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NEW SERIES
Vol. I, No. 4, 1894. JULY.



The
Practical

Bee-Keeper

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
C. A. OUELLETTE, TILBURY CENTRE.

♦ ♦ ♦
T. N. LEIGH, EDITOR.

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Best stock and method; no poor, forced queens. This is how they please:

"The dozen queens I rec'd from you last May, have proved very satisfactory indeed—Part give bees as yellow as gold, very gentle and good workers. You may expect more orders from me."

F. J. Miller, 212 Dundas St., Lon., Ont.

"The queens came promptly. They are an extra fine lot. The Bees are finely marked, gentle, and hustlers when it comes to honey. I have no trouble in picking them out now from over 600 colonies."

W. L. Coggsball,

West Groten, N. Y., Oct. 17, '93.

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J. B. Case, Ft. Orange, Florida.

Mention practical Bee Keeper.

The Practical Bee-Keeper.

NEW SERIES
VOL. 1.

TILBURY CENTRE, ONT., JULY, 1894.

No. 4.

Dr. Miller in A. B. J. does not advise contracting the brood-chamber in order to force bees to go up into the supers. His plan now is to leave the same number of frames in the hive the year round. To get the bees to work in the supers he advises putting into the super a single section partly worked out. This is done as a bait.

Only clean Sections should be used for comb honey. Soiled and old ones would better be used for kindling. New sections are so very inexpensive now, that to use any other than those in excellent condition, is hardly excusable. It pays to consider appearance in producing comb honey. Temptingly white comb honey in neat and spotless sections will find the readiest sale, and at the best price.—A. B. J.

An interesting find has been made in Texas. While workmen were digging a well on a farm near Bandora, they unearthed a petrified tree at a depth of 45 feet. The tree was hollow, and the cavity was filled with honey. The comb was in a perfect state of preservation, and the cells were filled with honey that tasted sweet, fresh and pure. How old this honey is cannot be known, but it must have taken hundreds of years to have buried the tree to that depth and caused its petrification by natural causes.

In order to test the advantages or disadvantages of "The Wells System" the editor has had constructed for him two hives. These hives are dovetailed,

twenty-six inches long by twenty inches wide and hold sixteen Hoffman frames. In the centre of the hive is an eight inch partition, full depth and perforated with holes about one eighth inch in circumference and one half inch apart in every way. These holes were made with a saddler's punch. A better plan would be to drill the holes with a small bit

On June 1st two colonies were transferred to one double hive and on June 8th two more were put in the other. The hives have two entrances, both in front, although the inventor, Mr. Wells, advocates four, two in front and one at either end. On June 9th a super was placed on the hive first transferred, not that honey was plentiful (for, I am sorry to say, the white clover does not seem to yield any nectar this year) but that the colonies might not be tempted to swarm through lack of room. These supers have the same outside measurements as the hives, but have a partition perforated with half inch holes in the centre. This partition is three-eighths of an inch thick, strengthens the super and supports the standard tin rests for the sections. Each super holds fifty-six sections. A super was placed on the second double hive on the 16th, and an examination showed that the bees had just begun to work in the other. If any of our readers wish a fuller description of this hive we will be pleased to furnish it. Next month we shall tell how the hive turned out as a honey producer. At present, we are sorry to say, that bees are doing nothing. The blossoms seem to contain no nectar owing to the continued dry weather.

Advices from our correspondents pre-
sage an abundant harvest. While we
congratulate them, we condole with
ourselves, as bees at this writing, July 1,
in our vicinity, have done little or noth-
ing. The lower story is well filled,
brood and bees are plentiful, but abso-
lutely nothing has been done in the
supers.

The "Progressive" is all that its name
implies. Apart from the excellent mat-
ter it contains we desire to offer our
meed of praise to the excellence of its
typographical work, especially to its
well displayed advertisements.

A Northern beekeeper says, when his
bees begin gathering honey from the
willows, maples and other early honey-
producing trees, he goes to work in the
evenings and uncaps the honey in every
colony, puts a queen excluder and half-
story filled with combs on each colony.
Then he packs all around and on top of
the half story, covering all with the lid
of the winter case. During the night
the bees in their well-packed hives will
rush the uncapped honey into the half-
story, which will leave more empty
combs in the brood chamber for the
queen. Soon after that the combs in the
brood chambers will be filled with brood
clear up to and all along the top bars.
The bees will also continue storing honey
in the half-stories when once started this
way. If this method is followed every
colony will be in prime condition when
the clover blooms, and they will have
gathered already a large quantity of
honey from fruit blossom, dandelions and
thorn trees.—American Farmer.

