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The Southland queen. Vol. I, No. 2 June 1895

Beeville, Texas: The Jennie Atchley Company, June 1895

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THE

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.

The Southland Queen.

MOTTO: FAIRNESS.

VOL. I.

BEEVILLE, TEXAS, JUNE, 1895.

No. 2.

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.

DON'T forget to send in your subscriptions and advertisements or you may regret it.

BEE SWAX is declining a little at this writing, 25 cents being the top of the market in this state.

BEEs are swarming a little too much this year, but we think they are settling down to business now.

AFTER our many refreshing rains, we now have settled weather and the bees are humping themselves.

THOSE that came down from the north with their bees and stuck it through, are well pleased and happy, only for one thing, and that is the bees push them a little too much.

I SEE some people want Doolittle to get his old man a suit of clothes, but we think Nebel & Sons' monkey, needs clothes the worst.

REMEMBER that nice section honey is cash, as soon as ready for market, the same as cotton, and nearly always brings a good price.

BEE pasturage is not in it this year, in this country as bees are doing well anywhere. Hard to overstock southwest Texas anyway.

WHEN you want to sell your honey, write the dealers who advertise in this paper they are alive to the interests of their patrons and will treat you right.

ANY and all bee keepers have a right to contribute to this paper; comment, correct, or give advice, so come on, one and all and we will make room for you.

WE have lately been killing off some drones that we did not want and had some help, as we wanted the drones killed at once, and we hand picked them, and every little while we could hear some one holler out, "I got hold of the wrong drone."

Beginners Department.

Lesson No. 1.

As promised you I will now proceed to call the roll, and see if we cannot start right off with our school without any preliminaries.

First, we will suppose that you all know what bees are and what they are for. Well as bees are for us to use as we see fit, it is our duty to make money out of them, and how to do this is just what we are going to show you ere this school closes. It is a well known fact that man has kept bees since the world began, as our books of holy writ says that bees were in existence during our Savior's earthly life, and are here yet. Well, we further know that bees will pay their own way, and also remunerate the keeper besides, if properly handled. I do not mean to say that bees will pay every year in all countries, but take it on an average and bees will pay as well as other stock, as we must know that all kinds of business has ups and downs. Now, as I see you are all listening closely, I will say that the first thing to be done is to get you some bees if you have not already got them, as I cannot well teach you unless you have some bees to manipulate. Well, you may say how am I to get the bees? To this I will say that there

is scarcely a neighborhood in the United States where people live, but there are more or less bees and I would advise you to get them as near your own home as possible as the less they are handled the better, while in confinement, so get some bees from your neighbor, and if you cannot do so, I would advise you to send off to some one advertising in this paper and get you a colony of bees. Now we will begin at the head and as I see little Tom Thumb has jumped to the head, I will now let him come with his first questions and hope he may make them brief. Now I want you all to understand that I am here to answer all your questions, and you are expected to ask them each month before we go to press, as the 15th of each month is our press day, you must get your questions in by the 10th to get an answer the same month.

Mrs. Atchley, what kind of bees shall we get? I would advise you to get Italian bees at first, if you cannot do this, then get any kind you can, and I will tell you further on how to Italianize them, and how to procure the Italian queens.

Shall we get bees in box hives, or must we get them in movable comb hives at the start?

I have always heretofore advised beginners to get box hives and transfer at the start, but I will not do it any more, unless I think you

have had sufficient experience with bees to handle them well and understand their movements, or in other words understand bee talk. I would get bees in a movable comb hive or hives, and when you have become accustomed to their habits and ways, then you may buy bees in old boxes or logs or what not, and transfer them into your movable comb hives. The reason I advise you to get bees in movable comb hives at first is, I have know so many that have come under my own observation during the last few years, that I advised to get bees in box hives and transfer them and get that part of the experience first as it is needed in the management of bees, but as I said I now know it won't work always, as I have seen so many make a sad failure in their first transferring and give up in disgust, and those too that I am well satisfied would have made good bee keepers, if they had possessed bee knowledge enough to have made a success of their first job. It is too much like putting an A B C scholar in grammar at the start, he must begin at the bottom, and as transferring is away up in the book of bee keeping, I will not put you there at first, but let you work your way up, and then you will get there. So, by letting you start with a movable comb hive, you have a problem that is already solved, and when you learn that

by heart, I will give you a problem to solve alone.

How many hives shall we start wit?

Oh, that depends, and if I knew all your dispositions, I could better proportion your number of hives and know just how to start you off in this particular point, and as you are now expecting me to give it all full and complete, and leave nothing off that should be said that would be to the best interest of this school, I will say, with a sort of explanation, that this question will not apply to you all alike, but according to your several abilities. Now, here is the main point in this whole series of lessons, and that is if you get too many bees and make a failure, it may retard your progress on the road of a successful trip and I will say that if you are of a quick to learn temperament, and full of vim, energy and perseverance, you may have ten, or even twenty hives to start with, and may be even more than that, but, if you are slow to learn, and afraid to risk and trust yourself, you had better start out with one to three, and you will come slower, but more surely than if you undertake too many hives at the start.

How are we to become acquainted with the bees?

