



**AMERICAN BEE KEEPER.**

Protect Your Interests by Subscribing for the AMERICAN BEE-KEEPER, a journal devoted exclusively to the interests of the American Honey Producers. It is disinterested in the manufacture or sale of supplies in any form. Its contributors are some of America's leading APARISTS, therefore its reading matter is excellent by no other journal. It saves money for its subscribers in more than one way. Sample copy free. Address E. M. HARRISON, Lebanon, LaClede County, Mo.

One of our subscribers, who has surely overlooked our article in Nov. number—Extracted ra. Comb and Adulterated Honey—does it pay? asks us which is best to work for, comb or extracted honey. We say the latter, by all means. We are much pleased to quote as follows from the *Globe*: "Some unsophisticated purchasers of honey imagine that by buying honey in the comb they are sure of getting an unadulterated article. A great mistake. There is an establishment in Boston where artificial combs—not four-dations merely, but combs—are made in such perfection that it would require an expert to detect the fraud. Paraffin, not wax, is the material used. When the combs are made they are filled with imitation honey made from glucose, worth three or four cents a pound, and flavored to taste. A hot iron is then passed over the cells are sealed, and the "comb honey" is ready for sale." The only point in favor of comb honey was its undoubted purity—the above item settles that business, and adds another valuable edible, paraffin, to the raw-flavored with sulphuric acid as previously mentioned. It will pay better to secure extracted honey to sell at 10c. per lb. than comb honey at five times, say, probably ten times that price. It takes 1 1/2 lbs. of honey or its equivalent to make one lb. of indigestible wax. We have little doubt that this plain exposure of facts will subject us to the animosity—not of the adulterating class, they care little for such comment, the public are ever ready to furnish them with proof that the fools are not all dead yet—but of certain beekeepers, who have invested in section boxes, and for this reason will think as inimical to their special interests. To such we suggest a perusal of our item headed "Explanation."

Woodward, late of Salford, Ont., has a notice in the *American Bee Journal*. We proceed to reveal the name of our black list for swindling a Toronto merchant. Bee papers please pass this around.

It is strange friend R. did not drop me a line concerning him—jealousy on his part we suppose prevented. He is as much afraid of competition as of being swindled, and decidedly against our advertisers being introduced to his customers, who might get their eyes opened. They will get a free sample copy—friend B. if they write for it. Our circulation is 5,000.

The *American Bee Journal* is to hand in its new form. It is now a weekly, and presents a handsome appearance. We wish it success in the new departure. Standing as it does in the front rank of bee journals we have no doubt it will more than keep up the fair name and fame it has won in the past.

Facts and figures from all parts of the country indicate that the entire crop of honey for 1880 is but one-half of the usual supply.

**QUEEN REARING.**

After experimenting with nearly all the different methods of artificially hatching queens, we have come to the conclusion that the bees know about as much in relation to that branch of apiculture as we do, and perhaps more. We have therefore discarded all artificial methods and proceed as described below:

When the season becomes far enough advanced, we remove the queen from the stock determined on as the one to use for building cells (and here let us say that if we wish many cells we must feel liberally, if honey is not coming in plentifully, and note carefully the exact date when we deprive them of their queen. If we do not have queen registering cards, we should get them, and be very careful to note the exact date, also the same when cells are begun and capped. Now when cells near maturity feed the colony heavily to prevent their tearing the cells down, although this is not essential, if honey is coming in freely from the fields.

When cells are fully ripe, which will be in about fourteen days, if we give them only eggs at the time we deprive them of their queen, they are ready to cut and insert into nuclei, or if we can afford the time, leave them in the hive till they hatch, looking at them every hour or two, when they begin hatching, and as soon as they are hatched remove and introduce them to nuclei, taking care not to overlook any of the newly hatched queens.

In this way we will secure a fine lot of queens without the expense of either queen-nursery; and we find them easier to introduce, and besides, they become fertilized sooner, which is quite an item.