WESTERN FAIR, LONDON.

As usual at this time each year the
Western Fair Office staff are busily en-
gaged in mailing Prize Lists and other
advertising matter throughout the Pro-
vince, in connection with their great

Live Stock and Agricultural Exhibition
which they hold in London, September
13th to 22nd, this year.

The Secretary writes us that he will
be pleased to mail a Prize List to any
who may have been overlooked, on re-
ceiving their address. Thousands have
been sent out, but still there are more to
follow. On examining them you will
find the Directorate have had their eyes
open to the continual advancement of
this great fair, and have made several
additions, alterations and amendments
to the last year's list, some of them very
important to breeders and agriculturists,
and others of a lesser magnitude. All
of the live stock departments have re-
ceived some new sections, and an in-
crease of prizes which will no doubt be
received kindly by intending exhibitors.

SATISFIED.

Lucan, June 25, '94.

Mr. C. A. Ouellette,

DEAR SIR.

Received Premium queen on 21st all
right. I hope she will prove a good one.

With thanks, yours,

G. W. Hodgins.

St. Marys, June 25, 1894.

DEAR SIR.

The two queens came on 23rd. Sat-
urday night, all right. They are two
nice queens. They came the next mail
after I sent the letter.

Yours truly,

Josiah Whetstone.

Rouison, June 22, 1894.

DEAR SIR.

Received your Premium Queen on
20th all O.K. Many thanks. She is a
dandy. Is well worth a dollar. If you
work on the same plan another year,
think I shall be able to send you several
names. With best wishes for your
success.

Respectfully,

Wm. Simmons.

Lieury, June, 26, 1894.

DEAR SIR,

The premium queen arrived all safe at this office and was delivered to Mr. Reeder

Yours truly,
Morland Reeder, P. M.

Essex Centre, June 21, '94

SIR:

In answer to your P. C., she arrived safe with her body-guards with much satisfaction to myself. I introduced her forthwith. At the desired time I took a squint; she had disappeared among the many with many hopes of securing her reproduction in the near future, thanking you for your Bee-line system I remain, Yours Respectfully,

Samuel Dean, Essex Centre, Ont.

Thedford, June 25 '94.

Mr. Ouelette, Sir;

Your card of 20th inst to hand, enquiring about Queen, arrived all right four days before your notice, and is now laying nicely. She is a nice looking queen, thanks for same.

I remain, Yours,
David Smith.

Beaverton, June 27th 1894.

C. A. Ouellette, Dear Sir:

The Queen came all right and is safely introduced.

Yours Truly
P. Dawson.

Winchester, June 25 '94.

Dear Sir;

Queen arrived safely.

Yours, etc.
J. Rowat.

Cowansville, Que. June 24th 1894.

DEAR SIR.

Very much pleased to state, your premium queen received and she is a beauty and satisfactorily introduced and attending to business. Two cards filled with eggs already. Please accept many thanks.

Yours truly,
Asa A. Johnston.

REMOVING BEES FROM TREES.

[1885] I notice your correspondent, W. Adams (1869, p. 215), in BEE JOURNAL of May 31, inquires as to taking stock of bees from trees. Having taken four or five lots from hollow trees, my plan may be of use to him. First, with centre-bit bore four or more holes round the entrance, something in the nature of a square, so as to have it nearly a foot each way. Then run a fine saw through from hole to hole, and the piece of wood so sawn can then be got out. Next bore a hole in back of tree, and use the smoker; by this means he will cause nearly all the bees to take wing; he can then insert his hand, and with the help of a knife take out the combs one by one, and tie them in his frames. Of course, it must be understood the queen will not take flight, and on finding the comb on which the queen is seen he can then drive out the few bees remaining in tree. Replace the square of wood at the entrance, stopping up the holes and also the one at back of tree with clay. The flying bees will join the queen in the frame hive, and he can remove it when they are settled down and quit in the evening if its future location is two or more miles away. Otherwise it should be left near the tree till the end of season. If the above plan is carried out with ordinary care and courage, I think he will get his bees, as I have done, and have yet to learn what the word fail means so far as this job goes.

