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## The Southland queen. Vol. I, No. 1 May 1895

Beeville, Texas: The Jennie Atchley Company, May 1895

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# SOUTHLAND QUEEN.

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE BEST  
INTEREST OF BEE-KEEPERS EVERYWHERE.

ISSUED BY THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, - - \$1.00 PER YEAR.



WEEKLY PICAYUNE BOOK PRINT,  
BEEVILLE, TEXAS.



MAR 29 1954

# The Southland Queen.

## MOTTO: FAIRNESS.

VOL. I.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, MAY, 1895.

No. 1.

This is a Monthly Journal Devoted to the Honey and Bee Interests of this Country, North and South, East and West, and we will not except any of the rest.

Application has been made to the Postoffice Department to have this journal entered at the Beeville postoffice as second-class mail matter.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$1 PER YEAR.

ISSUED BY

**THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.**

### GREETING.

DEAR FRIEND:—In handing you this the first issue of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN, I do so with no other apology, than to say it is a paper that is badly needed in our southland country, and I trust it will supply a long felt want, and be the means of bringing the bee-keepers of our souther states more closely together. I will not say that we expect to bring up the bee-keepers of the south to a level with northern bee keepers, for we are that now, and with your aid and cooperation in this work we will soon march right out holding the staff of the banner of apiculture high above any other part of the world. I am not surmising in this, as I have now twenty years of experience behind me, and have kept wide awake

and on the lookout all these years, and we need no better proof to substantiate my statements as above, than to say we have a country without honey failures. Just think of a country where, rain or shine, cold or hot, we get a honey crop. All we need is the bees and keepers to run them and we are safe. Our paper will be a little badly gotten up the first few issues, but when we get started we will try to give you a paper that will interest you, and be a help to you in making your bees pay. We will have the paper divided into departments, and while I may say a few words in any of them, I will mainly take my class of beginners and give them regular lessons on bee keeping, and try as best I can to assist them to make their bees pay them. I will give a particular lesson in each issue after this and the queen rearing department will be edited by Willie Atchley and C. B. Bankston, both expert queen breeders. In fact the paper throughout will be edited by our family and assisted by the best bee keepers in the country, and when you want to know about any particular point in bee keeping, just send us your questions, and if we can't answer them

intelligibly, we will find some one who can. There is ten of our own family and all are being raised and have been raised in the bee yards and we are going to give our readers the benefit of our almost life experience in this work.

You will please bear in mind, that this the first issue of our paper was gotten out right in the busiest time of our whole year's business and we promise to do very much better when we have a little more time to devote to it. We want to hear from every bee keeper in the land and if after you see a sample copy of THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN, you are not satisfied that it will pay you to subscribe, please hand to some other bee keeper and oblige. We want to see beekeeping brought to a higher plane, and the only way to do it is to put our shoulders to the wheels of apiculture and push till we reach the top. I will try to interest you with my own articles, on general work in the apiary, as well as with my lessons, and you may rest assured I have something good in store for you. In closing these brief remarks, I wish to call your attention to the facts, that after this issue, we will have this journal divided into departments, we will select parties with long experience to lead in these several departments, that have been known to make their business a success, and that is the ones we want to read after. The

queen rearing department, comb honey department, extracted honey department, hive department, the shipping of bees and honey department and the general department. All these departments we wish to improve on as we go along. Now, dear friends, I am aware that no one person can do very much in any one line alone, and I ask your cooperation with us, and let's have such a journal as will help bee keepers along and one that will be a pleasure to read, and at the same time instructive, and success is ours. The parties that will edit this paper will be our family, and others selected to help, and will be known as the Jennie Atchley company, and all subscriptions and business pertaining to the paper should be addressed: "The Jennie Atchley Co., Beeville, Bee county. You will likely notice that the make up of this paper is entirely on a new plan. You will see that we have part of our advertisements right in the middle of the paper, and not all placed on the back or front leaves. We also wish to place almost new matter on the market, that is, not new bee keeping, but by a new set of apicultural writers, and fresh original matter. The writer signed Tom Thumb, is a small man, but is a wide awake big bee man, and will be able to handle his department as well as would a larger person. We start out with a monthly journal, and

at \$1 per year, and we wish to repeat, that when you have read the paper one year, and feel that you have not had the full benefit of your dollar, let us know, and we will promptly return it. The name of each writer will be at top and bottom of his or her article, and each and every page will be numbered and the date of issue, that you may know who you are reading after, and the date, without turning about to look it up. Also every other improvement that we can use to advantage, we will do so for the benefit of our readers. Now, come on with your articles, questions &c. Tell us all about your bees, your honey crop, and how you are getting along and we will do what we can to make you happy. Wishing you all success and happiness this pleasant May evening, I am yours very truly.

JENNIE ATCHLEY.

No quarels about who imported the first Italian bees, etc., will appear in this journal. We wish to be enterprising and instructive, and life is too short and time too precious for foolishness, so when you pick up the SOUTHLAND QUEEN you may expect to learn something about bees.