In this way we have taken as many as 25 queens from one colony, and have spent no more time watching them than we would with the nursery, and we think have secured better queens than we would if reared by "hot house" experiments. At least they are more readily accepted by the bees, and with us are fertilized from one to three days sooner.—*Bee-Keepers' Instructor*.

**CHINESE BEES.**

Mr. C. D. King, a missionary in China, expects to return to America and bring some Chinese bees with him. He describes them thus:—

"These bees are more slender and but little longer than the common house-fly, which are so plentiful with you. The head and thorax are black. Their waists are a reddish yellow, but the abdominal portion for more than half its length is black, marked with three white stripes across the back, with a slight pencil-mark, apparently meant for another stripe, near the extremity. On the under side, the yellow predominates, and takes the place of the white, so that they seem to have black stripes across the yellow. Their wings are white and transparent, with a very delicate brown stripe along the outer edges. By looking closely one can also see a brown network traversing the delicate white wing. On the under side, their black heads and thoraxes seem to be covered with a white down or fuzz."—*American Bee Journal*.

**CHAFF HIVES.**

A correspondent writes to know the way to make a chaff hive? The true chaff hive will be made when chaff is pressed into cakes two or three inches thick, and right size to fit inside of the hive. It will also be used for the bottom. On top of frames a cushion of chaff will be placed, and the result will be a perfect chaff hive. A hive made of two separate parts with chaff between might as well have dry sand, or anything else that would fill up. We kept our bees the first winter by making a hive of one inch boards. On the bottom was laid two inches of sawdust, on this two of wood. The hives were stood in with no bottom boards. Holes were bored in front of each entrance, and a piece of wood fixed to let the bees go in and out. Cloths were laid on each hive, then sawdust was poured on until the spaces around each vent were filled up, and two inches deep on top, then another cloth was laid. A thermometer placed under the lowest cloth showed fifty-five degrees above zero, while outside it was fourteen degrees below zero. On lifting the cloth they came up lively enough. In spring they came out healthy, the hives and combs being dry, with plenty of brood in the combs. Of course this only does for a few hives, or where double hives are not favored. Bees can be fed early in the spring, brood rearing going on briskly. Should you want to feed from the top put shallow tins under cushion, but cover tight over the feeder. If bees are put away properly in the fall they will come out in the spring all right without mildew or swindle line.

We suppose that Mr. Jones has called attention to the fact that there are better bees in other lands, and that others will be induced to look for "new kinds." A clergyman in Asia has discovered a different race of bees there, and soon we may expect to get specimens of the new or China Force-lain Bees.

**SELLING RECIPES.**—Under this head friend Root gives some sensible advice in selling, but the public are to blame in a great measure. Suppose we publish a recipe "To make honey salt." Glauber salt is a first-rate thing. Some enterprising party sees it, and advertises the same for 50 cts. We believe many people at this season of the year would pay for such a recipe in preference to testing one appearing in the columns of a paper. A subscriber writes that "certain parties are selling receipts for adulterating honey." Imparting information cannot be prevented by law, we believe, but any person using the concoction to deceive the public is liable (if caught) to a heavy fine.

From reports in the States, in the *American Bee Journal*, they are now adulterating glucose—it seems almost like it—by adding to two-thirds of that delectable compound of sugar and sulphuric acid—one-third of a sweetening mixture produced by an insect familiar to our readers, and palming off the whole on the public as "pure honey."

Prof. Hastrubick says the *Polariscope* fixes the fraud—and we want to know next thing what its cost is, and hope to get full information regarding it in next issue.

**MARK TWAIN ON BEES VS. BEES ON MARK TWAIN.**

I was away down in Calaveras County one day when I met Bill Smith. We had been drinking, and was talking about his affairs generally like, the beauties of farming, and so forth and so on. "Mark," says he, "you must come along to my place and see my apiary."