I am sorry we are having so much wet weather just now, as hives here are all crammed with bees, and cannot do much for want of sunshine.

THOS. ADAMS,
Ely, near Cardiff, June 4 — B. B. J.

Soot is used by English gardeners for onion maggot. They dust it over the plants and apply to the soil.

QUEENS.

N. H. SMITH.

In the Northern States, to my mind, July is the best month in which to discard your old and worn out queens, or if you still have black or hybrid bees, to *introduce the Golden Italian*, I mean the so-called five-banded queen.

I have tried a great many of the different races of bees but have found none to compare with them in all respects. They are as much superior to the three-banded as the latter are superior to the blacks.

The following are some of their characteristics which to my mind recommend themselves to the consideration of the advanced bee keeper:

1. They are larger bees and better honey gatherers, and easy to handle.
2. They will work well in cold weather when other bees do nothing.
3. They cap the honey very white, work well in the sections, breed up early in the spring and do not swarm much.

When I find anything better I will get them.

I always winter young queens unless I have some extra breeders, in which case I keep them just as long as they are o. k. I wintered one hundred swarms last season and did not lose one of them. I may be accused of partiality in this matter because I rear queens for sale, but I beg to assure the reader that from the time I bought four Italian queens and found in the fall that these four had the best colonies in the apiary, with plenty of winter stores and some to spare, while other colonies standing alongside of them required feeding, I changed my whole apiary to Italian as soon as possible and would advise others to "go and do likewise."

Buy two or three queens as I did, place them side by side with your hybrids or blacks and compare results. These are the days of improvement in stock. The progressive farmer thinks little of pay-

ing a high price for a thoroughbred calf or pig in order to raise the standard of his stock, and he finds in every case it pays him to do so. In like way the progressive bee keeper is always on the lookout for improvement in everything connected with the apiary. The queen bees as well as the modern appliances in bee-keeping supplies and in this way he keeps abreast of the times.

Full Sheets of foundation given to bees in brood-frames having no combs, will greatly encourage the bees to work.

NOTES FROM LINDEN APIARY.

How many bee keepers are looking forward to a good honey flow? Every bee keeper should be busy at this season of the year. I have been unusually busy running a queen yard of over two hundred nuclei, "out apiaries," and the other necessary work in the apiary, besides I am just finishing picking a large crop of strawberries. Now I will have more time to devote to the bees; we are having the best honey flow we have had for several years. Tulip poplar yielded well and clover is in its height now.

About the first of May I bought an apiary of forty hives of black bees in box hives about twenty miles from my home yard. It was too late in the season to transfer them and I could not bring them home on account of the black drones, so I bought them with the privilege to let them remain where they were until fall. I made artificial swarms from them as fast as they were strong enough, and paid twenty-five cents each for every natural swarm the parties would hive for me. I will get a nice lot of bees and some surplus honey.

The Solar wax extractor has been a source of pleasure to me this year. It is something that no one who keeps a dozen or more hives can afford to do without, and if any bee-keeper is trying to get along without one they had better

get one as it will soon pay for itself; the wax is of superior quality.

The question was asked at the convention at Chicago last fall, "What is the cause of so many of the queens sent out proving worthless," or something to that effect. I have come to the conclusion one of the causes is having queens raised from larvae instead of the egg. I find some of the breeders that are using the Doolittle plan, are sending out inferior queens, to what they did before they adopted that method. I think the trouble is in trying to get a colony to raise too many queen cells or using too old larvae. I want my queen cells started from the egg to produce the best queens. Our queen breeders, I am afraid, are sacrificing quality for the sake of producing cheap queens, yet I believe they are unconscious of it.

C. D. DUVAL.

Spencerville, Md., June 1894.

AN INNOVATION.

G. JOURDAIN.

An innovation which appears to us to be a happy one has been wrought out lately, in the construction of hives.

The practical man is beginning to understand that strong colonies are a primary condition of success, and he has utilized the fecundity of several queen bees to obtain colonies composed of nearly 100,000 bees.

At first the twin-hive was invented. The word itself defines the thing; it is a single hive containing two brood-nests; in it are lodged separately two families up to the end of April or during May, at which time the poorer queen is suppressed and the two colonies reunited.

Does this system really present any advantages?

