

time to make polar explorations, but we certainly can scrape up all the different varieties of honey bees, no matter if we have to go to China and the Indian ocean to get them, can we not, eh?

BOTANY OF HONEY PLANTS.

I ALWAYS look GLEANINGS over, though I am not a bee man. I ought to give more attention to bee plants, and think I shall. When you want any plants named send direct to me. They generally get to me before named. This will save one transfer for brother Cook. I am surprised at the growth of bee culture within my recollection. There must be something in it, or there would not be so many Journals devoted entirely to the subject.

M. J. BEAL, Lansing, Mich., Jan. 2d, '78.

We are very thankful indeed to Prof. Beal for his kind offer of his services in naming plants. We would further suggest that our friends mail their specimens direct to Prof. Beal, Agricultural College, Lansing Mich., with the request that he send them, with his reply, to us, or to either of the other Journals as may be thought best. We have now an engraver of our own, and will have the best honey plants, illustrated. We will cheerfully provide the Prof., with postage stamps, in reserve, and boxes or envelopes addressed to us, so that we may not trespass too much on his good nature. Now friends please remember; send all your plants and specimens direct to him, and he will mail them, with his answer, to us.

Humbugs & Swindles.

Pertaining to Bee Culture.

[We respectfully solicit the aid of our friends in conducting this department, and would consider it a favor to have them send us all circulars that have a deceptive appearance. The greatest care will be at all times maintained to prevent injustice being done any one.]

I DO not know but we shall really be compelled to keep a standing note of warning in this department, to prevent Mitchell and his clique, from obtaining money by fraudulent and barefaced claims, presented to almost every one who is so uninformed that there seems a prospect of their getting anything. For some time past, we have answered inquirers, by the simple statement that Mitchell is the ring leader of all the swindlers in the bee-business, and that he has been shown up almost incessantly for the past four years. Of late, it takes too many postals. The following letters tell their own story. His claims are, if possible, more ridiculous than were Gillespie's on all hives used two stories high.

As you solicit aid in exposing humbugs and swindles, and, as I judge some parties here, and elsewhere have been swindled, I write to ascertain. You say to your inquiring friends "Nothing is patented in the shape of hives or implements, that we advertise."

N. C. Mitchell of Indianapolis, had an agent through here selling the right to use division boards, and the sheet over the frames, claiming a patent on it. I see you use the division board and tell others how to make them, and also the sheet. I have told parties that I could use the division board without paying \$5.00 for a farm right, and they replied that I would get into trouble if I did. Will? Send for their circular, and see for yourself whether or not they are swindlers. However, I will enclose a pos-

tal for you to inform me immediately what you know of them, and whether the division board is patented or not.

A. Lewis, Taylorville, Ills, want's a specimen copy of GLEANINGS. He has an apiary of more than 100 hives, and paid \$5.00 for the "Mitchell patent."

WM. G. BROWN.

Breckenridge, Ills., Dec. 31st, 1877.

Our friends have kindly sent us, I think, all the circulars Mitchell has from time to time published. If he, or they, have any patent covering division boards, lined with cloth or otherwise, the sheets of duck over the frames or anything else of like nature, I beg as a favor, that he prosecute me, as I am perhaps the greatest infringer. If he calls on you and threatens, show him this, and if that does not do, show him the door, and assure him that you consider it a Christian duty, to assist in driving him back to an honest life, if the thing be possible. Whenever you pay them money, to get rid of them, you encourage others to, perhaps, leave an honorable and steady business, to engage in this species of highway robbery. You have no right to give such people money, even if you should find it the easiest way of getting rid of them.

QUEEN CELLS,

HOW TO GET THEM FOR THE LAMP NURSERY, &C.

I F a comb of larvæ, just hatched, is placed in a queenless colony, in how many days will the queen and worker cells be sealed, so that it can be placed in a lamp nursery? Which will be sealed first, the queen or worker cells? I suppose the worker brood must be sealed up, when it is removed, as well as queen cells.

Would you keep one colony queenless all the season, and keep them rearing queens? If not, how many "batches" of queen cells would you have them build, before you would allow them to have a queen? Will "lamp nursery" appear in A B C of bee culture before it is time to rear queens?

When you introduce a newly hatched queen to a nucleus, do you usually let her crawl in at the entrance?

W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

Rogersville, Mich., Jan. 2d, 1878.

I confess I can not tell exactly when all the queen cells will be sealed over; but as the worker brood is all capped inside of 7 days after the egg is laid, and the egg does not appear as a minute larvæ until the third day, I think we shall find all the queen cells sealed over as soon as four days from the time the larvæ was given them. If young bees are added to a colony from time to time, you can keep them building queen cells all the season. As some particular colonies seem to have a mania for starting a great number of cells, I think it would be a very good idea to keep them at it as long as they will do it well. All the worker larvæ should be sealed over before the frame is put into the lamp nursery, or they will crawl out of their cells in a starving condition. I have had just as good success in letting just hatched queens in at the entrance, and when you are in a hurry, it is quite a saving of the time occupied in opening the hives. If we could only find a sure way of introducing these young queens under all circumstances, and to all colonies, weak or strong, the lamp nursery would be one of our greatest modern improvements. With nothing but young bees, or during a good yield of honey, there is seldom a fail-