DR. WM. R. HOWARD, of 52 Main street, Fort Worth, Texas, will tell you the name of any Texas or southern flower you may send him through this journal.

## A RAMBLE

Through Brazoria County Reported by E. J. Atchley.

Leaving Beeville on last November 25, I headed for Brazoria county, for the purpose of visiting the bee keepers of that region. Arriving at Velasco, I met with C. J. Rogers, an enterprising land agent, as well as bee keeper. We started for a ramble overland with hack and team, to see the bee keepers of Brazoria county. The first apiarist we met was Mr. Baker, with his 140 colonies of bees, a poultry yard and banana orchard. Here I saw the first real banana orchard in life. Mr. Baker lives right on one of the many beautiful clear lakes of Brazoria county, and has his banana trees planted right on the waters' edge, and his trees do not ever need irrigation. The tallest trees were about thirty feet high, with bananas in all stages of development, from the bloom to the ripening fruit. He is a fluent talker, on bees, poultry, banana growing, and politics, and most other kinds of ticks. Mr. Baker is a good bee keeper, like many others in Texas, that the bee papers know nothing of. Next, we proceeded on our way to the noted little city of Columbia. This town being about thirty miles from Velasco, it was just about nightfall when we reached it. Columbia is situated on the banks of the Brazos river, the railroad and depot, on

one side, and the larger part of the city on the other. We unhitched our steeds gave them a refreshing draught of sparkling river water, or as Rambler puts it, irrigated the horses. gave them their supper of oats, and crossed the river in a boat and entered the little city at dusky dark. We entered a restaurant, and called for an oyster stew. The keeper seemed either drunk or scared, and the oysters were N. G. and we called for ham and eggs, which came up but little better. as as we did not eat either, but paid for the meal, and struck out for where the freight agent lived, our mission being to get rates on a car of bees, and see if we could afford to ship bees at the high rates we had been informed was on bees. We groped about, and finally found the agent's residence, and received the information sought, and started for the other side of the river, to see about the horses. Lo and behold the ferryman had gone home, and had left the boat on the other side of the river, and we were sure enough in a fix. Dark, no light, except to strike a match occasionally, but we soon discovered a small boat tied to a bush near by, but no oars. Well, Mr. A. having been brought up right on the banks of the Tennessee river, had not forgotten how to row with a stick, so he procured a small stick and set sail for the other shore. On reaching the land on the other side, it

was too dark to make a sure landing, so we pushed up to the bank the best we could and landed safely. We found our beasts of burden all O. K., and hitching up we drove two miles to Mr. DuMars' sugar plantation for the night. We were welcomed by Mr. DuMars, and a servant took care of our rig, and we were shown a nice cozy room with an old fashioned fire place, and we soon warmed up; as Mr. DuMars is a big bee man, as well as a sugar grower, we soon drifted into a regular bee convention and the following facts were learned.

Mr. DuMars is lately from Kansas, and up and alive to business and well posted on bees. He began thus: When I came here four years ago, the ruffs of my galleries were full of bees, and we had to tear the shingles off to get them out. The bees had went in under the shingles and built their nests of sweets between the shingles and the ceiling. The bees would get mad when a scarcity of honey came and would almost run the family off the place, and we had to take them out in self defense. The bees he added, also went into my chimneys and built their nests, and they are very troublesome at times. Mr. DuMars lives right on the bank of the river where boats can be seen passing by any day. In the morning after a refreshing breakfast, we proceeded to the apiary, and we counted about two

hundred hives of bees in various kinds of hives, but, mostly in the regular eight framed simplicity. His bees did well, and we found some ten or twelve barrels of nice extracted honey, and two hundred pounds of wax taken from the bees in 1894.

Next we went through the sugar house, and I saw the sugar making under full headway, as they do not shut down day or night, till sugar making is over. I bought open kettle brown sugar at three cents per pound, and it is very fine indeed, as all the vegetable properties are yet in the sugar, but as it is medicated, and goes through up to granulated, it has but little real sugar about it. In fact I learned that the granulated sugar was the last made, and that nearly all the vegetable matter was taken out of it in its bleaching process. After going through a sugar factory, I say no granulated sugar for me. I am told by good authority, that there is not a single pound of pure sugar on the markets of America. As soon as the sugar leaves the sugar houses, it goes to refineries, and there it is drugged and adulterated until it is a shame to offer such stuff for sale in an enlightened country, or any other country for that matter. Farther, I am told by a traveling man selling syrup that, there is not a single gallon of pure syrup put upon our markets. What a shame to have such a thing tolerated in this land.