Practically this is what we have:

(1) A better method of wintering because the two colonies mutually warm each other through the thin partition which separates them:

(2) An advanced development of the brood favored by the temperature of the hive and by the economy of provisions which is a consequence of it:

(3) A double force of workers for the honey flow since a part of the nurses are no longer occupied in raising brood.

The twin-hive has been much extolled by the distinguished apiculturist M. Devauchelle. For two or three years it has been growing in favor in widely scattered localities and many apiaries are now furnished with good and beautiful double hives. The Bulletin of the Apicultural Society of the Somme has several times published results obtained by Mr. Devauchelle. These results show clearly the advantages to be derived from the new system.

The double hive has also been tried in Belgium. In place of dividing the strong colony obtained by the suppression of one of the queens in May, some of the Belgian apiarists prefer to add a small colony in July to the double hive. This puts them in possession of an enormous colony for the honey flow succeeding.

An English apiculturist makes use of a metal partition which does not allow the bees to pass but assures to each hive the same odor. He thus avoids any disturbance at the entrance of the hive.

In some double hives the partition is never raised. Each hive works on its own side. But above the two brood chambers is placed one common super. When the honey flow is greatest the bees of the two colonies put their honey in the common super. A perforated metal partition (queen excluder) allows the workers to pass but not the queens or drones. This makes a combination to which we are not partial. The simple twin hive is certainly better.

To resume, the double hive marks an important progress in apiculture. It is a little heavy for manipulation but this is more than offset by the good results obtained from its use.

Bees and Pollination of Blossoms.

BY PROF. A. J. COOK.

[A LECTURE DELIVERED BEFORE THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AT PASADENA, ON MAY 3, 1894.]

(Continued.)

In some plants called dichogamous, the pollen is ripe, and discharged either before or after the stigma is ripe, or ready to receive it. This is seen in some of our pears, and is a common peculiarity among plants. Other hermaphrodites, known as heterogonous, have two kinds of Stamens and two kinds of pistils, one long and the other short. One set of flowers have long pistils and short stamens, and the others short pistils and long stamens. In these cases insects transfer the pollen, and cross-pollination is insured.

In all these cases, we see that nature has fenced against close pollination, or as some one has suggested, nature seems to abhor close pollination. The flowers have so developed in the process of evolution, that cross-pollination is enforced and in the last case we see that insects have controlled in giving trend to the development. The other argument comes from direct experimentation, and proves that many perfect flowers require cross-pollination. Flowers were emasculated just as they were opening, before the pollen was ripe. That is, the stamens were all removed. When the stigmas were ripe for the pollen, they were dusted with pollen from other blossoms on the same tree, from those of other trees of the same variety, and from those of trees of other varieties. Other blossoms were covered, and the stigmas dusted exclusively with pollen from their own stamens.

These experiments gave different results with different fruits, and with dif-

ferent varieties of the same fruits. Some varieties are perfectly sterile, and others perfectly pollinated with their own pollen, or that of the same variety of trees, while others were imperfect in form and size, and seedless if not pollinated with pollen of another variety. Many varieties, especially of plums and pears, will bear no fruit, or very imperfect fruit, if not cross-pollinated.

EXPERIMENTS IN MICHIGAN.

While in Michigan, I tried at the State Agricultural College, numerous experiments, as did my friend and colleague, Dr. W. J. Beal, that we might determine just how necessary this cross-pollination might be. Dr. Beal experimented with red clover, and I with red and Alsike clover, and with several cultivated fruits, as cherries, plums, apples, pears, strawberries, raspberries and blackberries. Sets of blossoms of the same number were marked on contiguous plants or twigs, and one or two of the sets just prior to the opening of the flowers, were closely covered with cheese-cloth, while the other set was left uncovered.

In several cases it was noted just when the stigmas were ripe, and bees were caught and enclosed in one of the cheese-cloth bags surrounding the flowers. The bees were watched and seen to work on the flowers in several of the experiments. The results published in the Report of the State Board of Agriculture were surprising. The covered flowers, where bees were excluded gave from no fruit to very little, except in the case of strawberries and blackberries, where there seemed very little difference, while the uncovered and covered, while bees were enclosed in the bags with the blossoms, bore well.

In some of the cases, as with cherries and plums, the contrast was remarkable. In several of the experiments where bees were admitted under the

covers, especially red clover, where bumble-bees were enclosed in the sacks, the fruitage was equal to that of the uncovered plants

These experiments seemed to show conclusively that cross-pollination was necessary, and that bees and other sweet-loving insects were a most important factor in securing a full crop of fruit.