"Pears," says I, "I like pears—they're nice."

"Oh, no," says Bill; "apiary—bees, you know. That's what you should go in for, Mark; there's money in 'em."

I begged to be excused. I remembered something about sitting on a bee and not being able to sit on another thing for days. Bill would have me go, so I put-cup on collar and went like a man (going to prison). We reached Bill's place in time for dinner. Mr. Smith was a clipper little woman, with very good taste in setting table. On the table was some honey, clear, nice, and not bad to take; also some comb honey, from a habit the industrious farmer's bees have of combing their back hair to save time when they are making it, like economical boarding-house keepers—killing two birds with one stone, as they say. Well, it nearly killed me! I got a lot of poor chewing gum out of it. I rolled it around and round my mouth, but couldn't swallow it! I concluded to eject and pocket it, and trade it off at our store for a genuine old chewing plug. Well, after dinner we went out to see Bill's hives and honey buzz—pets, he called them. They were in little boxes, a small hole at the lower edge was the door for 'em to go in and out of. The roofs were loose, and Bill lifted one off to let me see them at work—but I didn't see any working worth a continental. They were running around 1 as if they had lost a drop of honey to some bee and couldn't find her.

In the hive was a lot of sticks, nailed like slate frames; they were full of hedy sheets of gum—just the same pattern as the tripe formerly supplied to the ancestors of our aristocratic house. I got a fat in ye butcher (see illustration "A fat in ye olden time," opp. page 848 of "Ye True Family, their Loves and Breeding," by Nathan Muggins, D. O. F., X. Y. Z., A. S. S.) with a passing tear at the departed story of our house, let us return to Smith's bees. Smith wasn't afraid of the critter s, though they flew around him and crawled onto him. He proceeded to explain how they done their work. "You see Mark"—

By the jumping Joe, I shouted.

"Keep still," says Bill; "it's only a bee sting—'taint nothing."

"Taint n' thing?" said I; "'tis none o' them, something like a red hot iron needle!"

I caught the bee in the net and lynched him on the spot. Bill put on the roof, and pulled out the sting, telling me at the same time that a mosquito bite is far worse than a bee sting. "I have heard others say that before and I believe it—to be a d—l. That is I regard it in a different light. Another bee jumped a claim on my nose but died quick—whack! I no went for my eye, I missed, he didn't! I was very energetic in my language just then, very decidedly emphatic, using words not fitting a Y. M. C. A. Secretary, or a Superintendent of a Sunday School. Had I stayed a little longer I wouldn't have known myself. When I got back to town next day my creditors fortunately did not know me, tailor excepted. I was a pretty looking object, my eye bunged up, my nose looked like a good sized potato, and I had an ill-nigh faint, and if I tried to speak I suffered agonies. I could 't chew anything but lived on such in like a snipe. As for keeping bees I won't. No more brogs for me. I don't want to sit on them. I know I don't want them to sit on me. I have no desire of renewing or improving their acquaintance. They have no attraction for your humble and much bewildered friend."

"Exchange" MARK TWAIN.

**FERTILIZATION IN CONFINEMENT.**—M. B. in "The American Bee Journal" says he holds the philosophers stone for this business and he will give particulars later.

**ITALIAN, CYPRIAN, HOLY LAND, HYBRID.**

MARCH. HATCHED.  
APRIL. CELL.  
MAY. MISSING.  
JUNE. EXTRA.  
JULY. FINE.  
AUG. MEDIUM.  
SEPT. POOR.  
OCT. BROOD.  
NOV. LAYING.  
DEC. DRONE "

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**DIRECTIONS.**—Attach Card in front of hive; on hives near each other use different colors; make holes opposite mouth and condition, above brood and below dates, and with the thumb press in a tinued tack.

**CAUTION.**—Do not use bent pin; it can be too easily shifted.

50 of the above cards sent free as premium to the Dominion Bazaar.