

BEGINNING RIGHT.

Dearly bought experience may be the best, but it is awfully discouraging to pay too much even for experience, and if one can learn from the experience of others that would seem the best, and certainly is the cheapest way.

The beginner in any line may make mistakes, is almost sure to do so, and the beginner in bee-keeping is no exception to the general rule.

The beginner should purchase bees preferably in the spring, get a good swarm of a reliable dealer, and if he can rely on the word of the one of whom he purchases, then economy in expenditure here, is of the half-penny wise and pound foolish order.

A colony of bees is worth, well, just what it is worth, and the price will be in accordance with its worth.

If a man were buying hay he would not think of taking musty, prairie hay in preference to first class, bright timothy, even if he could get it at half the price. The same rule holds good with bees. A large, full colony with a good queen is valuable, and if some one offers a small, half-starved colony, don't take it, no matter how small the price—not while you are a beginner.

When you have mastered the knowledge of bee-keeping, then you could take a weak colony, and you would know exactly how to build it up, and could make something out of it, but for a beginner a poor colony is the most discouraging thing that I can think of.

This is so for two reasons, one is that the beginner does not know how to build it up, and the other reason is that he don't know why it does not do well and bring him in lots of money, and we all grow discouraged over failures that we do not understand.

First get a good colony, not economizing in a little difference in price.

Next, get good hives, and get them quick. There is not a minute's time to dilly-dally after you have got your bees, before you should get at least two or three good hives.

Every man to his own liking in the make of hive he shall adopt, but be sure that all your hives are of the same size and make, and everything about them interchangeable. I could not tell all the reasons why, not in pages, so that the beginner would fully understand, and the one who is not a beginner already knows. But stick to this point, and as you learn the ways by experience, you will say to yourself, "Well, I rather guess Kit knew what she was talking about," and you will be glad she told you.

In buying your first colony of bees, purchase of any one whose word you can rely on. He or she, the owner of the bees, will know just exactly what is in that hive, but you won't. To you it will seem to be all hum, and prospective stings, so you will have to depend on the owner's word. But have it understood that you want a good colony and expect to pay what they are worth, and you will get your money's worth.

I never pity the man who gets cheated if he tried to few down an honest price and haggled and grumbled over a purchase. I do not know as the one who sells is altogether to blame if he does cheat this kind of a purchaser, and the haggler usually does get cheated.

As to which kind of bee to purchase, it really does not make much difference, not if you are willing to buy a good queen, and change the strain, provided you cannot get what you want at first.

Sometimes one can get a colony of blacks of a neighbor, but they want a very gentle bee. In that case purchase a Carniolan queen—and have some old bee-keeper show you how to introduce her. Don't try it the first time alone.

I think the Italians are the most

generally kept, but whether they are the best or not I do not know. They are a prettier bee, as their bands are a bright yellow, and the Carniolans' bands are white, but they are a little more snippy, that I know for a certainty. But either kind are excellent. And I have no grudge against a black bee, they have always treated me well, still I would not advise beginners to buy them in preference to either of the others. But, since a new queen changes the colony so quickly, the question of kind is of no very grave importance.

Now, in investing in bees, there is this certainty, that if properly cared for they will pay, so the purchase must be considered as an investment, and good materials can be bought with a surety of returns.

A man does not try to cut corn with his pocket knife. No more should any one try to fool about with bees without the few necessary tools. A bee veil, made of mosquito net, if it must be, so that one can go about their work without any sense of fear, and a smoker. No, not the two-legged kind, that puffs tobacco, but a nice tin one that burns good, clean rags, or hard wood; a sharp, thin-bladed knife, called a honey knife; these will do to begin on, but later there must be bee escapes, and drone traps, and—well, everything that helps secure a big honey crop.

There will be a queen excluder with the colony when purchased, or if not one must be put on when the supers go on, and for every new hive there must be the excluder ready.

Hives can be bought, in the flat, for a dollar apiece, and any one who can drive nails can set them up. This is the cheapest way of getting them.

The two points to be particular about are these, first let all hives be exactly alike and then see that all hives are perfectly tight. The moth miller loves a very small crack, and even the best of bees cannot battle, continually, against the miller if there are any open places in the hive. Millers do not go in at the entrance, or if the hive be lifted from the bottom board for ventilation, but let there be the tiniest opening near the top of the hive, say where the cover fits on, and the miller will work all manner of evil.

I have had bee-keepers argue with me that such or such a colony was always overrun with moth, and it must be that the bees were not good workers, or good fighters, or something of that sort, but just give me a few minutes' time to search, and I will guarantee to find some little opening somewhere, that the moth millers can get in at.—Kit Clover.

Gilbert Hunt was coming from Prosser the other day, where he had been overseeing the work of overhauling the Prosser Irrigation Company's pumping plant. A bright young Irish machinist who accompanied him, and who spent some time in gazing out of the car window at the broad expanse of sagebrush, said:

"Misther Hunt!"