It has been objected to the above experiments, that the very fact of the covers vitiated the results; that very likely the covers themselves would partially or wholly prevent the development of fruit. I would reply that in hand pollination such is not found to be the case, and that in some of the above cases the flowers were covered, and bees caught and put inside the covering sacks, and a good yield of fruit secured.

EXPERIMENTS AT POMONA COLLEGE.

Upon coming to this State and county, early this year, it occurred to me that it was very desirable that similar experiments should be conducted at this place. That a thing is true in Michigan is no certain proof that it is so under the very different conditions of California. If cross-pollination is essential here, where fruit culture and bee-keeping alike are important industries, it is very important that it should be generally known, that the fullest benefits of such knowledge may be secured. I therefore commenced some investigations, which though less extensive and complete than I should like, and less so than the importance of the subject demands, are as much so as the time at my command would permit. Some of the experiments, indeed we may say all of them, are yet in progress.

Among deciduous fruits I have experimented on plums, cherries, apricots and pears. I am also investigating the pollination of the orange and lemon among citrus fruits. As yet I can only report

on the deciduous fruits, and of these the report will be but partial.

The experiments were conducted in much the same manner as in Michigan, only in every case I put bees in one of the sacks surrounding the blossoms, and in one experiment with the plums I removed one sack when the bees were working in force on the tree, and marked the blossoms on which I saw the bees alight; covering all up again as soon as I ceased watching them. I caught some of the bees and examined them with a lens, and found their heads, legs and bodies well dusted with the pollen. A similar examination of the flowers showed that they had received pollen from the visiting bees. The number of blossoms in each experiment varied from 32 to over 100.

As soon as the blossoms withered I removed the covers, and a week later found what seemed healthy developing fruit in abundance on all the twigs. Thus we see that any lack as the result of cross pollination does not show at once. Last Friday I examined all the twigs. The plums—two different trees in different orchards—the cherry and the pears (two trees) show not a single fruit on the twigs from which all bees were excluded, while those covered with sacks in which bees were put, given on plum in one case three, in the other five; the cherry five and the pear six and eight, respectively. The limbs uncovered from the same number of blossoms give eight and five on plums; the cherry seven; and the pear eight and eleven.

It will be observed that only from one-fourth to one twentieth of the blossoms under observation have developed fruit. You all know that this is always so. The blossoms are in clusters of five, more or less; while the fruit, if we except crab-apples, is usually single. In case of oranges, how very few of the blossoms come to fruit.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

LOSSES. THE SEASON. SMOKE.

Some twenty-four years ago I lost all the bees I had in wintering. I had about sixty colonies. They died of the bee-diarrhoea. As might be expected, that led me to look very carefully into the wintering problem. After that, during a period of perhaps ten or twelve years, my winter losses ranged from about fifteen per cent at first down to about five, and for the last dozen years or more about two to four per cent would cover winter losses, barring accidents, such as a colony or two turning out to be queenless when put into winter quarters, or occasionally a colony consuming an abnormal quantity of stores (30 pounds) and starving to death. But the past winter I lost some fifty colonies, about half my stock. "How was that?" The reader may ask. Well, it was thus: As most readers know, I was absent from home last season at the World's Fair in charge of the Ontario apiarian exhibit, and when I arrived home on December 23rd, I found my bees in very bad shape and ten colonies already dead. There had been zero weather as well as wet and stormy weather, and as they were still outside and unprotected the adverse conditions were playing havoc with them. The result this spring was not, therefore unexpected. However, things are booming now, and I shall soon have about as many bees again as I want. They have been on the Alsike clover about ten days, and yesterday (June 17,) the white clover showed itself, and the swarming goes steadily on. It was thought early in the season that the clover was about all winter and spring killed, and very much of it was, especially the Alsike and the red; but the white is showing up fairly well and the Alsike, of last year's seeding escaped the frost and is pretty good. As I sow the Alsike every year, I am fortunate this spring in having a considerable fall back upon. While the nectar in the

Mammoth red is usually inaccessible to the bees, and the White frequently fails to yield even when there is a profusion of bloom, the Alsike I have never known to fail in its yield of nectar. It is therefore my favorite honey plant. Of course the linden or basswood stands alongside if not ahead, of the clover in Ontario as a honey producer, but the saw mills and paper mills, I am sorry to say, have swallowed up all in this district except scattering trees. I am looking forward, however, with pleasant anticipation to the time (if I do not shuffle off this mortal coil too soon) when my own basswood orchard of about five hundred trees, planted with my own hands, will be yielding up the precious sweet to the bees. The trees are looking well this spring and are growing rapidly.