I hope you will not become wearied with me in my explanations, as that is I believe the safest way to teach you. First I will say that

in the nature and habits of bees, there has never been any improvement, and the bees of today are the same as the bees were a thousand years ago, and I mean by this that the bees do their work, and have the same characteristics they always had, and you will have to watch very closely, and catch on to their talk, as their language is just the same all the time. To become acquainted with them is a pretty big job, and one that is rather hard for me to explain myself on, but, I will say that when bees are gathering honey plentifully you will know it by their good nature, and their way of working, see their hives filling up, combs getting whitened up, and comb building begin, this is one word of the bee talk, and it means in their language that they are getting honey. Now to even you up on that word I will say that you must know that when bees begin to get honey, you may transfer, manipulate, or anything else you wish to do without danger of getting your bees to robbing. Also it means you can put on your honey boxes.

Next, you can observe closely, and if your bees seem more cross than common, and if you notice them trying to pry into the cracks and crevices of their neighboring hives you may look sharp that they do not starve, and if they even have plenty of honey, it is best to manipulate them as little as possi-

ble, until they begin to gather honey. To handle bees successfully and well, you should always smoke them first, as that will let you have perfect control of them, when if you should open the hives without smoking, they will as a matter of course, buzz right out and cover you and give you a fearful stinging, even before you can get away, and that is not good for you and especially when you can avoid all this unpleasant work by first smoking them. I mean you must puff the smoke right in at the entrance the first thing you do and when the bees find that you are going to go into them any how, they will fill themselves up with honey and cluster out of the way and let you do as you please, and it does not make much difference how ill your bees may be, if you will always smoke them as well as you ought to, you will not have any trouble in handling them. When you see the bees stick their tails up and buzz their wings, you may know that they have give up, and do not mistake this for anger on the part of the bees as many beginners do.

Now, this is another word, and to better explain it I will say that the bees send out a peculiar sweet scent when they do this buzzing of their wings that you will soon become accustomed to, and I believe this means the same word as I have just explained, well the Eng-

lish word to match the bee word here is, take hold and manipulate as you please, as the bees have given up and will not sting.

Some bees need more smoking than others, and you will soon learn this by observation, and in fact we often work the bees most all day during a honey flow without using but little smoke, and there is such a thing as using too much smoke, and the directions given you to first use smoke at the entrance is for new beginners, and when you have learned to handle the bees you may sometimes open your hives without using smoke at all.

Now, this becoming acquainted with bees is a big question and you must bear with me, as I wish to make it as plain as I can for you. Another word in the bee language is, when you open a hive, and the bees are scattered all over the combs and running about over the hive, and seem to be almost crazy when you smoke them a little, you may know that they are queenless, as a hive with a laying queen will be in a compact nest with their heads turned up towards the top bars of the frames, and you will at once discover that general house work is going on, and the bees will be more quiet when their hive is opened. This is as best I can tell you in the bee language, queenless, and the English to match it is, give them a frame of brood as soon as

possible, from some other colony, and a queen or queen cell, or if you have no queen cells, let them raise a queen on the brood you give them, and this will save your colony.

Now, the reason I am making these explanations in the way of words is, you know, the way a school is taught, by explaining words and what they mean. Another bee word is, and I believe should come in right along with this explanation, as it is also a sign of queenlessness, from outside appearances. When bees have been queenless only a short while say three or four days, they will crawl out of their hives and up the sides of the hives farther than usual and fly away in great numbers and only go a short distance and back again, and as they go in they will set up a call by that same familiar sound and buzzing of their wings, and means in the bees language, a call for the queen to find home by, and is also a call to the bees, and means, come in this is home. The English to this is, better go into that hive and see what is going on, and give them a queen cell ready to hatch, or a queen, or in short give them a queen or the means of rearing one at once.

When you see bees flying about in the air and darting about and trying to sting you, then your best place is right at the hive, unless you run clear off, and of course

you wont do that if you are going to make a bee keeper. If you will use a little more smoke than common on the bees left in the hives, you will get up a big roar which will soon attract the attention of the mad bees and they will get tired and go in their hives, unless they are sure enough bad, and in this case it may be some better to kill the few mad bees in the air with a paddle or brush, but if you do not mind out how you do it, there will be two mad bees come for every one you kill, and I hardly ever resort to this rough means.

In handling bees you must always make it one of your aims to handle with care, and you will soon see that it will pay you.

Now I believe you are somewhat acquainted with bee talk, and with these little explanations, you will soon learn to speak the bee language well and march right along. I will tell you in the next lesson how to get your bees ready for the crop, and how to build them up, and how to divide them.

JENNIE ATCHLEY.

REMEMBER that all your questions will be answered by some of us in this journal, and as fast as we can reach them, and please bear in mind that if your letter and questions do not appear in this issue, you may know others are ahead of you and your turn will come soon.

Queen-Rearing Department.

Care of nuclei, is in my opinion a very important subject. If it were not that the nuclei frequently become discouraged and swarm out, I believe that queen rearing would be one of the most fascinating occupations in our southland country, but that is something they are sure to do. Many times since I have been engaged in queen raising, I have seen as many as one dozen out at a time. This is I doubt not one of the main causes of so many failures in this branch of our pursuit. To fix one or two nuclei so they will not swarm out, does not require much care or knowledge, but to prepare one or two hundred requires persistent effort and a thorough knowledge of the business.

