. T. FALCONER MFG. Co., JAMESTOWN N. Y.

The Review at Reduced Rates.

The Bee-Keepers' Review is \$1.00 a year, but, for the sake of getting it into new hands, and being able to begin the year with a large list, I will, until Jan. 1st, send free to each new subscriber, a copy of "Advanced Bee Culture," a 50-cent book of nearly 100 pages, that gives briefly but clearly the best methods of management from the time the bees are put into the cellar in the fall until they are again ready for winter—32 chapters in all. Those who prefer can have, instead of the book, 12 back numbers of the Review, the selection to be mine, but no two numbers alike. All who send \$1.00 now will receive the last four issues of this year free, and the Review will be sent until the end of 1898. If not acquainted with the Review, send 10 cents for three late but different issues.

W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

FLINT. MICHIGAN.

PIEASE don't neglect to mention the Progressive BEE KEEPER when answering these, 'ads."



Poultry, Farm, Garden, Cemetery, Lawn, Railroad and Rabbit Fencing.

Thousands of miles in use. Catalogue Free. Freight Paid. Prices Low.

The McMULLEN WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO. 114, 116, 118 and 120 N. Market St . CHICAGO, ILL

Please mention the "Progressive"

Northwestern Stock Raising and Agriculture.

The great Northwest is rapidly settling, but there is still room for thousands of farmers to secure good homes; land is yet cheap. Good farm lands can be had at \$5 to \$10 per acre, Improved farms at \$10 to \$20 per acre, buildings all on ready to occupy. Stock ranges for the settlement, with a future payment to the Government of 50 cents per acre. Write for a copy settlement, with a future payment to the Government of 50 cents per acre. Write for a copy of the Successful Farmer, published at Sioux Falls, S. D. Special map of South Dakota, with photo cuts of many ranches, farms, etc.. for sale, and statements from neighboring farmers, will be mailed on application. Address

H. P. ROSIE, PUBLISHER, SIOUX FALLS, S. D.

Please mention the "Progressive."

"FRUITAGE"

FOR FRUIT MEN ONLY.

The Exclusive Fruit Paper of America

is a 32-page paper, the reading matter of which pertains to nothing but fruit. It is indispensapertains to nothing but fruit. It is indispensable to any one engaged in fruit growing. Is a great fruit section, (PORTIAND, OREGON), and costs 50 cents per year. We want every one of our readers to have it on their table and will therefore give it free to all our subscribers who will send their back subscription and one year in advance or to new subscribers. one year in advance, or to new subscribers who will pay one year in advance. This offer is good for but a short time.

Please mention the "Progressive."

WANTED!

10.000 pounds of BEESWAX, for Cas's. Address. Address,

LEAHY MFG. CO , HIGGINSVILLE, MO.



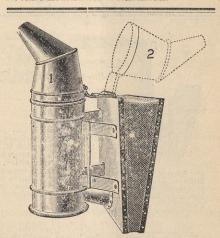
I am now ready to receive orders for May delivery, 1897. Full colonies of three-banded Italian bees in 8-frame dovetailed hives. \$5, Italian bees in 8-frame dovetabled hives, \$5. Strong three-frame nucleus, with tested queen, \$2.75. Untested Italian queens, each, 75c; per doz., \$7.00. Tested Italian queens, each, \$1.00; per doz., \$10,00. Best breeding queens, each, \$2.00, \$2.50.

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

ease.

E. W. MOORE, GRAYVILLE, ILLS. Bx. 103.

Please mention the "Progressive."



THE "HIGGINSVILLE SMOKER."

A Good Smoker for a Little Money.

THE HIGGINSVILLE SMOKER A DANDY.

I received the Higginsville Smoker all O. K. It's a dandy; please find enclosed stamps for another. Yours truly, OTTO ENDERS.
Oswegathie, N. Y.

Price 75c; by mail, \$1.00. Address. LEAHY MFG. Co., Higginsville, Mo.



ORHONET

is what the bee-keepers are reporting this year, and those that had their dish the "right side up" have a plenty, and then some. Now if you need the best Honey Extractor, we have them. Though our Extractors are worth any two of other makes, we sell them at popular prices. See what one of our California customers has to say:

LEAHY MFG. COMPANY, Higginsville, Mo .:

PENROSE, CALIF., May 3, 1897.

1.00

.90 .70

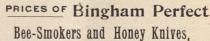
.60

.80

GENTLEMEN—The goods came to hand all O. K., April 30th. The four-frame Extractor is a Jim Dandy—the best I ever saw. It is just worth two of the four-frame Cowan's that are for sale in Los Angeles at \$25 apiece. We used it all day May 1st. I think, with proper help, we can throw out two tons of honey in a day with it. Your Smokers are excellent. Many thanks for your promptness. Very truly yours, J. C. Balch.

Catalogue free.

Leahy Mfg. Co., Higginsville, Mo.





1878—1892—Knives B. & H.

The four larger sizes have extra wide shields and double coiled steel wire handles. These SHIELDS and HANDLES are an AMAZING COMFORT—always cool and clean. No more sutty nor burnt fingers. The Plain and Little Wonder have narrow shields and wire handles. All Bingham Smokers have all the new improvements, viz.: Direct Draft. Movable Bent Cap, Wire Handles, Inverted Bellows, and are ABSOLUTELY DEFERTOR. PERFECT.

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

Dear Sir.—I have used the Conquerer 15 years. I was always well pleased with its workings, but thinking I would need a new one this summer I write for circular. I do not think the four inch "Smoke Engine" too large. Yours.

W. H. EAGERTY.

Corning, Cal., July 14th, 1896.
I have used Bingham Smokers ever since they first came out. Working from three to seven hundred colonies twelve months in the year. I ought to know what is required in a smoker. The Doctor 3½ inch just received fills the bill. Respectfully,

Mt. Pleasant, Mich., Aug. 7th. 1896.

Dear Sir—Smokers came O. K. They are the best I have ever seen; sell like hot cakes.

Respectfully, WM. BAMBU.

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

T. F. BINGHAM, Farwell, Mich,

Please mention the 'Progressive."

The Progressive Bee-Keeper.

A Journal Devoted to Bees, Honey, and Kindred Industries.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY LEAHY MFG. CO.

VOL. VII.

HIGGINSVILLE, MO., DEC. 1, 1897.

NO. 12

A WISH.

F. L. THOMPSON.

Written for the Progressive Bee-Keeper.

Fair child, blithe in these halls you play
With dark heirlooms, and lend them light;
Now with a tale of valiant knight,

Before the fire the gathering grey Putting to charmed flight,

Your eyes are dreaming. Manhood sends
A foreign of a deed to do;

Of cloudy wrongs, and riders true That in the brakes and river bends

Swiftly brush the morning dew.
Yet could those eyes that see so far,
But linger on your sunny youth,

Your dream were bodied forth in truth,

And I would not your brightness mar With helpless ruth.

