

in it. This book I arrange similar to an assessor's book, which has the letters of the alphabet from A to Z on the outside margin of the leaves. Cut the leaves just as you would to letter them; but instead of lettering them, write on the little square of the first "Jan. 1st," on the second, "Jan. 15th," on the third, "Feb. 1st," and so on, giving one leaf, or two pages, for each half-month, to the end of the year. Having the book thus fixed it is kept near the chair which I usually occupy when I read, together with a pencil, so that when I come to any passage, part of an article, or an entire article that I think will be of any service to me, either as something new that promises to be valuable, or some new plan of using something already familiar to me, I mark it with my pencil, and then jot it down in my book, under the date to which it is applicable. Thus I get all the matter which I consider valuable, contained in what I read regarding apiculture, arranged with reference to the time it is to be used, in this book.

When Jan. 1st arrives I look over all there is on this page, and, for instance, try fixing one of my saws so as to make it saw smoothly, as described on page 408 of *Gleanings*, by way of experiment, if I chance to find a note regarding this in this little book. To explain more fully: On page 533 I read how to cut up foundation by using kerosene oil and a butcher-knife, so that thirty or forty sheets can be cut at a time. As I had always used the Carlin wheel, or a stamp cutter like those used by D. A. Jones, for cutting my fdn. starters for sections, I thought this might be better, so the plan was marked. As the first half of May would be the time I would most likely want to use it, I turn to May 1st (by putting my thumb on that date when opening my reference book), and write *Gleanings*, 1885, page 533, "How to cut fdn." When this date (May 1st) arrives I look over all that is written there, and, as I come to this, I turn to page 533, and there is just what I want, at the right time; for in a day or two I must go to work cutting fdn. into starters for my sections. So I go to work and cut a part by the new way, and some by the old. If the new proves the more valuable I mark these words on my reference book with a star; or, if worthless, I draw my pencil across the whole line thus crossing it off.

If I have made it plain, and I think I have, it will be seen that I have all the real worth of many volumes in this little book, while the matter which was worth only once reading is left out. Different persons would make different selections from what I should; but the plan is a good one, in my opinion, and one which will be of great service to any one who will follow it.

G. M. DOOLITTLE.

Borodino, N. Y., Sept., 1885.

AUSTRALIA'S HONEY RESOURCES.

THE Gairfield Apiary is the property of Messrs. Coleman & May, who have brought much knowledge and intelligence, and no small amount of capital, to bear upon the prosecution of their work. The site on which the hives are arranged is admirably adapted for bee-culture. A gentle slope, having an eastern aspect, and well sheltered in the rear by a close hedge, has been apportioned to the busy workers, and the vines with which the ground is covered give additional protection to their homes on hot summer days. The country all round is rich and fertile, and in the garden and orchard close at hand there is a fine field for an enterprising bee keeper. But better far than garden flowers and fruits are the indigenous gum-trees which grow thickly on the adjacent hills. When the red-gum is in full blossom the honey pours into the hives, and from white and blue-gum also a plentiful store is obtained. Experience shows that although, while it lasts, the red-gum is most prolific of honey, that obtained from blue-gum is of better flavor, and the latter remains in bloom much longer than red-gum it is the most profitable to the apiarist. Last season was an especially favorable one, as all the gums were in splendid condition and continuous flower, and the bees filled and re-filled the hives almost as quickly as they could be emptied. Although at the beginning of the season—which generally lasts from the first week in October to the wet and cold weather which comes with the end of February—there were only twenty-seven hives at Fairfield, the total yield of comb and extracted honey reached six tons (13,440 lbs.), and all found ready sale at 4½d. to 6d. per lb. From the best hive 414 lbs. of extracted honey were obtained during the season, while 154 section boxes—each containing one pound of honey—were obtained from another hive. The constant removal of their stock acted a stimulus to the work of the bees, who were apparently afraid that unless they were rapid and vigorous in the collection of more honey they would go short in the winter. The hive from which the 414 pounds were taken averaged 11½ lbs. a day for four days in