If you do not live in a locality where the honey flow is continuous, during the queen rearing season, it is almost impossible to keep down robbing, and as sure as you get them to robbing, swarming out will be the final outcome. The first swarm out will sail around in the air until they find a hive that suits them, and then they will all sail in to it, and at once proceed to ball the queens, and if the keeper is not present both queens get killed. When once started to going into a hive, every swarm that

comes out that day, will likely go into the same hive. Willie Atchley carries a little tool box around with him and in that box is always shipping cages supplied with food and all ready to cage queens for the trade, and when he comes across a lot of nuclei swarming out, every queen that is laying is caged, and mailed to customers, and those that are not laying are introduced to queenless nuclei, and the dissatisfied bees are allowed to return to their hive, and a frame of brood honey and a queen cell is given them and the bees will go to work with renewed energy, but we do not always have these means at hand, and often find ourself at a loss to know what is best to do. If the bees and queen are returned to their hive they will certainly swarm out again if you feed them in the hive that they have just abandoned, the robbers will take the whole shooting match.

Feeding just at night is a very good plan, but if the robbers are very bad, they will rob them the following day and your work is all more than time lost. The best and safest plan I have any experience with, is to load all hives which does not appear to be in good shape on a wagon and carry them about one mile from all other bees, and then feed each nuclei about one quart of thick sugar sryup or honey, let them remain there two or three days and move them back

home, the moving should be at night. My nuclei hive has division board in the center of it, and a three frame nuclei on each side of division board. I have from one to three cages bored in the division board to cage queens in, these cages are fixed with a wire on one side and tin slide on the other side, at the top is a place for food, it is so arranged that it can be used for an introducing cage.

Weak nuclei will be less liable to swarm out if the brood nest is started at one end of the frames, it seems that they can keep more comb under the proper temperature for the queen to deposit her eggs in, when they are crowded in at one end of a narrow brood chamber. I have all along the line noticed that where the brood was at one end of the hive the nuclei were in the best condition.

If I want to build up a weak hive of bees, I put them in a small hive or a hive with a division board in it, and then give them room as they need it. Queen nuclei should be scattered promiscuously all over the place, if they are set in rotation and too close together, the queens will disappear and you will never know what became of them. However by close attention you will find that when returning from mating tour, they get in to the wrong hive and are killed by the bees.

In conclusion I will say that if

you have just begun rearing queens for the market, it will pay you to move cautiously, and form a resolution to stand many failures and small rewards for your labors.

Yours truly,

C. B. BANKSTON

Chreisman, Texas.

I know that some people have their own ideas about queen rearing and some think that there is not much in the queen any way. But, I have watched this thing for several years, and when you find a bee keeper that is particular about his queens, you will see that he will get honey when the other fellow will not. It is all in the queens, and a honey producer nor any one else, should not waste their time with a poor queen. You can tell most always when a queen is O. K., by her looks, the way she handles herself, and the way she places her eggs in the cells. Now I have often noticed how some say they want their queens raised and some one way and some another. But I think we should judge a queen as much after she is hatched as before, and while I believe in always using small larva, for raising queens and use full colonies to rear them in. I prefer to select my queens after they have laid a week or more and I have seen good queens raised in a honey flow, on my plan.

The way I have been getting cells for a month or more is by natural swarming, and still I have inferior queens, but the most of them are good.

I am now running four large queen rearing yards, and I tell you it keeps me hustling, and by careful watching I keep queens in my hives all the time. I find that I can nearly always turn a very young virgin queen loos on the comb at the same time I remove the laying queen, if they are not over three

or four hours old. I often let them hatch right out of the cells in my fingers on to the combs, and only a few are killed by the bees during a honey flow, such as we have been having for two months.

It is an easy job to get bees to accept a queen during swarming time, but, what gets next to a fellow is to rear and introduce queens when there is no honey coming in.

Queens now begin laying on the seventh and eighth day after hatching, and I tell you they are fine. Give me queens that lay on the seventh and eighth day, and I will risk the honey crop with them.

WILLIE ATCHLEY.

One Hundred Pounds Per Colony.

I have taken this season, up to date, about one hundred pounds per colony, of comb honey, and it is fine, and said to be equal to any honey in the world.

D. M. EDWARDS.

Uvalde, Texas, June 10, 1895.

How is this for southwest Texas? Mr. Edwards keeps about eight hundred colonies.

WE now have ninety-six scholars in our class, of all sizes and ages. You may think this a pretty good school, but in a school of this kind we can handle five hundred scholars as well as one, and do just as good a part by them. Our school is now open, and plenty of room for you. Tuition "free" so join in and lets have a merry school.

WATCH closely the questions and answers, also the queen rearing department, and in fact all the departments, and if you see any mistakes please point them out.

Grade Your Honey.

Written for the Southland Queen

In sending horey taken from old box gums to market, only the whitest pieces of sealed comb should be sold as comb honey. These should be put into vessels by themselves, cut into pieces or blocks not more than four inches square and if a cell of polen is found it should be cut off. Last year a man here put 150 lbs. sorts, comb honey sealed, containing one-third polen and the comb as hard and tough as sole leather, a few grubs, young bees, etc., into a barrel and hauld it about twenty miles and tried to sell it, but could find no buyers, though he offered the barrel at 5c per lb. He brought it here and placed it in a store to be sold if possible. It stayed here two months unsold, when I bought and carefully sorted it, putting the good clean white comb by themselves and straining the remainder, putting my printed label on each package and vessel, and sent it to the same market from which it had been once rejected as being unclean and unfit for human food. It was sold readily at 15c for comb and 12½ for strained.