"Well, Tim, what is it?"

"I've an idea, Mr. Hunt, that th' sagebrush that covers th' prairies of this gr'eat Pasco desert can be made to be the most profitable fodder."

"How's that, Tim?"

"By import'ing flocks of goats, and putting green goggles over their eyes. They'd thing it wuz alfalfa."

"If you make another break like that, Tim, I'll fire you," said Mr. Hunt, and Tim knew from the hard cruel lines on his employer's face that he meant it.

Wood ashes spread around currant vines and red raspberries makes an excellent fertilizer.

Dried up fruits on the orchard trees are a source of disease to the new fruits coming. Remove them.

Modern Preachers.

ARE THEY TO BE TRUSTED AND BELIEVED?

The only value of the question in the headline is to bring home the fact that of all classes of testimony, that offered by the clergy would be most promptly accepted without doubt or cavil. The clergy stand for truth and right, and thousands follow them living up to the



same precepts of rectitude. These followers are no whit less truthful than their leaders. Yet because the preacher is a leader it is natural to give weight to his statements. His very position and responsibility to his people and the world at large not only forbid the thought of untruth in him, but lend emphasis to any voluntary declaration of fact which he may make.

If a pastor says to one of his congregation who is coughing, "I cured a very bad cough once by the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery," he could offer no stronger endorsement as to the value of that well-known medicine as a cure for coughs; and if such a pastor makes for the time the world his parish, and puts out the same testimony he is only enlarging the scope of his benefaction. For if the world at large knew and was persuaded of the wonderful curative powers of "Golden Medical Discovery" in cases of diseases of the respiratory organs, it would mean a great increase in the general health and comfort, not to say a probable saving of a great many lives.

"AS TRUE AS GOSPEL."

It is "as true as gospel" that Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures coughs, bronchitis, weak and bleeding lungs and such diseases of the respiratory organs as through neglect or unskillful treatment may find a fatal termination in consumption. It is also true that the limit to a possibility of a cure cannot be set. When people who have had fourscore hemorrhages of the lungs are cured by the use of the "Discovery," there is certainly hope for one who may have had ninety hemorrhages. When some one is taken from the condemned cell into which the local practitioner has shut him, and from a weak, emaciated

wreck restored to rugged health by the use of the "Discovery," it is impossible to shut the door of hope on any one however weak he may be. It is the record of such cures which has given Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery a pre-eminence among all preparations for the cure of diseases of the organs of respiration.

"I desire to send you this brief, unsolicited testimonial," writes Rev. Joseph H. Fesperman, of Barium Springs, Iredell Co., N. C. "In 1898, one of my daughters was suffering on account of a severe cough, hectic fever, wasting of flesh and other symptoms of diseased lungs. I promptly gave her Dr. R. V. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery with gratifying success, and she now enjoys excellent health. This experience caused me to recommend Dr. Pierce's medicines to my neighbors, who, without exception, used them with favorable results. This being true, I hereby heartily endorse your medicines."

It can be truly said of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery that it always helps and almost always cures. Ninety-eight per cent. of all who use "Golden Medical Discovery" are perfectly and permanently cured. The remaining two per cent. though not cured acknowledge appreciable benefit. They cough less, eat better, sleep better and feel better for the use of the "Discovery."

THE IMPORTANT POINT.

While extreme cases of disease are cured by the use of "Golden Medical Discovery," the important point is not to neglect the slight cough. From such neglect fatal results have come to many thousands. It is useless to try the mere "cough medicine," or palliative, which soothes but does not cure. The one thing desirable is to be cured quickly and permanently, and it is in such cures that the "Discovery" proves its value.

"I took a severe cold which settled in the bronchial tubes," writes Rev. Frank Hay of Nortonville, Jefferson Co., Kansas. "After trying medicines labeled 'Sure cure,' almost without number, I was led to try Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. I took two bottles and was cured, and have stayed cured. When I think of the great pain I had to endure and the terrible cough I had, it seems almost a miracle that I was so soon relieved. That God may spare you many years and abundantly bless you is the prayer of your grateful friend."

Men or women suffering from disease in chronic form are invited to consult Dr. Pierce by letter, free. All correspondence is held in strict privacy and sacred confidence. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce Buffalo, N. Y.

This offer of free consultation by letter places at the disposal of the sick the skill and experience of nearly a score of the best physicians who are associated with Dr. Pierce, chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, Buffalo, N. Y.

Accept no substitutes for "Golden Medical Discovery." No other medicine is "just as good" for diseases of the organs of respiration.

"THE BIBLE OF THE BODY."

is a title that has been given to Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser. It is a perfect guide to the health of the body as the Bible is to the health of the soul. This great work containing more than a thousand large pages and over seven hundred illustrations, is sent free on receipt of stamps to pay expense of mailing only. Send 31 one-cent stamps for the cloth-bound volume, or only 21 one-cent stamps for the book in paper covers. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.