Fair soul, now in this home you stay
As for a space—ah, leave us not;
With heritage unknown, far-brought,
(Before the hearth, quiet or gay,

Smoothing the brows of thought,)
Your eyes are beaming. Childhood brings
The purity of racial wealth,

The ages' best, long wrought in stealth, Caught from the bloom that countless springs Showered on the cheeks of health.

And could those eyes that shine so bright, Rest unassailed by sombre fears

Of what is hidden in the years,
The earth were clothed about with light
Of other spheres.

Poor child! the wrongs that we behold,
Are rancorous and double-faced;
And that high strength of virtuous haste,
Which to the fray goes free and bold,

Clearing the brutish waste,

Is lost in scheming. Evil felt
Is evil unsubdued and borne;
And provess glad, and faith unwors

And prowess glad, and faith unworn. And all the thoughts that justice dealt,

Soon are changed to eyes that mourn.
Yet could those eyes that are so deep.

But see how warfare poisoneth The gentle soul even to the death— Yet habitude of calmness keep

As strong as breath!

Wayside Fragments.

SOMNAMBULIST.

Again we find the pages of the Progressive darkened by the shadow of death. How terrible the sudden snuffing out of an innocent young life like that. All the spoken words of language fail to bring solace or express our sympathy for the parents so suddenly bereft. are but an idle, hollow mockery, but dear Friend Gladish, surely, in some way, you feel the strong current of sympathy extending from all your bee-keeping friends to you in this hour of sorest trial. God be with and sustain you, is our united prayer.

"Fall silently, November rain,
Nor take that wailing undertone—
Nor beat so loudly on the pane
The sad, monotonous refrain,
Which tells mesummer time has flown.

Oh, mournful winds of midnight, cease To breathe your low, prophetic sigh; Too clearly for my spirit's peace, I see the mellow days decrease, And feel December drawing nigh.'

"In some respects, HUMAN nature seems to run counter to OTHER nature. In the spring, when Dame Nature is beginning to take on new life and vigor, human nature catches that disease of a desire-to-do-nothing, commonly called spring fever. In summer, when nature is accomplishing her great work of fruitage, human nature tries to get away from all semblance of work—at seashore, lakeside, backwoods, anywhere for a vacation. When au-

tumn comes, nature begins to show signs of weariness, and make preparation for winter rest. Then man begins to plan for his winter's work."-Fillmore's Musical

While the above may be true in a general way, the busy bee-keeper's life must of a necessity prove one of the exceptions to this general rule. A very small amount of inactivity on the part of the bee-keeper, either in spring, summer, autumn or winter, will serve to throw the balance to the wrong side. spring, the bee-keeper must be fired with "new life and vigor," and keep up with, if not ahead of, nature. No time for "spring fever." In summer-well, to be sure, some of the "lords" among the supply dealers find the seaside, lakeside, etc., but how about the practical beekeeper? In autumn, we, too, must with nature prepare for winter rest. Yes, for the bees, but for their master, never. Our plan of action for the coming campaign must be considered and reconsidered. There's an old adage which says, "Plan your work well, then work your plan well," which bee-keepers must always keep in view. Because one million of workers go into winter quarters and remain, for the best part of the time, semi-dormant, is no reason that we should claim a like privilege. The bee-keeper must stand aloof of the crowd who consider a place to sit awaiting an ideal situation. We cannot allow ourselves to become drones in any season of the year. In all things, not alone in bee-keeping, we should set our aspirations high, as habits are not only a second nature, as the trite saying is, but they are the trodden path of desires, worn into nature itself, or developed by circumstances, and finally they become our master, leading us to pleasant pastures, or driving us into marshes

of disgust and despond.

Were the Progressive, or any other journal, able to secure a faithful report from all its practical readers as to how many were caught napping, with insufficient supplies on hand, during the past season alone, and as a consequence are now lamenting, either or both, the loss of many valuable swarms, and a disproportionate amount of increase at the expense of the honey crop, think you there wouldn't be more than one surprise(d) party? Your humble servant didn't happen to be among the number. No, "not there, not there, my child;" but if you listen sharply, you may hear my plaint, which was vividly brought to my mind's eve while following M. A. Gill, in Gleanings, page 809, in an article headed, "Dry Lumber for Hives." Says he has the dovetailed corner of the section up so as to prevent unlocking if the combs should happen not to be built clear to the bottom. Owing to there having been no bee space above the sections, in prying off the covers, even in the hottest days, the tops of from one to five sections in each super were lifted open. Hear him: "Imagine the bitter thoughts a man would have when spoiling from five to ten dollars' worth of fine comb honey every day, and all for the lack of a proper space." He has, inadvertently, contracted a winter's job of getting out and nailing on strips for 300 supers. Now the green quality could not be attributed to the lumber of which the hive was constructed, in my case, but to the (must I bring myself to such an open as well as humiliating confession?) green timber in my personal make-up. My deplorable situation was just the reverse of his. Dovetailed corners were at the bottom, and instead of too little bee space above, there was too much below. Wasn't I aware I was short of slatted honey boards? Oh, yes; but the seasons since I had needed them had been many, and how was I to know this particular one was to prove an exception? Laugh in your sleeves, if you want to, and take a good one while you're at it, for I don't believe you'll get another chance on the same score. He (Gill) presents another thought, which, in my humble opinion, needs emphasis. He answers the question, "Can bees gather as much honey four miles as they could two?" Yankee fashion, by asking another: "Can a man carry as many sacks of flour home in a day four miles as he could two?" Again "A high wind and a heavy honey flow will prove very disastrous to the working force in a very few days' time, if they have to fly a long distance." Prefers giving the bees a ride over three-fourths of say four or five miles. That's me, to a "T Y T."

The same number of Gleanings generously gives us two glimpses of our beloved Doolittle "at home." Doesn't object to being shown up in "every-day attire." Fine clothes and practical bee-keeping do not seem to travel hand in hand. he stands there with a frame full to overflowing with his favorite fivebanders, one can almost see his lips move as he says, "How do those bees suit you?" Handles them without veil, without smoke, and without resentment on the part of the bees. Perhaps they, like other stock, partake somewhat of the nature of their owner. At any rate, it has always seemed to me that he belonged to the FEW who could AF-FORD to sing with Burns:

"O, wad some power the giftie gie us,

To see oursel's as ithers see us."

One can read as one runs that E. R. (Ernest and the rest) are starting in earnest on their winter's work, namely, planning their next sason's supplies. As regards separators, there's to be a turning over of the leaf. In lieu of the old-styled solid separators, we're to have what is termed a fence, four slats cleated together, the cleats to furnish the bee space, the sections being minus the bee-way made by the ordinary inset. The reasons for general adoption of the straight-edge section and fence are given as follows:

First, The fence being made of scraps, the first cost will be but a trifle more, and being more lasting, will in the end be the cheaper.

Secondly, Greater freedom of access to the sections.

Thirdly, A BELIEF that the arrangement will in part do away with the "passage holes" in the corners of the sections of honey.

Fourthly, The fence strengthens the section holder.

Fifthly, The sections are the better filled.

Sixthly, Facility in scraping.