A few days ago my salesman said that there was some gum honey in market, but the folks were waiting for him to bring them some clean horey as they did not like "beebread," even if it was cheaper than our labled honey.

GEO. MOTT, M. D.

Spurger, Texas, '95.

You are quite right in this matter doctor, it will pay to grade honey as well as any other thing we sell. I have made some of the same experiments you have and find it profitable.

Interested In It.

DEAR MADAM—The SOUTHLAND QUEEN reached me today, and you may rest

assured it was received with pleasure and perused with avidity. With the advent of the SOUTHLAND QUEEN, a new era in apiculture has dawned in south west Texas, and it behoovs all lovers of bee culture to come forward and lend a helping hand, as it were, put the shoulder to the wheel, keep the ball moving and in every way possible assist our editress, that we who live in this fair state, this land of sunshine and flowers, may not fall behind in the race where intelligence and practical knowledge will bring to all a perfect ending in bee culture.

We are accustomed to associate the hum of the bee hive with home, home life and all its pleasant surroundings. From the Atlantic to the Pacific they have been the advance guard of civilization, and today, through their industry they bring a luxury to our homes, and to come down to the point what can beat hot biscuit with honey, parallel cases are strawberries and cream, peaches and cream.

I enclose a plant that today I saw bees at work on, which I think is hardly equalled by *militotus alba* or green clover. I am going to gather the seed; can you tell me through the columns of your valuable journal the name. Sent a sprig of the plant to Dr. H. today, to be answered in your journal.

A. O. PACKARD.

Longview, Texas.

FRIEND PACKARD.—We appreciate your interest in the SOUTHLAND QUEEN, and we shall try and leave nothing undone that will be to the best interest of bee keepers, and to the advancement of the QUEEN. Your words are encouraging and we are happy to state that we are meeting with the greatest of encouragement from all parts of the country.

Now, all come and make the QUEEN what she ought to be. Dr. Howard will answer your questions in regard to the plants in the QUEEN SOON.

Two Questions Answered.

First, will you please tell me how I can keep web worms out of my hives? Second: As the queen bee lays all the eggs, how do they raise workers and queens? Third: As the queen cuts down the queen cells, does she lay the eggs in them and in a few days turn round and destroy them? If you have time please explain all this to me.

MERRILL W. SMITH.

Cuero, Texas, June 7, 1895.

In answer to question No. 1, will say, get Italian bees, and keep them strong in bees and you will seldom be troubled with moth worms.

No. 2. This question calls for a long explanation, so we will be as brief as we can, in order to make it plain. First we will say that the queen lays all the eggs, both for drones, queens and workers and in fact is the mother of the whole colony except herself. In normal condition this is the case. The eggs that make working bees, will also make queens if handled for such by the bees. The queens and the bees are exactly of the same sex. The queen or mother be is a developed female and the workers are undeveloped. The queen is reared in a large roomy cell, with four times (or more) of the amount of food that the working bees get, and being so highly

fed, and not crowded in her cell, she matures about five days earlier than a worker, and is thoroughly developed, which gives her the power of becoming fertilized, and taking up the duty of egg laying, while the workers are scanty fed, reared in tight cells, and are built for wing power, and for hard labor, and have not the power to mate the drones, therefore they are undeveloped females.

Any egg that is laid for a worker bee, can be handled so as to produce a queen. The queen does not lay in queen cells only when preparing to swarm or for her own supercedure, when she is getting old.

If we deprive a colony of its queen, the bees will at once begin the construction of queen cells over some larva that were intended for workers and in due time will have a new queen and if no swarm is to issue the first young queen sets to work destroying every cell in the hive that contains a queen. The young queen will gnaw a small hole in the cell and sting her rival and the bees finish up the job.

3. The queen does not tare down the cells. When no swarm is coming off, as stated above, she manages to sting all young queens in the hive and the bees tear them down and clean up the job.

The drones are reared from unimpregnated eggs, and are of no use except to fertilize the young queens.

Encouraging Words.

I seat myself with profound gratitude to write you a letter of congratulation in your undertaking to establish the bee business. It is a long felt want and I glory in you for the degree of enterprise.

We of Texas have greatly neglected this great industry, and now I hope it will come to the front; Texas is as good a bee country as any of the northern states.

It was through the A. I. Root's gleaning I found your card; while I deem A. I. Root's the best of bee journals, we have had as yet, but now as you have begun your work I do not see why you could not put out just as good bee reading as any. I trust you will make a success, and give us from time to time, interesting articles on bee keeping. I wish you to send us a copy of your journal, for perusal and if it comes up to date in the matter of bee culture, you may expect us to be a regular subscriber, and will give it some attention here in this section.

I have a few hives, and am using the Golden hive, it is the best hive I have ever seen.

Pardon me for making this article or letter so lengthy, and we will wait to see your journal and write you another.

