The Dairy.

Bees as Hybridizers

Not long since, Mr. F. B. Cheshire, of Knightsbridge, England, delivered a lecture there on the subject of bees as hybridizers and fruit producers, or the dependence of orchard crops on bees. An epitome of a few of the points considered will be read with no little interest both by apiarians and horticulturists. He commences by explaining that the tongue of the bee is of extreme length in proportion to the size of the insect. In passing over the bloom, the body of the bee becomes dusted by the anthers which contain the pollen. This pollen is conveyed from one bloom to another, in each of which it is taken up by the stigmata, and thus cross fertilization is established. Very many blooms depend for their production on the visits of bees. The hive bee is only one among the 177 distinct species of bees that gather honey from flowers. It is the most industrious of any. It faces bad weather when the wild bees will not. Any one who will trouble himself to go out seeking for specimens of wild bees will soon find this to be the case. He will discover that in bad weather the wild bees will keep safely in their nests at home. He (the lecturer) remarked that the value of bees in fertilizing fruit trees was strikingly illustrated to him some time ago. He had heard of a lady in Derbyshire, who made large profits from her orchards. She is the possessor of several hives of bees, but evidently did not know how these insects were co-operating with her in the production of the cherries. For some reason or other she decided to give up her bees. The result was most disastrous to the yield of the orchard.

He then pointed to some diagrams showing sections of two kinds of primroses, the thrumb-eyed primrose and the pin-eyed primrose, and described the means by which one kind is fertilized by the other through the medium of bee.

It was not generally known, the reason of apples falling from trees, and in many cases the popular notions on this subject were quite erroneous. The apple is divided into different sections, which were gathered together into one envelope. The bloom of the apple has five stigmata to each of these divisions. Each of these stigmata must be independently fertilized, or the result is that the fruit becomes defective in formation, and withers prematurely, and drops from the tree. He then produced several imperfectly shaped apples, in each of which some sections were fully developed, while others were not properly grown. Upon cutting open the specimens it was discovered that fertilization had not been effected in the undeveloped sections.

The same remarks applied to a large extent in the case of the strawberry, which required from two to three hundred distinct fertilizations in order to secure a perfectly juicy and ripe fruit. No doubt many had seen a strawberry in which one portion was quite ripe, while another part of it remained green and undeveloped. Here fertilization had not been complete. The lecturer then exhibited the hive of a wild bee, which he had discovered, and said it had been built on the Stewarton principle, that is, story above story. A small tunnel had been constructed, at the end of which some eggs were deposited; these were covered over with a piece of leaf, and this process had been repeated until there were three or four layers of eggs. It might appear to his hearers difficult to understand how the young bees when hatched could extricate themselves from the layers of the nests, which were closed up one above another especially as the eggs first laid were at the bottom. This was to be explained by the fact that the eggs last laid were always hatched first. Mr. Cheshire concluded his observations with some eloquent remarks on the phenomena of nature, and the instruction and pleasure to be derived from the cultivation of bees.

The Honey Dew Fields of Oregon

In addition to the excellent article from the pen of Mr. E. S. Brooks, of Silverton, we publish the following, which we had previously taken from the Gleanings in Bee Culture, published by A. I. Root, and which will be read with interest.

"The number of trees exuding this sweet cannot well be estimated. Our forests here are evergreen, and the fir is the principal timber. In the vicinity where I gathered the sample sent you, I should say there would be a hundred trees to the acre. It is in spots, or on occasional limbs on the tree; and it also is in spots as to locality. This belt of country is situated in the foothills of the Cascade mountains; and how far it may extend along this range, I could not say, but I suppose for many miles. The reason I do not locate my bees in the midst of this fountain of sweet, is, that the bees that are there do not seem to make any more honey, or nearly as much, as where mine are located now; besides, I am only a little to one side of the midst now. As singular as it may seem, I do not see a single bee gathering the sweet from those trees, though others claim to have seen them at work briskly, where flowers were scarce. From watching my bees, I conclude that they don't work on it when honey-dew of any kind—liquid or crystalized—is abundant, for the flowers are then rich too. This honey-dew, in its more liquid state, is quite common, in portions of the State; that, is, every good honey year, or, say, four out of five years. It makes its appearance in dry seasons about the middle of June and lasts about two months. Rains wash it all away. The first that came under my observation was in the summer of 1881; following years, 1882 and 1883. So I think it is not unusual. I saw it crystalized on the fir only, except as it dripped to the plants beneath, and gardened there.

Rendering Beeswax.