Well, back to my travels. Leaving Mr. DuMars' place, we started out to the apiary of a colored man. Soon we reached the spot, and the owner was absent from home but, the good lady told us to look at the bees, at the same time bringing out some water buckets full of honey, just as the bees built it in the buckets, and it looked nice, and the colored folks thought they had it down fine when they could produce such honey and sell the buckets containing about 20 lbs of honey for \$1.00 a bucket; honey raised by inverting a common water bucket over the hive is the hobby of the bee keepers of Brazoria county. I am told there that a man was granted a patent on such a course of honey production in years gone by. I have seen that used many years ago. Buying a few buckets of the honey, and the bees, we proceeded on our way. When about one hundred yards from the house we espied a colony of bees about 40 feet up on the side of a pecan tree with combs about two feet long, a large colony of bees, and must have had at least 50 lbs of honey right out on the trunk of that tree and they will winter there, and swarm as early as any of the other bees, so the folks told us. What a nut for the plenty of room non swarmer advocates to crack, as these bees had all out of doors to use if they wished. Bees will swarm in Texas



if hived in a box car just the same when the right time comes.

The next bee keeper we struck, was John W. Ross. He is situated right on the banks of the noted Oyster Creek, about eight miles from Velasco. Here we put up for the night again, and oh my, what another bee meeting; as we had known Mr. Ross through business, we felt at home at once. He has one of the prettiest apiaries we saw in Brazoria county. He has about two hundred colonies, all layed off in rows, or streets, and a church in the center with its spire running high up into the air. Of course the church has the preacher's bees in it. After looking over Mr. Ross's fine garden, and orchard, it was night, and we sent word for Mr. Adams, another bee man with some seventy colonies living near by, also Mr. Cubage came in when he heard of the bee man, he also, lives close by, and has one hundred colonies. Well, Sister Ross, the wife and good lady of Mr. Ross soon had supper in good old German style, and no one expressed a desire to go to bed 'till after twelve oclock. One of the funny things that night was Mr. Ross telling of his first experience in making foundation. I have told you that he lived right on the bank of the creek, and it must be twenty feet deep. Mr. Ross said he got his comb foundation machine from A. I Root and after he had worked

and worked, and called in his neighbor bee keeper to assist him in getting his machine to run all right, but, he said that at the close of the second day, he had a notion to throw the foundation mill into the creek, and had Root been there would have thrown him in too. Since then he has learned to make his own foundation and is well pleased with his machine. Mr. Ross is one of the successful bee men of Brazoria county. In Mr. Ross's neighborhood, bees did not do well last year. Brazoria county is surely one of the finest bee counties in the state, but, most of the honey they get is amber colored. I found considerable bass wood near the Ross apiary, and when the season hits right he gets a good crop of bas-wood honey, which is very fine. We visited many other smaller bee keepers, and soon succeeded in getting our car of bees, and closed our ramble. I tell you there is lots of bee keepers in Brazoria county. Wild bees about there in great profusion, and we saw where several trees had been cut for bees, and one we took especial notice of, as the bees, combs, and honey had been burned in one heap. The people cutting the tree had seemingly put fire to the bees intending to subdue them, and the bees fought them so they had to leave, and the bees burned up.

THIS is as natural as corn bread, eh?

## Queen-Rearing Department.

I am often asked, "Does queen rearing pay?" I have known numbers of bee-keepers to embark in this branch of our chosen occupation and in a few weeks entirely destroy every bee in their apiary. As to whether queen rearing will pay or not depends on the aptitude of the man or woman who undertakes it to learn the many little details connected with this branch of apiculture. I have induced some of my friends to try queen rearing on a small scale as a side issue, and in every instance failure was the result. I do not believe that any one, no matter how intelligent they may be, can succeed in queen rearing unless they are naturally adapted to that business. I know a young man who spent one hundred dollars in queen rearing and because he did not rich as fast as he anticipated gave up in disgust at the end of the first year. There are many who make queen rearing pay, and a great many who never tried it could make it pay. But I can say with perfect confidence that those who make money out of this business must possess an unusual amount of pluck and patience. There is no other pursuit with which I am acquainted that has as many ups and downs as that of queen rearing. These

we shall endeavor to point out in this department.

We shall also give to the readers of this department every method by which queens have been successfully raised. We think, however, that it is highly important to first point out the many obstacles with which the queen breeder is liable to meet. The honey bee is a very peculiar animal, and its nature and characteristics must be thoroughly learned before you can consider yourself a successful queen breeder.

In order to start in time to fill the first orders we have for queens in the South we must have a supply of drones hatched off about the first of March. To learn to get the queens and bees in shape to raise drones has been one of the most intricate problems for me to comprehend, as there has never been to my knowledge a successful method given to the public, and the only information I could get from books and journals was to feed sugar syrup abundantly. If I mistake not I have seen in some paper that A. I. Root fed one colony a barrel of sugar to get them to rear drones in the fall of the year. I tried feeding a great deal before I learned better ways, and just about the time the young drones hatched from the eggs the bees would pull them out of the cells. Cold winds cause them to do this. Sometimes the matter of getting

the drone eggs laid is not as difficult as having the bees develop them. The least change in the weather will blast your ever fond hopes of getting a nice lot of drones in the winter.