Seventhly, Their use simplifies the construction of the section holder.

Eighthly, Saving in shipping cases, the inset section taking up more room than the straight edge.

Moral: Mr. Supply Dealer, shuffle off the inset section.

Who says bee-keeping is not in a progressive state? Now, Straw-carrier, do I hear you shout, "Old"? Surely, with your experience, you've ere this learned "old friends" are ofttimes best.

And right here I'm strongly reminded that the general warming-up time of old friendships is right at hand, by the singing of a stirring song from the Atlanta Constitution:

"Christmus comin'—don't you fret— Carve dat possum fine. Gwine to get ter glory yet—

Carve dat possum fine.

Christmus comin' crost de hill— Carve dat possum fine. De cidah foam, and de 'lasses spill— Carve dat possum fine.

Oh, believers,
See de bright light shine,
De fife and drum say Christmus come,
So carve dat possum fine."

A merry, merry Christmas to all, is the sincere wish of yours humbly.

Naptown, Dreamland.

Do You Think



of coming to California? Then you should be posted, and the best way is to take the

PACIFIC BEE JOURNAL.

Send for free sample copy. Also a Catalogue of Bee Supplies made by

THE BENNETT BEE HIVE CO., 365 E. 2d St., Los Angeles, Cal.

"There's money in Bees this way."





This Clevis being adjustable fits any plow. Only one kind to keep in stock. Ask your dealers for them.

Address.

Mention this paper.

KRUSE KROSS KLEVIS CO., HIGGINSVILLE, MO.

COLORADO APIARISTS, NOTICE!

The Colorado State Bee-Keepers' Association will hold their annual convention in the state capitol building, Denver, Jan. 17. Whether

you can be at the meeting or not, write to me just as soon as you read this. First, I want your NAME AND ADDRESS, very plainly written. It is very likely that the association will have something to communicate to you that will be to your and others' interests, so we want your With the name and address sure. address, tell me what topics you want discussed at the meeting, or any other business you wish transacted. Any others-individuals or associations-having business with this association, will please communicate with our state secretary, Mr. Frank Rauchfuss, Elyra, Colo., or R. C. AIKIN, with myself.

Loveland, Colo.

Pres. Col. State Bee-Keepers' Ass'n.

-:- Coming. -:-

The year 1898 is coming, and we are happy to inform our friends and customers that we are now better prepared than ever before to fill your orders for Queens and B.es. We have the largest stock ever operated by us, and we mean to be ready with pleuty of bees and queens to fill all orders without delay that are sent to us.



Bees by the pound, \$1.00; ten or more pounds, 90c each. Untested queens for 1898, \$1.00 each in February, March, April and May; \$5.00 for six, or \$9.00 per dozen. For larger amounts write for prices, tiave your orders booked for your early queens. Safe arrival guiranteed.



Root's goods, comb foundation, and Biugham smokers. A steam bee-hive factory, and all kinds of bee supplies.



The SouthLAND QUEEN, the only bee paper in the South, mentally \$100 per year.



Send for catalogue, which is almost a complete book on Southern bee-keeping, giving queen rearing in full, all free for the asking. If you want full information about everything we have, and the bee book, don't fail to ask for our 1897 catalog.

The Jennie Atchley Co.,

Beeville, Bee Co., Tex.

See Our Great Combination Offer!

The Progressive Bee-Keeper, one year - \$.50 The Mayflower (great floral paper) Womankind (great home magazine) Farm News (great farm monthly) .50 Ten Rare Lily Bulbs 1.00 The Farm News Poultry Book .25 The Womankind Cook Book .25 Total value. -

Our Price for all \$1.00.

WE are more than confident that our readers will be pleased with this combination; it is undoubtedly the best, the most liberal subscription offer ever made.

THE MAYFLOWER, published at Floral Park, N. Y., is the leading horticultural magazine for the amateur flower grower. Each number contains a handsome colored plate and the contents make it a delight to the home.

> WOMANKIND.

Regular Subscription price, 50c. A hand-some 20-page magazine containing stories, some 20-page magazine containing stories, poems, sketches, bits of travel, and such general literary matter as appeals most strongly to the average reader, who wants pure and wholesome literature of the entertaining kind. It practical departments devoted to the kitchen, the flower garden, the care of children, dressmaking, home decoration, etc., are greatly valued by every woman who has ever read them. Extensive improvements have been made in Womankind during the mast year. past year.

SFARM NEWS.

Regular subscription price, 50 cents. Farm News now reaches more than 80,000 families. It holds this large and loyal following of subscribers, because they regard it as one of the chief essentials of their success in farming. It keeps in touch with the most progressive agriculture of the day, it is scientific in its spirit, and at the same time is never obscure in its meaning, nor stilted in its style. It's the kind of a paper the farmer values in his every day work, because in it he finds what other successful farmers are doing and how they do it.

OUR LILY BULBS. Our Lily Premiums includes these valuable bulbs, all large, sound and vigorous, sure to grow and bloom abundantly. 1 Black Calla, 1 Queen. 1 Japanese Double Sacred, 1 Golden Sacred, 1 Celestial, 1 Princess, 1 Guernsey. 1 Bermuda Buttercup Oxalis, 2 Selected. You will be greatly pleased with these.

OUR PREMIUM BOOKS.

WOMANKIND COOK BOOK.

This Cook Book covers the entire range of the culinary art. The recipes in it were selected from the favorite recipes of the readers of Womankind so that in this book you have the best things from several hundred practical housekeepers. More than 10,000 copies have been sold in the past year. You want it. Price 25c...

FARM NEWS POULTRY BOOK.

Written to meet the needs and demands of the farm poultry yard, rather than that of the fancier. It tells all about different breeds, their characteristics and what may be expected of them; tells about feeding and hatching, about diseases and their cures, and is, in short, a complete guide to making the hens pay. Price 25c.

THINK OF IT, Four papers one year, Ten Rare Lilies, Two Valuable Books, for so little money. Give us your order.

LEAHY MFG. CO., Higginsville, Mo.

For Sale.

Second Hand Foundation Mills.

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

One ten-inch Root Mill, with dipping tank, all complete. This mill, for all practical purposes, is as good as new, and the price of it new, with tanks, would be \$27. To dispose of it quick, we will take \$16 for the outfit.

One six-inch Root Mill for making extra thin foundation. Price, new. \$18. To close this out, we will take \$9 for it.

Send stamp for sample of foundation made on either of the above mills. Address,

LEAHY MFG. CO., Higginsville, Mo.

RHEUMATISM CURED BY BEE STINGS. PEDDLING HONEY, ETC.

E. W MOORE.

Are bee stings good for rheumatism? Have they curative effect on a person who has been afflicted for years? I must say that I have always been a doubting Thomas, until this summer. But truth is mighty, and now I am satisfied that in one case at least bee stings have cured one case of rheumatism of

several years' standing.