Bees, so far as I have heard have wintered well and the Spring on the whole has been very favorable here in eastern Ontario. April was very fine and the Maple, Landelion and fruit bloom gave the bees an early and vigorous start. True, there was a cold, wet spell lasting some ten days, but it occurred just at the right time to do the bees least harm, between fruit bloom and clover bloom. On the whole the prospects are good for a fair crop of honey.

SMOKE—SMOKING—AND SMOKERS.

A good smoke, properly applied from the nozzle of a good smoker is one of the things in a bee-yard much to be desired. In a letter before me from a customer to whom I had supplied a colony of bees, he says he took the wire cloth from the entrance as directed, after placing them on their stand, but that he did not "do the rest" as the bees "chased him off," adding that he would "do the rest in the morning." A little smoke blown in at the entrance before taking away the wire net, would have obviated any necessity of "running away," and enabled him to finish fixing them up in their new home. And if he had no smoker a piece of rotten wood burning at

one end would have answered.

Which is the best smoker? That I shall not undertake to decide, but the best, I think, that I have used so far for a good smoke, a long smoke and a strong smoke, is one made, I believe, by Mr. R. L. Patterson of Wentworth Co., which was obtained through the kindness of our fowl brood Inspector, Mr. McEvoy, who loves a good smoker, knows a good smoker, and of course keeps his "weather eye" open for the best. Which is the best fuel? I have tried and used a good many kinds in the past thirty years. The last is the best and cheapest and here it is, unpatented. I load up in the following manner, and it takes about three to five minutes to get the charge in. First in, some dry cedar shingle shavings. The shingle shavings, unlike ordinary planer shavings, are long and stringy, resembling woolen yarn somewhat in appearance. A lighted match is dropped down in the shavings. Then old, dry cedar bark (what I am now using is twenty years cut) is broken up (and if it is partially decayed there is no difficulty in breaking it) and put in over the shavings, loosely at first till it gets well ignited and then packed. The barrel is filled up nearly to the top, the last material put in being a crumpled up ribbon from the inside of the bark, which keeps back the debris and ashes from coming out at the nozzle. It may be necessary to give the fire a blast from the bellows once or twice to make sure it will have a good start. This gives a good and strong smoke and will burn for hours. Let those who are bothered about smoke try it. In the absence of shingle shavings, excelsior or even ordinary dry pine shavings will do to start with.

But given a good smoker and a good smoke, I find that only a few know how to use the smoke. They may know how to use the smoker but not the smoke. The different colonies of bees, like

the differing and different pupils in school, require different treatment. A gentle puff is amply sufficient for some, a torrent of blasts for others. But begin gently with all and only give such doses as are required. In all my experience I never met with but one colony not amenable to smoke—indeed with a lofty contempt for the smoker. After I had deluged them with smoke to no purpose, and the stings were coming thick and fast, and the Scotch that is in me had gotten up about as high as the ire of the bees, I stood up alongside the hive, and having on my big boots, I began to kick the hive in vigorous fashion. It was a fast bottom, and I kicked and smoked and smoked and kicked till I kicked it off its stand. In the space of about five minutes the little hybrid hornets succumbed to the heroic treatment, and spreading themselves all over hive and frames, with wings extended uttered that note of submission known to all who have manipulated bees and "order reigned in Warsaw."

But this kicking business is quite exceptional and forms no part of the "advice to beginners."

ALLEN PRINGLE,
Seely, Ont. June 13, 1894.

PORTRAIT OF AN APICULTURIST.

(TRANSLATED.)

An apiculturist is not altogether a man like another. He is in the first place a man exceptionally affectionate; and whoever has familiarized himself with bees, has observed them closely, visited them, cared for them, is a man properly constituted. He has for them not only a certain affection but a real passion, mild and calm, it is true, without violence, but sincere and profound, inexhaustible in pure pleasures and tender preoccupations of all kinds. With him life is a perpetual honeymoon.