After much anxiety and patient study I believe I have an infallible method of getting early drones. Every experienced bee keeper knows that the queen, if allowed to form her brood nest according to Nature's way, will make it globe shaped. She will begin in the center and gradually enlarge it. Now, my method of getting early drones is plain and simple. A colony, to raise drones, should contain about three pounds of bees and about five combs each. One of these combs should be sealed full of honey, and one of the middle combs should be about half drone comb. The hive in which these combs are placed must be contracted so the 5 combs will fill it. The queen is started to laying by the operator uncapping some of the honey on the middle comb, about the size of the palm of your hand is sufficient, and on the two combs next to the middle one a smaller place should be uncapped. Care should be taken not to uncap any of the drone comb till the queen is getting very prolific. In starting the brood next the cluster should not be farther from the drone comb than one half an inch. When the queen fills the uncapped

cells with eggs the bees will begin to uncap the honey to make room for the queen. If she is a good queen she will fill every empty cell, drone cells not excepted. There is no need of feeding if the above plans are strictly followed.

C. B. BANKSTON.

Raising good queens is just about like raising good pigs, chickens, or any other stock, and if we wish the best we have got to labor to get them. I am now fully convinced that there is just as much difference in queen bees, or races of bees, as in stock, and our first and highest aim should be to be wise in our selection of breeders, both drone and queen mothers. I am now sure that I have the best plan known of raising all good queens, and I am learning day by day and week by week that we must select our cell builders as well as our breeders. I have been worrying all this spring with black bees, and I find not one colony in twenty is any account for cell builders.

I will try to make all my plans clear to you as I go along, by taking my notes while at work raising queens. I have charge of four queen rearing yards just now, and not much time to spare to write, but I will tell all my observations, plans etc., how I manage all this business in a future issue.

WILLIE ATCHLEY.

DON'T fail to look over all the departments, they are interesting.

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BEEVILLE, TEXAS.

## RECOMMENDS ITSELF.

Our Foundation needs no recommendation among those who have used it, and as it is given up to be superior to all makes we only ask a trial order, which will give you a chance to become a customer. Honey, beeswax, veils, Langstroth on the honey bee and general beekeeper's supplies.

Write for catalogue. Chas. Dadant & Son,  
Hamilton, Ill.

## Your Orders

For untested Italian Queens will be promptly filled by return mail. These queens are carefully reared from fine stock, are large, healthy and prolific, 75c each, \$8 per dozen. Tested queens \$1 each. Send for price list.

J. W. K. Shaw, & Co., Loreauville, La.

## Queens.

Untested 55c each, \$6 per dozen. About eleven out of every dozen will make fine tested queens, and for gentleness and industry we defy the world to beat them. Safe delivery. Money order office at Decatur, Miss.

Cleveland Bros., Stamper, Miss.

## Warranted Queens.

I propose to sell warranted Italian queens at \$1 each or six for \$5, and tested queens after June 1st for the same price. Try my stock and see what fine queens I send you.

W. H. Fridgen,  
Reference: Jennie Atchley. Creek, N. C.

## 200 COLONIES.

I have 200 colonies of bees in my charge, all in 8 framed hives, all upright, at \$4 each or \$3.50 per colony for the whole lot. Who wants them? Jennie Atchley, Beeville, Texas.

## J. N. COLORICK

- ◆ Will send a good tested Italian
  - ◆ Queen for \$1.25, six for \$7, or a
  - ◆ Fine Breeder for \$2. Address
- Norse, Texas.

## Promptly Mailed.

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

◆ W. H. Laws, Lavaca, Sebastro Co., Ark. ◆

## GOLDEN BEAUTIES

And 3-Banded Italian, also  
Silver-Gray Carniolan Queens.

Reared in separate yards. Italians warranted purely mated, all at same price. Untested, 75c each; 5 or over, 10 per cent off. Tested Italian, \$1. Write for catalogue of bee-keepers supplies.

C. B. BANKSTON, Chriesman,  
Burlison Co., Tex

FRIENDS, if you don't see your letters and questions answered in our first issue, please be patient with us and we will see that none go to the waste basket that are seeking information, as that is what we are here for.

## Hive Department.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—I will be pleased to aid you in your new enterprise to the extent of my opportunities and ability. When I commenced with bees in this locality, there were none nearer than fifty miles and now there are probably, outside of my own bees not less than fifty colonies within that radius. This is a No. 1 bee country; no disease among bees of any kind, and so far not a single bee moth.

I use an eight framed dovetailed hive, (Chaff) manufactured by E. Krechmer, of Iowa, but am satisfied that for this locality a ten frame hive would be better. I use the thick top, self spacing, Hoffman frames, with what is called the Grubb improvement. I have used a similar frame as to self spacing and putting in foundation, for many years, but until very recently I had to make the frames myself. I use full sheets of foundation throughout.

JAMES H. WING.

Syracuse, Kansas.

Somehow, I notice that the ten framed hives are being used more than I imagined, and the tendency seems, in the south, to drop back to ten frames. Let us hear from others--through our hive department, remember. This is one of the many unsettled problems.