My mother is 62 years old, and had lost the use of her left hand by rheumatism. For years she could not use it, until this summer, but now, thanks to the bees, and her courage, she can use her hand as well as she ever could. One day in June, while I was away from home, two swarms came off and settled together, and as mother knew that I would not be at home until the next day, she got a hive and put them in. In so doing, she got very badly stung on her left or crippled hand, which caused it to swell very badly. But when the swelling went down, the joints were no longer stiff, nor have they been since. And now I have another bee-keeper to contend with, as mother says she owes the bees more than she can

ever pay them. Her apiary is composed of twelve colonies of threebanded Italian bees in eight-frame dovetailed hives.

Bees have done very well in this neck of the woods this season, and every bee-keeper that I know has been well paid for labor, time and money spent in caring for his pets.

"Peddling Made Easy," by Dan White, in Nov. 1st Gleanings, page 767, is one of the best articles I have ever seen, and should be read Not only should by all bee-keepers. it be read by bee-keepers, but it should be put irto practice when the home trade will not take all the heney we produce, for the sooner we build up the home trade, and stay away from the cities with our honey, the sooner will we as beekeepers find out that the home trade is the one that pays us the best. And as for peddling, there is nothing dishonorable about it as I can see.

Grayville, Ills.

UNIFORMITY OF APIARIAN SUPPLIES

J. W. ROUSE.

A uniformity of supplies would save some money and quite a number of vexatious delays to very many people. All supply dealers carry a full stock of the regular and standard size goods in apiarian supplies, but do not always have the irregular sizes, and to make them it most always costs more than do the standard goods. A great proportion of the bee-keepers, when they start on the modern plan to keeping bees, that is, in movable frame hives, usually start by inventing "better than is already in use." I thought just a little while after I started to keeping bees that I knew a great deal more about just what was needed in the apiary, than I really know now about the business, but I have learned a few things that I am sure of anyway, and while I do not always go or decide with the majority, still I believe, as a general rule, it is best for one to do so, especially where experience has taught the majority what is best for them. Since being in the business that I am now in, I have received many letters in regard to supposed improvements, and some instances, parties have gone to expense to send me some of their inventions for examination, to get my opinion. While some of these inventions have some novelties, and in a few cases, some merit, still I have never seen anything yet to be of equal value to the regular goods we already have. I do not wish to impress the reader that I am opposed to improvements, but I wish to discourage much supposed improvement, and to advise the beginner to follow the experience of many others who have gone over the road he is now travelling, and so save expense and trouble. If one really does discover a needed and most useful article, by advice with practical apiarists one can soon find a recommendation for their invention.

I believe the reason most of the apiarists at this day, who are using odd sized hives and fixtures, do so, is because they started that way, and hate to change, and many of them now would like to change, but do not care to, or cannot bear the expense of a change. And while some of these people that are using odd size goods from the standard goods, may have practical appliances, I am sure they could have equal success with the regular appliances, and at less expense to procure them. Parties often order from the supply dealer an odd size appliance, and

have to wait to get their order filled, because the dealer did not have the desired article in stock, when the order could have been filled promptly with the regular standard goods. While the dealer has to, or aims to, carry a stock of the different size or pattern of sections, on account of a few calls for odd sizes, he does not have many of that kind, and so his stock on these especial sizes may soon be exhausted, or he may have to carry them for a good while. At the same time he may have a big stock of the regular size. I believe there are more of the 4+x- $4\frac{1}{4}$ x $1\frac{7}{8}$ sections used than all the balance of the sizes together. I also believe there are many more of the standard size frames used than all other sizes together. There are several combinations of 44x44x14 of open one side, or closed top; open two sides, or top and bottom; open three sides, or bottom and the two sides; and open on all four sides. Now it would take quite a lot of sections to stock up on all the combination of the different sizes of sections. The regular size is open top and bottom.

Ichardly expect to change any of the old bee-keepers, and accord them the free use of their own pleasure in the use of odd sizes. Still if I can turn even a few of the beginners in the regular channels, I will feel that my efforts are rewarded.

Mexico, Mo.

CLEATED SEPARATORS.

S. BRAUTIGAM.

Gleanings in the November 15th issue, gives space and explanation for the cleated separator, which, it appears, will hereafter be the separator in general use.

The only objection I find in re

gard to the cleated separator, is the time it requires in making them up. Having made a hundred of them for an experiment, I found it took me at an average, about one minute to put one up. There may be a speedier way to feed them, but I could

think of none just then.

This extra work of course makes this separator some more expensive, but it makes a good strong separator which can be used for some time if proper care is taken. But why use cleated separators? Why not make the sections with a thin saw-cut at each edge, say \(\frac{1}{8}\) inch from the edge, and use the common separators? Then when the section is filled with honey, simply just split the edge of the section off with a knife.

It seems to me this could be done cheaper on the section than the

work on the separators.

I once made up a crate of comb honey for an exhibit with the use of a Barnes foot-power saw. I selected some nice comb honey which was stored in 17 inch sections between separators. These nicely filled and sealed within about inch to the edges of the section. These were taken to the saw, (a small smooth-cut saw), and about \frac{1}{2} inch was ripped off from both sides of the section, which of course made the section straight all around, and gave the edges a clean and neat appearance. The fact of the matter was, I took the first prize.

Now then a very thin saw-cut on the outside of the $1\frac{7}{8}$ section, say $\frac{1}{8}$ inch from the edge, and say $\frac{1}{16}$ or $\frac{3}{2}$ inch deep, will work nicely. When the honey is taken off, and the apiarist is ready to scrape and grade his honey, all he has to do is to take the knife and just split off this $\frac{1}{8}$ inch from each side of the section. This will give him a $1\frac{5}{8}$ section without an opening, and will give

the honey and section a neat and clean appearance, and will crate in less space, and will add to the price of the honey.

Now, mind; do not get this new idea section patented, as it is, in fact, an old idea, and we do not want them patented.

Los Angeles, Cal.

Straws from the Apiary.

FRED S. THORINGTON.

I see in the October Progressive, page 264, that James Winn, of La Plata, Mo., wants to know if sorghum will do to feed bees for winter. Will you allow me to mention two cases that have come under my observation?

Early in the '70's, my father and brothers found in a neighboring forest a bee tree, or rather an old stub of a tree, which had been robbed of the honey it contained. The bees had again taken possession of the stub for safe wintering. As it was late in the fall of the year, of course they had little or no honey, or no chance of making any. Father and brothers concluded they would bring the bees home, as someone had told them the bees would winter well on cornbread well sweetened with sorghum. The stub the bees were in was yet standing. A portion of it containing the bees and comb was cut off, and a bottom and top put on, forming a gum. They were brought home, and the cornbread was prepared according to orders. The bees were duly fed. There was no need of the second feeding, as the bees were soon all dead and peacefully at rest.