Yours for success,
W. S. TAYLOR.
Lexington, Texas.

FRIEND TAYLOR:—We wish to thank you for the encouraging words you give and we trust that our paper may have support enough that we may be able to make a journal second to none.

Bees Paralysis Again.

Mrs. ATCHLEY.—As you failed to answer my questions in full, please excuse me for troubling you again. Do bees have paralysis in the summer time? I

think you did not quite understand me in regard to direction the hives should face, I meant that those hives that faced south and east were entirely clear of the malady, while those facing north were badly affected. I send you a diagram of my apiary, so that you may better understand how it is situated.

I wish the QUEEN a long and successful life.

I contemplate increasing my apiary and will give my views and plans in a later issue of THE QUEEN. TEXAS.

FRIEND TEXAS.—Your pencil sketch of your apiary laid off so you can work your hives in such a way as to look over five without moving but little, is a good plan. I know you must have a nice cool place under the shades of those beautiful live oak trees. Yes, of course, give us your views and plans, as that is the way we learn.

Between two Honey Flows.

We are now between two honey flows; the holly is gone and the basswood is not out yet, but, we expect it to be out some time about the first of June, then we will have it right.

JOE PIPER.

Lake, Texas, May 27, '1895.

White Clover a Failure.

Our honey crop is a grand failure on account of the dry weather. There is no white clover.

G. L. GAST.

Le Claire, Iowa, June 10, '95.

Well here is one bee keeper, getting no honey.

It may not be out of place in a bee journal to state that this country has the finest crops of all kinds for many years. Vegetables, every where, and corn very good indeed, and will be ripe in four weeks.

SOUTHERN TEXAS.

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The Texas Coast Country is fast filling up with a thrifty class of people. Fine lands in high, rolling, healthy, localities. Large bodies of improved lands at \$2 per acre. Small farm tracts at \$5 and up. Printed matter free.

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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.

Reference: Jennie Atchley. **W. H. Pridgen,**
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,
Burleson Co., Tex

HONEY...

Send Your Honey to **Lillenthall & Grant,** 107 Main Street, Houston, Texas. They will insure you quick returns and general satisfaction.

Honey and Hive Department.

What shape of a hive is best for the south and how large should it be? How many frames to each story and how many stories high for extracted honey?

R. R. GREEN,

Decatur Tenn.

FRIEND GREEN.—Your questions are wide, and most of them hard to answer, as locality, even in the south, has a heap to do with it. I think a hive about the shape of an eight framed hive, taking Langstroth frames, is about the right shape, and as to its size will depend on how your locality is for honey. We have had our hives five stories high to accommodate our bees some years. You see the hives we use are as large or as small as we chose, made so by tiering up and by contraction, even the single brood chamber can have a dividing board and contract to one frame. We will say eight frames to a box and as many stories high as will best accommodate your bees, and also for the best in securing a full crop of honey. Every beekeeper, in our opinion, should study his or her own location, honey resources etc. and use hives in size best adapted to obtain best results and when runing for extracted honey, we may need more room for some colonies than for others and to be a little more plain we will add, that it is not

very much the hive that gives the crop of honey, so a hives used that is large enough to hold a reasonable amount of honey, but rather it is the bees, and their management, we must look to for a crop, provided it is in the fields.

I am satisfied now in my own mind that it is best to run mostly for extracted honey in this latitude, as the honey flow is so long and gradual that the bees get the section colored before they are finished, and then it will be less work to run for extracted honey and I think we can afford to raise it cheaper than section honey.

E. S. CARRINGTON,

Pettus Texas.

Let us hear from others on this subject.

MRS. ATCHLEY.—Will you please tell me through your highly appreciated journal, why so many make a failure of comb foundation making. I mean beginners?

F. R. FUCHS,

Sabinal Texas.

FRIEND F.—I can very easily explain the cause of a failure on the part of beginners when they first begin making comb foundation. In the first place the wax has got to be just right, and it takes an expert to tell this; next it must be dipped just right or it wont work and last, but not least, it must be run through the mill just right or it will be no good, and a beginner does not understand all these things, and it takes some time to catch on to how the business should be managed, before we can safely turn out good foundation and some never learn.

Will you please tell me how to keep the wax from sticking to the pans in my wax extractor, and how I can get the wax out easily? M. M. FAUST.

Floresville, Texas.

It is a good way to put a little water in the pans and this will not allow the wax to stick to the bottom of the pans, and if it sticks to the sides, grease with lard and the wax will let lose. If you will use pans with sloping sides, the tops larger than the bottoms, you will have less trouble in getting wax out.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.—I have been waiting very patiently to see a copy of your paper and am very anxious to see a southern bee paper and now we have a journal in our own country, let us come forward and discuss southern bee keeping, and learn more of our nectar bearing trees, shrubs and flowers, as many of our honey plants are unknown to our northern bee friends and many that live in the south are not acquainted with them. Now let us post ourselves and give our experiences, pros and cons through this paper, and we will be able to gain valuable information from each other,

A. H. WEBSTER.

Walnut Springs, Texas. May 26. '95.