Much is being said of late, about the size and kind of hives that should be used. I will always advocate the eight frame hive, as it seems to me to best fill the requirements of the beekeeper, they always cost less than a ten frame hive, and again, bees will always fill eight frames with brood and honey and

if a ten frame hive is used, they will generally fill the two outside combs with honey and this quantity of stores in the brood chamber will sometimes make the bees loth to enter the supers. As to what shape to produce honey in, I would say, every one must judge for himself, if one has enough bees to produce honey for home consumption, will say, he had better produce it in shallow extracting frames; if one expects to sell honey, he had better produce it in one pound sections.

As to the size of frame I think the Langstroth frame is the best, eight of these being used in a regular eight frame dovetailed hive. If you are a beginner, you had better adopt this size of hive and frame and none other.

I think that the Hill, bee smoker, is the best made for general purposes. When you want a smoke, just light a Hill smoker and you have smoke and lots of it. You must excuse my short article, as I am only fourteen. HOMER HYDE.

Lampasas, Texas, May 1, '95.

DEAR HOMER:—When I last saw you, a little we tott, a good many years ago, I had no thought of reading an article from you on bees, &c. But who knows who our future bee men and women are to be. You do well at fourteen and you are likely to be away up on top of the ladder long before you reach twice fourteen.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—In answers on page 210, American Bee Journal, I see you say, you "spread brood, &c." Now here is the key note to the whole matter, and I think you should explain in your own column.

As you will see by answers, nearly all say "no." Now all depends on locality. Where you are located, I presume it is

so warm that you can do things with impunity which would kill our bees "up north." Beginners must understand the why of this. They see a difference of opinion among the "old heads" and ask "why is this if bee keeping is a science?" when if the matter of locality was explained they would at once see where this difference lies.

I very seldom criticise, but often call attention to matters like this, hoping to do some good, and for this reason I drop you this hint, thinking some may be benefitted by an explanation.

I don't know the condition of bees here as yet, as there has been no weather when it was safe to examine them. I have a 4 frame L. colony (in the fall) kept during the winter in a half inch thick hive, with absolutely no outside protection, from which the bees are flying today, and in which a jar will set them to buzzing sharp, and we have had a cold winter at that. I am getting more and more convinced bees will live if kept dry inside, no matter how cold the weather, and consider that the condition as to dryness or moisture is the keystone to safe wintering.

To this conclusion I have come after testing it for twenty years and more, and I believe as a matter of fact that cold don't kill bees, and further, that outer coverings, chaff hives &c, won't keep a hive warm, and then again I don't believe we need to keep our hives warm, or at least if warm at all, only enough so to keep them dry.

If wet in a bunch they will freeze, but only because they are moist and turned into ice by being frozen up in the excess of moisture. All may call me a "crank," but before they do so, let them test the matter as I have and then own up like little men—and women.

I write you because you are a woman, and I rather like many of your ideas and trust you won't consider me a bore

in writing you occasionally.

J. E. POND.

P. S. "A. P. S." don't wholly belong to women. I am a busy man, and don't get time to write often, but I do like to keep in touch with beekeepers and keeperesses and write in order to keep alive in their memory.

FRIEND POND:—I am glad you brought up this subject again. I think I have explained this matter of spreading brood somewhere, but will now explain it again. Here in this extreme southern country, we can spread brood, and build up much faster than if the brood is not spread. I know that it is not as profitable to spread brood in northerly localities, as I have tried it. Here in the coast country, we can divide colonies and build them up, and even in north Texas. Now April 13, we have nice, even warm weather, bees swarming and gathering honey, and to build up weak colonies fast, we are spreading brood fast every day. I am now thoroughly convinced that it won't do to spread brood much in the north, after having talked with Mr. Thichman, of Maine, and others that live in the north. Yes, we can now have queens lay out on a hive over night, in the apiary and she will be lively in the morning, and of course this would not do in Minn. or Ill., in April. We should all consider that beekeeping in the north is quite different from the south, and we should make allowance accordingly when our views differ.

Mrs. ATCHLEY:—I would have been at your bee meeting last December, but owing to my health not being good at that time I did not go. I use a hive of my own invention, moulded out of plaster of paris, which in your hot climate, would be the hive. Cheapness would recommend my hive, even if it was only equal to wood, and if you had been using this kind of hive when your hot day came last year, I think your nuclei would not have melted down. Twenty-five cents of plaster will mould a Langstroth hive. It can be tiered up, as the bottom boards are moulded separate. Plaster here is 50 cents per 100 pounds.

GEORGE BRIGGS.

New Sharon, Iowa, May 4, '95.

Well, there is something new under the sun surely, as who ever heard of a plaster of paris hive, and 25c each, never rots, warps or turns black. Of course we will try it.

Mrs. ATCHLEY—I am highly pleased to learn that you have started a new bee journal, a good thought when you planned for a bee paper in southwest Texas, and why not make Beeville the honey market of the "world" as Elgin, Ill., is the market for butter? A good idea I think and you will succeed no doubt, for it could not well be otherwise when you are living in such a fine climate, where you have the merry hum of the bees to cheer you almost the whole year round, from early morn 'till dewy eve. With my subscription and best wishes, I am yours for success.