The other case happened this last fall. During swarming time in summer, a man captured an absconding swarm, (a good one), and put it in a nail keg. The forage was good, and the bees worked with energy, and at the closing of the fall forage (which was hastened by the late drouth) someone, so I am informed, told the owner of the bees he could take what honey the bees had, and feed them sorghum, as they would thrive and winter just as well. The advice was taken, and the bees robbed of their hard-earned labor and winter stores. Some of the sweets of the hive were sent to neighbors of the experimental bee-keeper. don't know how much sorghum the bees used. However, the nail keg was soon empty of bees, as they had left for other quarters. The man may winter the sorghum and nail keg; I don't know. It has been my experience that poor food in winter means a great loss in bees, and poor wintering, causing spring dwindling. I don't think molasses will do as a winter food, unless one wants to kill one's bees. I think good sealed honey the best winter food, and granulated sugar the next best. But if fed in winter, it should be in the candy form.

This last season I had two swarms come off, and for some cause they both superseded the queen with a laying worker. As I had no queen to give them, I gave one of them a sealed queen cell, which hatched in due time. This fall, when putting the cushions on for winter, my assistant reported no brood whatever, but a good-sized swarm. there was no brood, I thought they would be queenless, and as I did not like to place them in winter quarters in that condition, I had them united with a colony having a queen. It was found when uniting them that the broodless colony had queen, and to all appearance she was fertile and would have been a good queen in time. Could it be

she failed to lay eggs on account of the fall forage being cut short by the late drouth?

The fore part of August, one of the swarms that came off early in the season, cast a swarm, and I put them in with the other colony mentioned above as having a fertile worker, having discovered it in that condition about the time the swarm came off. It made a large force of field workers, and they stored more than enough honey for their winter's use. As for the fertile worker, she laid off her crown, and, I suppose, went about her legitimate business, as her work of egg-laying was never seen afterwards.

The past season was commenced with twenty-three colonies, spring count. After losing several absconding swarms, and breaking up some this fall, I placed forty-two colonies in winter quarters to await the return of spring, and apple and peach bloom. What will the next year's harvest be? I expect the forty-two colonies have at least 1175 pounds of good honey for winter use. In fixing them for winter, I placed a paper, one thickness, un der each cushion, in such a way as to allow the paper to come between the hive proper all the way around. I find it helps to keep down a direct current of air through the hive, and the bees remain warmer during winter.

Nov. 12th.—We have had but little real cold weather here yet. No snow. Two or three good rains lately.

As this will be my last article for the Progressive this year, I wish its kind editor and readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the new year bring with it many blessings of peace and happiness to all, is the wish of the writer.

Chillicothe, Mo.

Experience and its Lessons

R. C. AIKIN.

(Continued from Nov. PROGRESSIVE).

In the previous article I told how I started with two colonies purchased and set in the garden. One swarmed and then died, leaving one old one and the swarm to winter. My operations began in the fall or early winter, when I put them in the milk-house to winter. They wintered so as to pull through the spring, so I had two to start with

in the spring.

Kretchmer's Guide told me all about dividing. As I was a very busy boy, or man, doing my regular work, plowing, harrowing, cultivating, and such as farmers' boys have to do, I could not watch for swarms, so divided. During the summer I captured a stray swarm, and in the fall I had just two. I had divided the original two till I had but one. By this experience I learned that a novice had better "make haste slowly." I also learned that as the bees diminished after getting about so weak, that the moths increased and took what was left by the bees, and that moths never "eat up," nor down, a colony of bees. I counted that my first year I came out even.

In those days I kept no record, so the things I relate must be from memory. Much of the details has been forgotten, but I can pretty clearly draw the lessons. During the next three or four years I continued to divide, cut out cells, returned swarms, doing all I knew how to have the colonies stick to honey gathering, and not swarm in my absence. I did not fully realize the importance of strong colonies, though I had learned from my manual that one must have strong col-

onies for honey gathering. However, I must hold back swarming, so I cut out cells till I could hold them no longer, then resorted to dividing. I learned by this that cutting out cells to prevent swarming, after one has ten or more colonies, is a big undertaking; and that before the swarming season was fairly on, and but few would try to swarm, it might be called a success; but in general it was a failure. I also learned that dividing could unquestionably be made a success.

Like all beginners, I wanted to own a large apiary, but as the thing must be self-supporting, I was obliged to work for honey, too. I bought bees, and paid for them in honey. I took on the shares, too, and in gathering, got all sorts of hives and boxes. I will not begin to detail all the kinds, but they represented all grades, from the plainest home-made box to factory hives, and almost every grade of frame in length, depth and spacing. Of course I had many a job of transferring, in season and out of season.

Along in those years I also subscribed for the American Bee Journal. I have forgotten the exact year, and my journals are all packed away, but it was about twenty years ago that I began to take the Journal, and I have the volumes all

bound and preserved.

During the latter part of the seventies I continued io increase, making my own hives, buying my own extractor, and getting to be a full-fledged apiarist, I got a Bingham smoker early in my experience, and it lasted for years. Lesson, get a good smoker when you are at it. By the fall of 1880 (I think it was) I had a little over 100 colonies. I had no cellar or cave, though twice I did put up a temporary cave and wintered some in it, though the great part of wintering was out of

doors. Up to this time I had produced several tons of honey. I do not know the general average, though I had gotten some surplus every year, two years in succession getting seventy-five pounds or over, average, spring count.

I remember that I had read that brood rearing in that latitude usually began in January or February. Once in January I opened a hive, and found a patch of brood about

the size of a silver dollar.

I think it was the winter of '80 and '81 that there was such a great loss of bees, and my apiary was no exception. From about 100 colonies, they dropped back to seventeen—a hard blow on me. I think it was that summer preceding that I got no surplus, nor did the bees get sufficient for winter; but I did not feed. This was the only year in all my experience that surplus entirely failed.

After that I got on fairly well again till about the winter of '83 and '84, when I again dropped from near 100 to eleven. There were plenty of stores this time—the other loss was largely starvationbut for about five months they were confined to the hives, not one cleansing flight, and many succumbed to both cold and diarrhea. Finally in March sometime, there came bright, pleasant day, but still much snow, and out they came, queens and all. Just imagine about ten or fifteen colonies getting their first flight after about five months' confinement on summer stands, all starting at about the same time, and about half of them rushing out, queens and all, clustering on hives, on the ground, anywhere, and two to four colonies together. I had just such a job.

I divided them as best I could, got some to their own hives, and some not. One just would not stay

at home, and I had to give them a clean hive and supply stores, when they went to work with vigor and made a fine colony.

The spring was late, but when it did come it stayed, and that year clover came on early before the bees got strong enough to swarm, so they laid right hold of the honey business, and as they became strong enough to be likely to swarm, I would draw on the strong ones for nuclei. The result was I had no swarming to amount to anything, increased from eleven to twenty-eight, and took 227 pounds, average, spring count.

I learned here the value of get ting the colony in the supers and storing there before the swarming fever was on. I learned, too, that a long, hard confinement with a sudden opportunity for full flight, was very productive of what is known as swarming out, or spring absconding. They seemed just crazy to get out in the sunshine.