You are right friend Webster, that is our mission, to exchange ideas and learn and we are glad to know that so many are coming forward and lending a hand.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.—I will be pleased to have your journal, I am a novice in the business and have lost half of my swarms by running off to the woods. I have trouble with many

swarms by their queens not being able to fly. Until lately I never thought to look for the queens in front of the hive where the swarm came from. I am now seeking information how to manage them, and looking for a hive that I can get the bees to build straight on the frames. I have great trouble in getting into my hives, as the combs are built crossways and in all shapes. I join the school.

F. M. SHICK.

Tours, Texas, June 3, '95.

FRIEND SHICK—We are anxious and much pleased to have you join our school. We shall try to give full lessons right along on the troubles you are having, and think we will be able to help you out. Your bees will not leave you and run off if you will give each new swarm a frame of honey unsealed larva, &c and your bees will likely build crosswise in any hive, or frame, if you do not use starter of comb foundation, or frames with good comb guides in them. Of course you cannot get a frame of honey and larva if your combs are built cross wise. I would get my combs straight by all means and keep them so, and then you will find it a pleasure to handle them. If you have no starters or comb guides to your frames, watch your new swarms and if they start crooked, straighten the comb with your hands and when you get two straight, keep an empty frame between them and you can get them straight.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.—Kind Friends—if you do not object to my

calling you so—I wish to thank you for the way you answered all my questions, and I appreciated your kindness very much, the careful manner in which you answered each question. I think you are going to make your journal the most interesting of all, by your plain, practical lessons, giving them in detail. You may enter my name on your list and put me down a schollar.

I now have six colonies, have supers on four, and the bees are working in them right along.

There is a small bird here resembling the bee martin, that seems to be catching my bees. I have heard that birds only catch the drones; what is your opinion in the matter?

W. H. COVINGTON.

Monte Morelos, Mex., May 29, '95.

FRIEND COVINGTON.—Of course we do not object to your calling us friends, when the time arrives that beekeepers cannot call each other friends, I will be sorry indeed. Yes, we shall try to make THE QUEEN as instructive as we can, and if our beekeeping friends will lead us their hands and help us, we will soon have a good bee paper. The birds you speak of may be a species of the king bird, or bee martin, and it is likely only eats drones, but I would watch closely and see, you can shoot a few and if you only find drones in their craws, you can tell which it is they eat.

—

MRS. ATCHLEY.—I appeal to you for advise. I am very anxious to gain information. I live upon Missionary Ridge, in the suburbs of Chattanooga, right in the heart of the most noted

battle ground in the United States, and it is said that bees will not do anything up here. I would be glad to try and see if I cannot prove to the contrary. I have one colony, three having left me recently. I robbed my pattennt hive of eight pounds of honey at the wrong time, what would you advise next, should I rob the hive again in September?

When is the best season to open up the bee business; what kind of bees are best; what kind of hives are best; what do you get for honey, and where is the best market; in shipping how do you prepare honey? Please do not let my questions go unnoticed.

LISETE W. PAYNE.

Chattanooga, Tenn.

DEAR MRS. PAYNE.—I shall do what I can to assist you, I am well acquainted with the spot on which you live. I well remember, away back yonder in the 1870, when us children would go out on Missionary Ridge, grape hunting, and watch the boys climb trees and cut out bullets that were in the trees, caused from the great battle you speak of. I think there is a bee man living up on Lookout Mountain, below Chatanooga, that can help you out some. I would not use the term rob, I would only take honey when the bees have a surplus, always leave them plenty say fifteen to twenty pounds. The best season to begin bee keeping is spring. Italian bees, are what I would advise as best. Any movable comb hive is good, so it is not too large or too small, I use an eight frame hive, taking the Lang-

stroth frame. Honey brings ten cents per pound here, Chattanooga will be a good market for you.

MRS. ATCHLEY.—I want to tell you of a queen caper, and how the queen played it on me a few days ago. Four days after I clipped her wings and introduced her she was out running over the frames as lively as a kitten. The weather was a little cool for several days, and at the approach of warm weather, she surprised me by swarming out. I found her in front of her hive about ten minutes after they swarmed, making her way back toward the hive I put her in at first. I placed her in a wire cage, hived the swarm, turned her loose and let her run in with the rest. I then went to the hive they came from to investigate, looked every frame over very carefully, several times, and could not find any queen cells. I examined the new swarm today and not a single egg to be found and the queen is gone. Now what caused them to swarm?

L. G. CASH,

Russellville, Mo., June 6, '95.

FRIEND CASH.—From your description of this case, we will venture to say the queen was a virgin and started out to mate and the bees followed her and she likely got lost the same way.

MRS. ATCHLEY.—My bees seem to be diseased in some way, and I ask you for information. From the start there were a number of bees dying, some inside the hive and some crawling out on the alighting boards, and out on to the ground, they showed this trouble last year, and this spring it seems worse. The bees are all swollen up and cannot fly, work their wings feebly, and breathe hard and soon die. What is

the trouble, and can it be remedied? I have not had any experience in this line before.

W. D. KEYS.

New Albany, Ind., May, 1885.

FRIEND KEYS—Your bees are afflicted with that well known, nameless bee disease known as dysentery, spring dwindling, or paralysis, and in your latitude. I would give them a new clean hive, and new combs of honey, or feed them up in a new clean hive, and we think when warm weather and new honey comes in they will be all right. There has as yet been no effectual remedy discovered.