A. A. PACKARD.

Longview, Texas, April 25, '95.

Good morning Mr. Cook. Good morning, says I. How are your bees doing, Mr. Cook? Fine, don't you see how they are working? Yes, but Mr. Cook,

you have not got the right kind of a bee gum. My good sir, I do not use gums, I use dovetailed hives. Yes, but the old style gums are the best. Did you ever use a framed hive? No, says he. Well, says I, come over and I will show you what a hive is. He said he did not have time. Yes, but you must take time, and Cook got him interested and he stayed nearly all day and went away a different bee man, even if he had kept bees all his life.

EDWIN COOK.

Tioga, Texas, May 4, '95.

Mrs. ATCHLEY—Will you please tell me how I am to distinguish the Carniolan, from the common, or black bee? They seem so near alike to me, that I am puzzled to distinguish them.

F. C. DIGBY ROBERTS.

Abilene, Texas, May 8, '95.

FRIEND ROBERTS—I will as best I can describe the Carniolans. They are a gray brown, or steel color, and seem gentle and more easily managed than black bees: The queens (some of them) look very much like common black queens. But in actions they are quite different as a rule. I am inclined to think they are a shade larger than black bees and they behave much as Italians do.

Mrs. ATCHLEY—We are having the nicest spring here that we have had for twenty five years. The bees are working diligently on plum and cherry blossoms. My bees wintered nicely, without any loss. Put sixty colonies in cellar November 14, and taken them all out in good shape April 17. My crop for '94 was 100 pounds per colony, which is a good average for this country. White clover was hurt by our hard winter and I fear our crop will be light this season.

JAMES LIGHTFOOT.

Fairchild, Wisconsin, May 7, '95.

Hurrah for Wisconsin. I should say you did do well last year, and trust you may have a better yield than you anticipate this year.

It is seldom that an article is seen in any of the bee journals that I read, from a North Carolinian. Is it because we of "The old North State," are not taking much interest in bees, or is it with others like it is with me, have not the "practical knowledge" to add anything to the present 'apicultural literature," which is considered so bad by some, and so good by others.

I like a journal through which we can exchange ideas, and would like to hear from the beekeepers of North Carolina, through the QUEEN, that I may know more about the progress of apiculture in my own state. In this and adjoining counties, a great many farmers keep a few bees, mostly in box hives, and sometimes get lots of honey. When the seasons are favorable, they take a great deal of interest in their bees during swarming time, and until they "rob" them, and then they are left without attention until swarming time again, and as they exist here at all, with such management, it seems reasonable to suppose that in many localities, it would pay to make a specialty of bee keeping.

I have kept bees for eighteen years, but kept them as my neighbors do, up to five years ago, and even then I sometimes got seventy to one hundred lbs. of honey per colony. The last three or four years have been bad on bees, and I have not been able as yet, to prove to my neighbors that it is a paying business, since I have been able to give them the attention they need, but everything is favorable so far for this year and if it proves to be a good season, no doubt many will fall in line. I am acting on Mr. Root's advice, believing

that the best way to get people interested, is to make a success of it myself.

There is no reason why southern beekeepers in some localities, cannot succeed as specialists, for it is less trouble to mention the honey producing trees, shrubs and plants, we have not, than those we have. If some of our northern friends who are giving themselves so much trouble about "The future of beekeeping," would visit some sections of our beautiful "southland," which is exactly to the reverse of what it is with them, so far as the cutting away of the forrest is concerned, owing to the changes that have taken place within the last thirty years, they would see that the production of honey will pay for generations to come, whether the "divisible" brood chamber is used or not.

We have no linden, but poplar, elm, maple and willow by the thousand, and some locust, also a great deal of white clover which comes without cultivation.

We have high, low and gray land, some suitable for nearly all crops grown in the United States. We know but little about lucerne, alsike or sweet clover, but I am testing all three.

THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN will be yellow to the tips, pure golden, without a doubt and like all other nice queens will be in demand for years to come. If beginners will rear their queens under the swarming impulse, as possibly THE SOUTHLAND QUEEN was, they will have good ones, if they be as yellow as gold all over. Long live the QUEEN.

W. H. PRIDGEN.

Creek, N. C.

FRIEND P.—It seems old North Carolina, or the "tar heel state" would be good for honey too, if she was cultivated right. Yes, that is one of the many good sayings of A.



I. Root, make a success yourself and others will follow. It does not only hold good in beekeeping, but in other pursuits as well. We appreciate your kind words and trust we may be able to steer the QUEEN clear and that she may be prolific, and do good service to those that use her.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—I am in a dilemma about my bees, and will have to have some help to solve the problem.