If an apiculturist is at home he

absolutely cannot resist visiting his bees at least two or three times a day. Generally there is nothing for him to do; but he is there, near them; that is sufficient.

If he returns from a journey or from some prolonged necessary absence, be sure that his first visit after his return will be to his dear bees. Happy man, if while embracing his family he does not permit his impatience to visit his pets to be seen.

Two neighboring apiculturist, are not as might be believed necessarily jealous. If they are not yet friends, be sure they will not long delay in becoming so, for each will seek the occasion and burn with impatience to meet the other. An apiculturist requires to pour out his heart, to communicate his impressions, his thoughts, his joys, his hopes, his good fortune, the experiments he has made, those he proposes to make, in brief those thousand smiling projects, those sweet dreams of the future and of prosperity which are found in the mind of the enthusiastic apiculturist.

ABBE VOIRNOT.

St. Esprit, June 27, '94.

C. A. OUELLETTE, ESQ.

Tilbury Centre, Ont.

DEAR SIR.

Enclosed, please find one dollar for Queen and paper. Your No. 2, Vol. 1, of PRACTICAL BEE-KEEPER, has accidentally fallen into my hands; and I am greatly satisfied with the articles that I read in it. I would like to receive the first issue; as I have the second on hand, and you can date my subscription from the start of paper. Please send circular and price list. This is a good place for bee keeping; and if the queen is splendid I believe that you will get a few subscribers here.

Please send circular and price list.

Yours truly,

HERMAS A. RIOPELLE.

An exchange says, in making purchases of bees many are apt to select the light and bright-colored Italians. With these we have never had as good success as with the darker strains. The best comb honey producers that we have found have been the hybrids or half-bloods. The only drawback attending these is there vindictiveness. They are more vicious and will not bear the handling that the full-bloods will bear.—American Farmer.

Some one has asked if he should put in a starter to make the combs straight. It is always well to use one of some kind, for without the bees will be likely to build the wrong way. Stick a piece of clean white comb on the top of the section with softened beeswax, to serve as a hint to the bees, if you have just a few sections. Nearly all beekeepers use comb foundation and machines to fasten the starters in the sections.—American Farmer.

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75 cts. each, or with the REVIEW one year for \$1.50. For \$1.75 I will send the REVIEW a year, one untested queen, and the book "Advanced Bee Culture." For

10 cts. three late but different issues of the REVIEW will be sent. The May Review contains an article from M. M. Baldrige in which he tells how to get rid of foul brood with the least possible labor—no shaking bees off the combs, they transfer themselves to a new hive at a time when their bodies are free from the spores of the disease. He also tells how to disinfect hives with one-fourth the labor of boiling. B. Taylor tells how to secure as much white comb honey as extracted.

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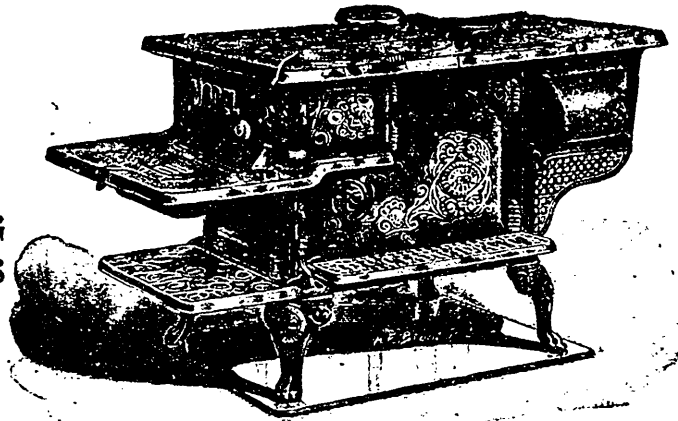


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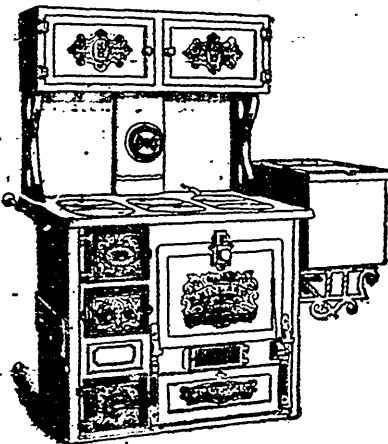
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