MRS. ATCHLEY.—Is it too late to transfer bees at this season of the year, or had I better wait till next spring? I have twenty colonies and they seem to be doing well now, but I had a time wintering them.

C. R. RHYNE.

Hardins, N. C.

No, it is not too late.

THE JENNIE ATCHLEY Co.—I have a large swarm of bees, I hived them four times and I cannot find any queen with them and think that is why they will not stay. Do you think that is what is the matter? I have some old comb that has been in use for eleven years, and they are black and tough. Is it best to cut them out and let the bees build new combs?

F. R. GRAVES.

Karnes City, Texas.

FRIEND GRAVES.—Your bees likely have a queen or they would not swarm out, as they would not have anything to swarm out with, and queenless bees do not swarm out after they have been queenless two or three days. I would not

change brood combs until the cells become too small, by the linings being left in the cells. I have used brood comb fifteen years old. I would not be in a hurry to remove good straight combs.

MRS. ATCHLEY.—I wish to tell you how I am getting along with my ranch. I am well pleased with Bee county as a bee location and my bees are doing well. I have one swarm that has been hived only ten days and they are now filled up and have forty pounds of honey.

J. P. H. WILSON.

Kennedy Ranch, Bee county, Tex.

MRS. JENNIE ATCHLEY.—My bees have apparently been doing very well until the last two or three weeks there seems to be something the matter with them. Several bees will come out of the hive looking as though they were greasy, being dark colored and some of them black as they can be, and appear to be nervous or jerkey and the other bees that are guarding the entrance, fight the dark ones and will not let them return in the hive; they are not robber bees for there are no other bees in this neighborhood. From the number of dead bees I see around the hive, there must be ten or fifteen killed each day and perhaps more.

Now I would like to know what is the matter with them and what to do for them, if the trouble is serious and can be remedied. Yours respectfully,

C. F. OWENS.

Dickinson Texas.

FRIEND OWENS.—Your Bees have a touch of dysentery and we think will get all right as dry, warm weather appears.

SOUTHLAND QUEEN.—I am glad to welcome you and here I come with my

questions, and I wish you would answer in next number and tell me how to save queen cells if my bees should happen to start any and how to prepare nuclei?

P. McDOWELL.

Tangletown, Ky., May 22, '95.

FRIEND MC.—I will be as brief as I can in answering your question, as I shall soon give a full chapter on this same matter in our beekeeping school. If your bees start cells for swarming and you wish to save them, you can take two frames and a cell from the same hive they are in after the swarm has issued, place them on a new stand, close the hive two days, ventilate with wire cloth over entrance, and proceed to form nuclei this way till the hive has only two frames left, leave one cell also and by this plan you will break up after swarming, save your cells and soon build up nice colonies from them, and have the best of queens.

MRS. ATCHLEY.—I hope you may have unbounded success with your bee paper. Our bees seem to be doing well.

CLARA V. ALMOND.

Puebla, Colorado, May 20, '95.

Introducing Queens.

MRS. ATCHLEY.—How is best to introduce queens? Would it do to put them nuclei, or put them into the full colonies

CHAS. W. FAGEN.

Ingleside, Texas, May '95.

FRIEND F.—You can successfully introduce queens, either way, but the best plan is to either wait till you are ready to introduce,

and remove the old queen and introduce the new one on the candy plan at the same operation and you will seldom lose a queen.

Bees Doing Well in New Mexico.

MRS. ATCHLEY.—Bees have been swarming since the first of May; they are now working in supers building combs as white as snow.

The honey is mostly from mesquite, and alfalfa.

I now have eighty colonies, all Italian, and mostly in dovetailed hives.

I think this is a great bee country. The nights are cool and the beemoth does not trouble much here.

The greatest trouble seems to be getting the bees to build up early enough to get the first mesquite honey, which is the whitest we have.

The range is almost unlimited. From what I have seen, I don't think the bees ever go more than three-quarters of a mile here. There is such a profusion of blooms right at the apiary, that there is no necessity for them going further.

W. C. GATHRIGHT.

Las Cruces, New Mexico, June 9, '95.

Queens Laying Irregularly.

MRS. ATCHLEY.—My queen turned out just as predicted, after laying scattering and irregular, she now lays O. K., and is doing well and I now know that queens do not always start right off to laying as they should, but soon get down right. Our bees are booming on poplar blooms.

J. A. GOLDEN.

Reinersville, Ohio, May 25, '95.

You are quite right friend Golden, many young queens have been untimely killed before they even had a chance to prove how prolific they were, by their owners

becoming impatient, when a little time would have proved them O. K. We should learn a lesson from your observations.

Well Pleased With It.

SOUTHLAND QUEEN.—Your journals came safely to hand, and wishing to say the only objection any one could have to it is, it is too short, we get through with it too quick. I am well pleased with it; it fills a long felt want and I dare say as you get on with your work you will be able to enlarge. I know something about the newspaper business myself, am now engaged in the paper business and I appreciate, as all newspaper men should and do, any effort made in an honest way to enlighten the people. And your little journal with its spicy items of beeology or ism, if I should be allowed to use such phrases. You have experience enough to insure success, and when I get time I may give you some items from this section. We have a good many bees through this section and it is a good bee country when there is anything for bees to work on, but this season has been so remarkably wet that they have stored away but very little honey. Perhaps I had better not say anything more for you might put me down as a crank, but in conclusion will say, God bless and sanctify your work to all our good.