I bought a five banded queen to Italianize my apiary, (of 15 cols.) I introduced her to a colony made by moving the old colony, and placing a hive of combs that I had, over the old colony, that they had begun to store some honey in on the old stand. I taken each frame out, one by one and examined them, and there were but few bees on them at all. The queen was released the second day, and in seven days, thinking that she had had time to have some larva, I examined them and every frame but one was full of sealed brood, so I was trumped. I went to the old colony and found it queenless with ten queen cells ceiled, there I was! A lot of cell and not a nuclius ready, and was afraid to wait 'till I could get some ready for fear they would hatch before I could get them ready, so I went to work and taken the queens from four hives and caged them so if the bees tore the cells down I would still have my old queens. Every one but one died that night and it died the next day, so you see that I am in a fix; no queens, nothing but cells dependent on the mercies of the bees. I am afraid to look at them to see what they are doing, every move I make seems to make matters "worse."

Did the old queen go back to the new colony, or did she get destroyed and the

new one rear that much sealed brood in seven or eight days?

What was the cause of the four caged queens dying? I had them in a warm room.

S. P. BREWER,

Edom, Texas, Apr. 8, '95.

FRIEND BREWER:—It will be a little hard for me to tell exactly what was the matter, but I suspect your old queen was where so much sealed brood was, and you did not happen to see her. I guess that the reason your queens died so quick was a lack of food or company. You do not say whether you fed them, or put any bees with them, without food they will die in a few hours. Tell us how your cells turned out.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—Ever since I have taken the American Bee Journal, I have read with pleasure and profit your writings under reading, "Sunny South," but with last issue of that paper I see your department conducted by another I was disappointed, I can tell you, but in looking over your "ad" I was pleased to see you were out with a new bee journal. I am much interested in the south and intend, in the near future, locating in a sunnier clime than Canada.

W. M. HEASLIP.

Seeley's Bay Canada, May 7, '95.

FRIEND H.:—I appreciate your kind words, and trust I may be able to merit the same in THE SOUTHLAND QUERN. I think the Southern Department is in good hands, as the old reliable could not have made a better selection, I don't think.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—I have "struck a sawyer." One of my hives became

queenless this last winter, it has plenty of stores and bees. I gave them a frame of brood the other day, with larva in all stages, but they don't seem to start cells. I also gave this colony a queen, and they killed her. They are hybrids. I have given them another frame and have not looked to see what the result is. Can you give me some instructions? I use the Root, dovetailed hive.

M. T. TOUTS,

Parksville, Tenn. April 22, '95.

FRIEND T:—I think from your statement that your colony had some kind of a queen, and it was too early for her to begin laying, or they may have had a disabled queen. How did they turn out at last?

Mrs. ATCHLEY:—Will you please tell me how to save queen cells if they should happen to start any, and how to prepare nuclei?

P. McDOWELL.

Tangleton, Ky., April 22, '95.

FRIEND MC.—The queen cells are all right in hives, preparing to swarm, until after the swarm issues, then you can make nuclei by breaking up the hive containing the cells where the swarm came from, by taking, I will say two of the frames of brood and bees for each nucleus, leaving two frames in the old hive; give each nucleus one of the cells, move them off from 15 to 20 steps from each other and you will soon have a nice queen in each nucleus, or if you wish you can get two frames of brood and bees each, from as many colonies as you wish nuclei, to the amount of cells you have. Put them out in hives, close them up

for three days and they will be good nuclei to receive your cells. This you can do the day the swarm issues and then on the third day get a cell for each nucleus, spread their frames enough to admit the cell between them, and gently bring the frames together till the cell is firmly held and you may give them a small entrance and they will make it O. K. If I understand you right it was cells from swarming you wish to save.

Mrs. ATCHLEY:—Bees are doing remarkably well this year.

M. M. FAUST.

Floresville, Texas.

Mrs. ATCHLEY:—My bees are doing fine, I have taken thirty pounds of one pound sections per colony by May 1, and have nearly another super per hive ready to take off. This is the first honey I have had in four years as I have lived in Missouri up to March last, when I landed in Bee county with my bees, and considering the bad condition they were in on arrival, they have done remarkably well, and I am well pleased. I have seventy colonies and the honey is very white and well flavored.

E. L. CARRINGTON.

Pettus, Bee county, Texas.

Mrs. ATCHLEY:—Referring to my letter of the 28th inst., and in addition to the numerous questions therein, will you kindly tell me how to fasten starters in sections by hand. I note where some use a piece of glass, but they do not say just how.

W. H. COVINGTON.

Monte Morelas, Mex., Apr. 29, '95.

FRIEND COVINGTON:—For a few sections it will do to cut your starters; stand section on a board

in your lap or on a table, letting the top of section be down. Lay the starter down so that one edge will be about the middle of section top, then hold starter and section firm with one hand and with a warm case knife rub the foundation hard against the wood of section, only mashing the edge of starter, and if your sections are dry, you will make a good job and soon learn to work quite rapidly.

MRS. ATCHLEY:—We are in the midst of one of the best seasons for honey that we ever saw. Bees have been working heavily for three weeks and some colonies are on their third supers. We have music in the air and we are busy. Success to you in your undertaking.

CLEVELAND BROS.

Stamper, Miss., May 3, '95.

Well are we going to have a general good year? Those that are getting no honey, tell us about it. Music in the air—I should smile. If anything is music to a beekeeper's ears it is bees in the air during a honey flow. I am always in good humor and hard to make mad when there is a honey flow on, so are the bees, arn't this funny?