In those days there was an colored man living near our home. I never could induce him into orchard where the bees were, until one day when honey was coming in freely and comb building progress-ing finely in the sections, I did get him persuaded to go out and see them work. I assured him he would be safe under the trees, for I would lift the cover and let him see through the glass on the outer sec-We found one colony where the outside sections were being worked, the upper half almost finished, with rather scattering forces at work capping, and a little lower lengthening the cells. He was very much interested in their work, and as he watched the workers turn their heads this way and that way, and bow their backs until the white necks showed, he became lost in admiration, and remarked,

white an' clean de comb, an' ebery one ob de little fellers workin' wid his white collar on."

Up to the big yield of 227 pounds per colony, my honey crops had been from fall bloom. In the spring was soft maple, elm, box-alder, apple, cherry, black and plum, honey locust, and a variety of lesser bloom, but not in quantity. Red clover came in June, but there was little white clover yet. I also had a little basswood. All these blooms helped along, but there was neither enough of one kind, nor a combination, sufficient to lay up surplus. Usually about August 1 to 15, they would begin to do a little at surplus. Some would swarm, if not prevented, in June and July, though but a small part. The August and September flows came principally from heartsease and Spanish needle, but were helped some by wild buckwheat, and later by asters.

I think it was the next year after the big yield that there was a good stand of white clover (the big yield was partly from white clover), and the conditions in June and July were favorable for swarming. Now understand that up to this time I had been used only to fall flows. The flows coming so late in the season, latter part of August and fore part of September. there was but little swarming. I read all the while in the American Bee Journal of the trouble people had with so much swarming, the swarming depopulating the colonies, and becoming so general that scarcely could their owners get any super work. I had no such trouble, for it seemed that no matter how strong my bees were, I got fine super work and very little swarming. I just kept thinking I would write to the Journal, and tell the people I had the much desired "strain of non-swarming bees," but either modesty, timidity, or something, kept me from doing so, until the year following the big yield.

White clover came abundant, bees were in nice shape, weather fine, and I hastened to get supers on. In a few days after the honey began coming in, just as many were starting in supers, and many not yet started, something else started, and that was SWARMING. Contrary to all my experience, colonies not strong enough for super work, swarmed. As is usual with a beekeeper in some new experience, I studied, read journals and books, and did all I knew how to stop the wholesale swarming, and by cutting cells, taking away brood, returning swarms and doubling, etc., I got through that spell and saved nearly all the swarms, and got some honey stored.

Well, you may guess I was mighty glad I had kept still about my nonswarming bees, and had not gone into the business of selling nonswarming queens. I had learned that what bees would do depended on conditions. Others may think bees cranky if they wish, but I have learned that when they do things there is a cause. Bees never act DIFFERENTLY under exactly the same conditions. Races may differ, but the average bee WILL do what it has done under the same environments. I learned that to get surplus with an early flow, much more skill is required than with a fall flow.

Loveland, Colo.

(To be continued).

[Mr. G. M. Doolittle, of Borodino, N. Y., will review these papers, "Experience and its Lessons," following Mr. Aikin in a foot-note. From Mr. Aikin and Mr. Doolittle, our readers may expect something real good. See what Mr. Doolittle has to say editorially in this issue of the Progressive,—Ed.]

SHADOWS BY MOONLIGHT.

A Visit to J. W. Rouse, E. T. Flanagan and C. F. Muth.

Dear reader, did you ever realize what a grand old companion the moon is? If you are going out with a serenading party, its soft mellow light makes the way clear; its silver rays add tranquility to the present, melody to the voice of singers, and a charm to music; add gayety to the gay, and make love feasts

complete.

On the other hand, if you are of a timid disposition, and believe in ghosts and hobgoblins, what better can satisfy your imagination than the ghostly shadows of a moonlight night, when the wind is making the trees creak and the dead leaves rustle, while it sings a sad requiem over their decay; and small clouds pass over the face of the moon, causing large, dark, hydra-headed shadows to rush across the world below?

Again, if you wish to feel lonesome, and be good, just go out of a quiet moonlight night when the moon is high in the peaceful firmament; when she sheds that soft mellow light; when there is not a breath of air astir; when earth and heaven seem to meet and part, and meet again in the mystic distance; when the beating of your own heart almost startles you; your eyes and mind will wander away on high to the still pale orb of the sad old desolate moon; to the cold planet where no creature moves; where the barren rocks are bare of moss; where no rippling streams come down the valleys to kiss the sea below, or song of birds to greet Aurora's freshness; no pearly dewdrops to sparkle in the morning sun; where gentle breezes whisper not among the leaves; where all is cold and lonely; that moon that has traversed the universe so many thousand years, will traverse it so many thousand years to come, shedding its pale light on this wicked world; casting its black shadows between the white marble slabs of dead cities, looking down upon the upturned faces of the slain on the battle-field, making the scene more ghastly still, It is then you are your real self. It will be better that you are there. You will be lonesome, but you will be good.

It was one of those beautiful moonlight nights, about ten o'clock, that I left Higginsville last July, to visit, among others, my good old friend, J. W. Rouse, of Mexico. Mo. It seemed to me after leaving Higginsville, that the moon was my only companion. As the train sped along, out through the open window I tried to make out different objects, all of which turned out to be something different from what I had taken them for. A country which I would have known well by daylight, seemed to be one mass of dancing light and shadows, slipping steathily by. I arrived at Mexico about two o'clock in the morning, intending to go direct to Rouse's, for he had written me that they were working night and day. As late, or as early, (whichever you may call it,) as it was, two cabmen greeted me: "Cab, sir? Cab to any part of the city for a quarter. Cab, sir?" I questioned both of them to ascertain if they knew where Mr. Rouse lived, to which they both answered almost in a voice, "Yes, sir; yes, sir; we know where Mr. Rouse lives. does he do?" I told them that Mr. Rouse was a bee-keeper, to which they both in a chorus said. "O, yes, we know Mr. Rouse. He keeps bees." I felt a little apprehensive, after what I had heard, about their knowing where Mr. Rouse lived, but one of these cabs was my only hope. So I jumped into one of them, and shut the door. The driver whipped up the horses, and away we went. Not to Brother Rouse's-but up one street and down another; over hills and through hollows; across bridges, and after clattering about this way for half an hour or more, the cab backed up to a house I am sure I never saw before. As I was the only passenger in the cab, I wondered who it was going to get out there. After some minutes waiting, I ventured to ask the driver who he was waiting there for, to which he responded, "Is this not the place?" I told him no, and asked him who lived there. He said, "Rev. Ross." I explained to him again that it was Mr. R-o-u-s-E, a bee-keeper, whom I wished to see, and that while he was a very reverend gentleman, his name was not "Ross." - The driver then assured me again that he knew Mr. Rouse, and would take me straight to his house, and started off again over the hills, and through the hollows, and across the bridges... After another fifteen minutes, we came to a stop at another house, which was not the right one, and after repeating these drives from house to house, which all turned out to be the wrong one, he called at a house and awakened the inmates to find out where Mr. Rouse, beekeeper, Mexico, Mo., lived. We started off again, with better success this time; and the next time the cab stopped, it landed me in a ditch in front of Bro. Rouse's. Thanks to the man we had awakened, and of whom we had inquired the way, for I am sure if it had not been for him, we would still be going up one street and down another, over the hills and across the bridges, unless