W. S. TAYLOR.

Livingston, Texas, June 11, '95.

A Swarm of Mean Bees.

SOUTHLAND QUEEN.—I drove in a buggy eight miles this a. m., to get a box gum of bees that I traded for last Saturday, of a man who said they had swarmed about the first week in May and that in a few days he had undertaken to cut them, but they stung him so badly that he ran off and left them.

This morning was cloudy and cool, and when I got to the gum the bees were at home. I thought I'd fix for their ride without smoke, but the lady of the house said they were terribly mean to sting. However, I spread my old sack, laid my little strips of wood, hatchet and nails in position to secure the entrance, with my foot under the sack, before any bees could fly off. All went well until I had them secure, as planned and as I stooped to get the hatchet and nails I heard and felt the bees about my waist; I saw the cover of the gum had opened about two inches and the opening was filed with escaping bees, when I did as their former owner had done, decamped precipitately, but I lighted a smoke and returned to their fortress and subdued them, not however until I had been stung more than a dozen times. By the way a bee sting scarcely swells my flesh no matter how badly it may hurt. It was about 9:30 this a. m., when I received a couple of stings in the face, one being somewhere about the eye. The lid was not swollen enough so that any one noticed it, but it kept me in mind of the morning's row, until 4:30 p. m., at the office I stepped to the mirror and found the sting in a fold of the upper lid where it had been for seven hours.

I transferred the bees after dinner and found neither eggs nor brood, nor even a queen. It was a three year old gum, but not more than one fourth of the comb contained honey.

Thus does the unsophisticated gum bee keeper, pull the wool over the eyes of the scientific aparian to sell him slum gum.

GEO. MOOT.

Spurger, Texas, May 10, '95.

"Honey Dew" Articles Coming.

To the SOUTHLAND QUEEN:

Let it be proclaimed from the house tops that we have a Southern Bee Journal.

Now that we have this long felt want supplied, let us feel proud and every beekeeper in the south and especially Texas, lend this valuable journal a helping hand in every way possible. This journal will if it meets the popular encouragement supply the southern beekeeper with information that directly interests him or her as the case may be, in this that bee keeping here is not what it is in the north. Our bee keeping friends north, know little of the business here, and vice versa; so while the bee literature of the north is valuable to us, it don't fully meet the demand of the south as our honey producing trees and flowers are generally little known to them.

The great question of wintering bees that is continually going the rounds in the northern journals, needs no place in our journals owing to our nice climate, our bees being able to take care of themselves on the summer stands. I want to see southern, and especially Texas, beekeepers, come to the front in the QUEEN, and ventilate the question of nectar producing trees and plants, as that will be of great interest to many beekeepers, especially in western Texas.

My bees are doing but little for the last two months, I attribute it to the frequent showers of rain we are having. Swarming has entirely ceased and some colonies almost idle apparently.

Let us join Mrs. Atchley's class and see what she will learn us, if we don't like her we can (quit school). I think she will give good satisfaction as a teacher.

When the QUEEN gets a little older I am going to have a talk with her about honey dew, as I have tried the American Bee Journal about twice, only to have the subject scouted by all the experts, most of them agree that it is "nasty," but don't say how it became so or where the nasty stuff hailed from,

One friend, a number or so back, in the "American Bee Journal," sails out and calls it sap oil, of which I can prove a mistake easily.

Now if any reader of the QUEEN thinks he knows anything about honey-dew, I believe the QUEEN will allow him to answer and ventilate the subject to the public through her columns. In my next, if I get acquainted with the SOUTHLAND QUEEN this time, I shall pay my respects to a few items on beekeeping and to the great plague in this country that I call bee exterminators. Now, dear reader, don't get it into your head that I know anything about scientific beekeeping, for I do not.

Wishing the SOUTHLAND QUEEN a successful reign, I am, respectfully,

A. H. WEBSTER.

BRO. WEBSTER.—We are glad to see you come out and express yourself, and let all beekeepers of the south do the same, and soon we will have a journal worth reading. Of course, come ahead with your "Honey Dew" articles, we will always leave the latch string outside the door of THE QUEEN, and allow all beekeepers to talk and discuss such subjects as will best promote our loved pursuit, and as that is what this paper is for, we trust all will come forward and then wot we have a jolly time.

BEEs at this date are gathering honey at a rapid rate and horse mint is just now in full bloom, a month late on account of our unusually cold winter, but it seems to be making up for lost time.

HONEY will be plentiful all over the United States this year, and

we trust many people that heretofore had to go without this God given sweet, may have a chance to buy all they want.

We have received the first issue of the SOUTHLAND QUEEN, a beekeepers' journal published at Beeville, Texas, by the Jennie Atchley Co. From the cursory perusal we have been able to give it, it seems to fill a want that has long existed in the Southwest and Texas beekeepers should give it a liberal support.—Texas Farm and Ranch.

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 post-paid 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.

Notice!

Jennie Atchley Co's. Queens may be had at the Crescent Apiary, corner Depot and Rose streets, Seattle, Washington, at the Atchley prices.

C. M. Rivers & Sons.