MRS. ATCHLEY:—I want to know what you think about rearing bees in the Panhandle. It is high and dry and the wind, oh my, how it blows sometimes. There are lots of wild flowers and plenty of mesquite blooms, for they bloom all summer and it is said they make the finest and best flavored honey. There are a few bees in the country, which it is said are doing well, I have not seen

them. I am anxious to get some bees, but am fearful the wind would blow them away. We used to have honey in Dallas and it is a great hardship to be without it. Have been reading your articles on bee culture in the Farm and Ranch and am very much interested in them.

MRS. E. D. BENNETT.

Kirkland, Texas, May 6, '95.

DEAR MRS. BENNETT:—I am sure bees would do well where you have so much mesquite timber and other flowers. We have high winds in spring time, in almost any part of Texas, and bees seem to do well just above you in Oklahoma and Kansas. I would put my bees where they would have a wind break and I think they would be all right.

Look up our advertisers, they are all live people and will treat you right.

WE, at this time, May 15, are reaping a honey harvest. We expect to have a continual flow until August.

WE are having good reports from all quarters. Can it be that we are going to have a general good honey season?

PLEASE to ask our land agents, who advertise in this journal, about lands, etc., as they are posted and we are not.

WE will gather our wheat from nearly every granery, or state, in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and from wherever honey grows.

## Question Department.

Well Tom, what will you have this morning? I have come over to ask every question about bees, that can be thought of, and while I will only ask one this morning, you will think I am too small to manufacture such a lot before I get done. All right, what is that one question?

Tell me where the bees get that thin milky fluid I first see about the little tiny larva? Well Tom, I can hardly guess who will answer this right, and you need not jump right into these big questions, first, or I will likely guess who will get tangled up: Well, I have just about reached the conclusion Tom, that the first fluid the larva gets is not given by the bees at all, but nature has so arranged these little things that the little small larva have a small portion of this fluid already around them, and on the third day after incubation has begun, the larva has grown till the thin film that encircles it bursts and is too thin to be seen and the small portion of the fluid that was around it is sufficient food for an hour or more after it hatches and then the bees add more before the larva starves. Now Tom, you may think or guess, who is off, on this, but you take some queen eggs and let them be kept warm, and

hatch where bees can't get to them, and see if I have answered right or wrong. GUESS WHO.

Boys, look out, as I have often thought queens eggs would not hatch at all without the aid of the bees, and it may be that the nurse bees forget the eggs at the proper time and afterward supply it with food.

## Beginners Department.

This department will be run by Jennie Atchley and if you wish to join our class, come in by June 15 and I will seat you on the bench with the class and at the close of the school or term, if you are not head, I am not going to let you blame me, for I expect to teach you all about successful beekeeping and queen rearing before I stop, and each of my scholars are at liberty to ask all the questions they please and I will cheerfully answer all. Now don't look for big high up talks in this school, I will leave them out, and teach you in as plain and practical a manner as I know, how to make a success with bees. Now, who will join our school? I will tell you in June how many scholars we have.

WE have just had one of the largest rains known for years, in this beat, full five inches of water fell in three hours.

SEND in your "ads" at once, as we are going to send this journal to thousands of beekeepers that likely never heard of you, and we will at present only charge you five cents per line for each insertion.

WE have been five years in getting up 17,000 beekeepers names, and we will send a sample copy of next issue to nearly all of them, which will make that special issue a fine advertising medium.

READ what "Tom Thumb" and "Shorty" have to say in this issue and see if you think they know what they are talking about.

A BEE-KEEPER writing from Belleville, Ill., under date of May 15th, say, "freezing for three days."

## JUST LISTEN!

A new steam bee-hive factory. All kinds of bee-keepers supplies at low prices. Send for my catalogue that tells about queen-raising. I have untested Italian queens, \$1 each; \$5 for 6, or \$9 per dozen. Also Carniolans, same price. Tested 3-banded queens, \$1.50 each; 5 bands, \$2.50; and tested Carniolans, \$2. Full colonies of Italian or Carniolan, \$5 with untested queens. I make it my highest aim in a business life to please my customers and do a fair, square business. Safe arrival guaranteed on all queens and bees sent out. Queens can go by mail postpaid at above prices. Bees by express, you pay the express charges. Remember, we have been before the public for 15 years. Send us your orders. We have good shipping facilities, two railroads. Address

**The JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.,**  
Beeville, Texas.

## BOOKS FOR BEE-KEEPERS.

A. B. C. of Bee Culture (Root), postpaid	\$1 25.
A Year Among the Bees (Dr. Miller), postpaid	50.
Advanced Bee Culture (Hutchinson), postpaid	50.
Amateur Bee-Keeping (J. W. Rouse), postpaid	25.
Bees and Honey (Thomas G. Newman), postpaid	1 00.
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Any or all of the above books will be sent to any address in the United States, postpaid, upon receipt of price.

**The JENNIE ATCHLEY Co., Beeville, Texas.**