the wheels had come off ere this. asked the driver how much I owed him. He replied, "Twenty-five cents." I paid him, and in doing so, I told him how I regretted that he had lost his way, and that I did not like to take so much ride for so little money. He assured me it was of no consequence, and drove away, leaving me standing there alone. I looked up at the house, and it was there. All was quiet within. The moon shed her pale light, down on me as I stood there wondering if it was real, or was I dreaming. I had expected, from what I had heard of the rush of business, and the "working night and day," to see the lights gleaming from the windows and through the crevices of the work-shop; expected to see people camping on the premises, waiting to be first in the morning for supplies; expected to hear the ring of hammers and the rattling of boards; but, lo! the spell was broken only by my knock on the door, which was answered from within by a gruff, "Who's there?" I answered it was Leahy, and to get up. I expected to find them all working instead of sleeping. Mr. Rouse brought two chairs out on the porch, and seated there together, we enjoyed the fresh morning air, talked of old times; talked of business and pleasure. The moon had rolled away to the west, and lost herself in the billowy light, as the monarch of the day came up and burst forth in all his glory. Mr. Rouse reported a sale of \$2,000 worth of supplies for the season, and up to the time I called. he had been working twenty hours a day. He also reported an excellent honey crop, his bees having made an average of 125 pounds per colony of as good honey as I ever saw. In the accompanying picture I am pleased to show to the readers of the Progressive, Mr. Rouse and his estimable family. Mr. Rouse has three sons and four daughters. The young man to the right in the picture, Mr. Oliver Rouse, is now one of the helpers at the Higginsville bee hive factory.

along the railroad track from High Hill to St. Louis. Seemed to be, from what I could see from the car window, about four feet high, and through the open window of the car as the train passed along, the aroma filled the car.



J. W. ROUSE AND FAMILY.

After an early breakfast, I took the train for High Hill, Mo., to visit John Nebel & Son, supply dealers, of that place. Arriving at High Hill, I had no trouble in locating them, as they lived quite close to the depot. Messrs. Nebel & Son handle the Root supplies, and reported an excellent business, both in bee-keepers' supplies, and in the lumber business, in which they are engaged. I do not wish to flatter the Nebels, but I do wish to say here that they are real nice people, and they made my stay at High Hill very pleasant. The sides of the streets in High Hill are sown with sweet clover, and the air was quite fragrant with the perfume.

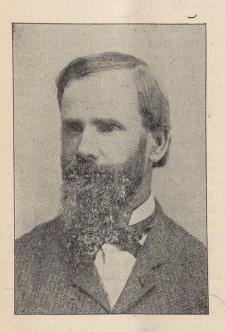
Leaving High Hill, I went to St. Louis. There is much sweet clover

I went over to Belleville that night to my old home, and as I had not been in bed for forty-eight hours, I retired about ten o'clock. As my head touched the downy pillow, I drifted away—away down to the land of dreams. I dreamed of failures and successes; that the wanderer had returned and was received with open arms; dreamed of my first effort in bee-keeping, (which was years ago), "when the moths ate up the bees in summer, and the cold froze them to death in winter;" dreamed of the old German friend who has long since passed away, who always came to my rescue with the good advice, "Don't give up! Don't give up!" Of the first honey Mr. Flanagan gave to me to eat. How sweet it was! But sweeter



AFIARY OF F. T. FLANAGAN, BELLEVILLF, ILLINOIS.

than this was it to dream over again the dream of love and courtship—a love as pure as the dewdrops on the blushing rose, and as lasting as life. I dreamed that I was telling the one I loved the old stories over; of the hardships and privations of a sailor's life. I could see over again the billowy waters roll; I felt tossed as though upon a ship, and could hear the rushing waters. Just then a clap of thunder wakened me. It was morning. The wind was blowing a fierce gale, and the rain was dashing against the windows of my bedroom. About ten o'clock, Mr.



E. T. FLANAGAN.

Flanagan came with a buggy and tarpaulin, and after hustling me into the buggy, he threw the tarpaulin around me, and drove away. He took me to the place where he had once given me the delicious honey I had been dreaming of. I spent two very pleasant hours with Mr. Flanagan. He had not been so

fortunate as the rest of us, for he had not had a good season, but his enthusiasm ran high when he spoke of the future. Mr. Flanagan possesses something over 600 colonies of bees, and his ambition is to increase them to 1000 colonies. bee-keepers have had as much experience as Mr. Flanagan. He has kept bees in every state along the Mississippi valley, from Wisconsin to Louisiana; on islands, and in boats along the shore. While many of his efforts have been crowned success, others have been blasted, and though the light would sometimes burn low, as if to go out, the energy of the man and his love of the pursuit has given him new life to rally once more the weakened forces. Mr. Flanagan tries nearly all the new inventions that come up. and has piles of this rubbish around that he now knows is useless. He has had the experience, but it has cost him thousands of dollars. He has a most estimable wife; and a family of six bright little children, three girls and three boys, who will no doubt some day be a great help to him when he realizes that thousand colonies of bees, and the seasons get better. So mote it be. -

After leaving Belleville, I took he train for Cincinnati, O., and as this part of the trip was made in the night time, I went to sleep in Illinois to wake up in Ohio. Arriving in Cincinnati about 9 o'clock a. m., I called on that giant beekeeper, Chas. F. Muta. Mir. Muth keeps bees in the heart of the city, on the top of a two-story building. Besides keeping bees, he is a large commission merchant; also runs a seed store, and handles a complete line of bee-keepers' supplies. Mr. Muth reported some trouble with a bee-keeper who had shipped him honey, the bee-keeper claiming more for the honey than Mr. Muth

had been able to sell it for, the honey having been shipped from place to place until it was badly damaged, and some of it broken out of the sections. After Mr. Muth showed me the bills of sale on this honey, and the demands of the aforesaid bee-keeper, it was easy for me to realize how unjustly commission men are sometimes judged. I believe that bee-keepers are often imposed upon, but I want to say to bee-keepers right here that I believe that sometimes commission men are imposed upon, too. No matter how nice honey may be when shipped, if when arrived at its destination part of the combs are broken loose from the sections, and the whole lot daubed and smeared up, it will not bring It takes fancy goods to much. bring fancy prices. Mr. Muth is a German by birth, is about six feet, six inches tall, and a social, entertaining gentleman. He related to me a little incident which shows the thoughtfulness and the generosity of the man. It occurred at a time when the bee-keepers of the United States and Canada assembled at Cincinnati. Mr. Muth ordered free lemonade prepared for all present, and kept a barrel of it standing in the room below the hall during the convention. He said it cost him something like \$40 to keep the barrel filled, but it did him a great deal of good to know he was giving the bee-keepers something/ When the time came they enjoyed. for my departure, Mr. Muth took me by the hand and led me to the middle of the street, as though I were a small boy, and I felt so, beside his towering form. When the right car came along, he hailed it, and instructed the conductor where to let me off so that I could get to That we had more depot. thoughtful and big-hearted people like Mr. Muth, is the wish of the

writer. R. B. L. (To be continued in our next).

Editoria.

The Progressive Bee-Keeper.

A journal devoted to Bees, Honey and Kindred Industries.

TERMS: Fifty cents per year, in advance.

R. B. LEAHY, Editors G. M. DOOLITTLE,

A merry Christmas, and God bless you every one.

+ + + + Read our great combination offer on page 311.

W. H. Heim, of Williamsport, Pa., in renewing his subscription, writes: "I cannot keep bees successfully without the PROGRESSIVE."

Now, friends, are there not more of you that cannot keep bees successfully without the Progressive? We think there are.

1111 We had a very pleasant call the past month from G. W. O'Bannon, of Creighton, Mo., and Geo. W. Williams, of Humansville, Mo. Mr. Williams has just received a patent on a very useful drone and queen trap and self-hiver. This is the most perfect implement of the kind we have ever seen, and we hope to give the readers of the Progressive a sketch of it in the near future.

1111 Going for Aikin.—I want to sav just word to that a other editor, whom they call R. B. Leahy, and to the readers of the Progressive. I had calculated to keep on with my editorial work during 1898, the same as in the past, during '97, but Mr. Aikin's articles which began in the November Pro-GRESSIVE, and are to continue till they close, be that longer or shorter, have tempted me by their interesting features, to lay down my former editorial ways, and just roll

up my sleeves, "get a gait on me," and see if I cannot "overhaul" Bro. Aikin in such a way that we, the readers of the Progressive, may "squeeze" more out of him than he really intended to give us when he started. That I may be able to do this squeezing better, I have requested Bro. Leahy to send me "proof" of the Aikin articles, so the readers may get the "squeezing" results in the same number with the "pomace." With this introduction and explanation, I start out on Mr. Aikin's "trail" as left in the November number, and hope to gain on him so fast that I shall nearly catch up by the time the new year ushers us all into 1898.

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When Commence.—Bro. Aikin says he commenced in bee-keeping with two colonies, during '72 or '73. I obtained my first two colonies of bees in the spring of 1869; thus it will be seen that while he has the start of me in this race in the Pro-GRESSIVE, I really have the start of him by three or four years in the length of time we have kept bees. I see his start with bees cost him \$25, while mine cost me \$35. Thus it was, as it always has been, things can be procured more cheaply in a new and growing country, than in any place which has been longer established.

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"Eat Up by Moths."—This is what Bro. Aikin leaves for us to "chew on" regarding that colony which swarmed only just once. Say, Aikin, don't go so fast, but just tell us all about it. You know that the old colony failed in some way to secure a young queen, after the old one went out with the swarm, and in thus failing, after twenty-one days from time of swarming no more bees ever hatch-

ed in these combs. Then as the already hatched bees began to die of old age, the population of that hive grew less and less, till sixty-six days after the old queen left, when the last bee was gone; robber bees carried off the honey, and the moths came in to clear up the rest, so that "nothing should be lost." Moths have no power to take possession of any colony of bees in a normal condition, but are like all other evils, always taking possession where the good that is in a thing becomes sickly, languishes and dies.

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"Ignorance of the Masses."-Bro. A. says he has learned that the ignorance of the masses, along the line of bee-keeping, is "dense." Well, nearly all practical apiarists have learned the same thing. But I do not consider the ignorance concerning bee-keeping any more dense than along most other lines. the great mass of bee-keepers seems to be entirely ignorant as to the cause of the lower prices for our honey product, as compared with what we received when Bro. Aikin and myself were beginners in our fascinating pursuit, and forgetting that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," have formed a compact with monopoly to crush the liberty loving patriots of America and themselves, that the great mass of the population of the United States may become serfs and slaves. The condition of the multitude is very aptly described in Isaiah 44: 20: "He feedeth on ashes: a deceived heart hath turned him aside, that he cannot deliver his soul, nor say, 'Is there not a lie in my right hand'?" And while we grumble about low prices and hard times, the strange part of the matter is, that, through our ignorance, we have made, are making, just the state of affairs we are growling about. Our case does not vary much from Jeremiah 4:31, where the prophet says, "The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means [money]; and my people love to have it so: and what will ve do in the end thereof?" Truly, the people love to have it so, or they would rise in their might [ballots] and overthrow any system which was giving a FEW, millions which no man can number, robbed from the MASSES by LAWS CREATED BY THE WHOLE. Under our present system the price of honey must go down and down, till the Lord only knows what is to be "the end thereof," unless this "dense ignorance of the masses" is dispelled. I am firmly convinced that a little work along the line of dispelling this ignorance, will be of far more profit to the apiarists of our country than pages of articles written on practical bee culture, and this is the reason for these few lines as above. Brother bee-keepers, "think on these things."

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Securing Bees .- We now pass from the November number to Bro. Aikin in this issue. Guess I shall have to shorten up, or A. will soon be entirely out of sight of me, instead of my catching up with him. Bro. Aikin wished more bees, so bought them with honey, and took bees on shares. Like him, in the early seventies, I wanted bees, and wanted them badly. But for fear of some misunderstanding, I would not go into the "on shares business," nor did I feel like trading honey for bees, only in this way: When the honey season was on, I set aside as many full combs of honey as I could obtain without robbing the bees I had, then in the fall, wherever I could hear that any of the farmers were going to brim-

stone their bees, I offered to take the bees ALIVE and give them the honey. As most farmers are tender-hearted, they liked the idea of not having to kill the bees, and so I secured all the bees I wished in this way. I remember that one farmer had two small colonies, or late swarms, he was going to kill with brimstone, and he was glad to let me have them, and offered me all the empty comb there was, beside the bees. I put the bees from the two hives together, gave them four frames of sealed honey from my apiary, beside the empty combs I obtained with the bees, (fitting them into frames), and the following year I sold \$18 worth of honey from them, besides getting two good swarms. When I jingled that \$18 in my pocket, I considered I had cleared that much, beside saving the lives of those condemned bees.

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Saving Bee Papers.—One more item, and I must leave the rest of the December-Aikin matter till our next issue. Reader, just turn to Friend Aikin, and see what he did with the American Bee Journal. Then go and do likewise; only I want you not to allow your back volumes to "lie packed away" till you don't know the year dated on the first volume you have. I have nearly every issue of every bee paper published in the United States, bound, and at "my fingers' end," and unless I was going out of the bee business, \$500 would not buy them, so highly do I prize them, for they have been very largely the means of making me what I am as a bee-keeper. Not only that, but I am continually getting new thoughts out of them, as I handle them over from time to time in search of something which happened in the past that I wish to know about.

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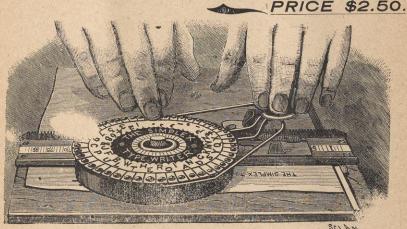
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