What is the best and easiest way of trying out beeswax? Answer: "There are several methods of melting up combs and cappings into wax, but I have tried none that is more simple, or better, than to make a bag out of some coarse sacking: fill it with pieces of comb, tie it up, and put it into a wash boiler. Set the boiler on the stove, and fill it nearly full of water. When the water is almost hot enough to boil, take a stick and punch, poke and press the bag until the wax is all melted and risen to the top. Now lay a narrow strip of board across the top of the boiler, and tie it fast to the handles; then take two or three sticks that are nearly as long as the boiler is deep, press the bag down to the bottom of the boiler with these sticks, and keep it in this position by putting the upper ends of the sticks under the strip of board that is fastened across the top of the boiler. Now set the boiler off the stove, and when its contents are cold, the wax can be taken off in one solid cake. In passing through the bag the wax is cleansed from all coarse impurities, while the fine particles of dirt that do escape will be found either upon the top or bottom of the cake of wax, from whence they can easily be removed. When the combs and cappings have all been worked up, and the cakes of wax have been scraped free from all dirt or sediment, the cakes should all be put into the boiler, melted up together, and the wax run into neat cakes."—Ex.

Dominiques breed more true to color than any other breed of fowls. They are very hardy, mature early, splendid layers, sitters and mothers, and good table fowls.

Tramps.

For many years we have read in Eastern papers of the great numbers of vagabond men who travel on foot from place to place, stopping at houses to beg food, and generally very impudent if they find no man around. Many cases of murder and rape have been known to have been committed by these creatures called "tramps," who have seemed to be an organized band, having their own particular beats, visiting certain localities at stated times. We here on this coast have been signally free from beggars, or tramps, but we now hear of hundreds of idle men who were turned off from railroad work, are flooding the country East of the Mountains, and who are gradually getting down into this valley, and hereafter we will have to be more watchful and guarded in admitting strangers.

This sort of floating population that are found working on railroad contracts are generally of bad stock, men who for various reasons have had to leave the places where they were known, of course there are exceptions, but this is the rule. From a private letter we learn of men going to private homes in Walla Walla, demanding food; in one instance where the villain showed a pistol a to woman and threatened to kill her if she screamed. One gentleman had to call a policeman to have a tramp put out of a house, when said tramp vowed vengeance, threatening to shoot the gentleman the first time he had a chance.

So many are there of this sort of folks that the people of Walla Walla are talking of starting a sort of eating house, where soup, coffee and bread may be given to these men, who are hungry and without means. All the little towns in the vicinity of the railroads are flooded with hungry men, and who ought not to receive pity, for in most cases they have spent their wages in the saloons for whisky, yet for the safety and protection of women, must be fed by the public.

The road connecting us with the East, so long looked and hoped for, has brought us nearer the great centers, and it has also made an easy outlet for the flow of an undesirable population that in the past was kept at home by the long and expensive journey. Now a ride may be stolen, failing of that, there is a high and dry road-bed to foot it on.

Chinese New Year.

This is based upon the coronation of the ruling sovereign, and will change its date as the next ruler ascends the throne. Quong Tne ascended the throne January 27, 1876, being at that time only one year old, his mother really being at the head of affairs during his minority.

A slight cold, if neglected, often attacks the lungs. Brown's Bronchial Troches give sure and immediate relief. *Sold only in boxes.* Price 25 cents.

A DANGEROUS AMBUSCADE

Discovered Barely in Time—The Most Deceptive and Luring of Modern Evils Graphically Described.

(Syracuse Journal.)

Something of a sensation was caused in this city yesterday by a rumor that one of our best known citizens was about to publish a statement concerning some unusual experiences during his residence in Syracuse. How the rumor originated it is impossible to say, but a reporter immediately sought Dr. S. G. Martin, the gentleman in question, and secured the following interview:

"What about this rumor, Doctor, that you are going to make a public statement of some important matters?"

"Just about the same as you will find in all the rumors—some truth; some fiction. I had contemplated making a publication of some remarkable episodes that occurred in my life, but have not completed it as yet."

"What is the nature of it, may I enquire?"

"Why, the fact that I am a human being instead of a spirit. I have passed through one of the most wonderful ordeals that perhaps ever occurred to any man. The first intimation I had of it was several years ago, when I began to feel chilly at night and restless after retiring. Occasionally this would be varied by a soreness of the muscles and cramps in my arms and legs. I thought, as most people would think, that it was only a cold and so paid as little attention to it as possible. Shortly after this I noticed a peculiar catarrhal trouble and my throat also became inflamed. As if this were not variety enough I felt sharp pains in my chest, and a constant tendency to headache.

"Why didn't you take the matter in hand and check it right where it was?"

"Why doesn't everybody do so? Simply because they think it is only some trifling and passing disorder. These troubles did not come all at once and I thought it unmanly to heed them. I have found, though, that every physical neglect must be paid for and with large interest. Men cannot draw drafts on their constitution without honoring them sometime. These minor symptoms I have described, grew until they were giants of agony. I became more nervous; had a strange fluttering of the heart, an inability to draw a long breath and an occasional numbness that was terribly suggestive of paralysis. How I could have been so blind as not to understand what this meant I cannot imagine."

"And did you do nothing?"

"Yes, I traveled. In the spring of 1879 I went to Kansas and Colorado, and while in Denver, I was attacked with a mysterious hemorrhage of the urinary organs and lost twenty pounds of flesh in three weeks. One day after my return I was taken with a terrible chill and at once advanced to a servere attack of pneumonia. My left lung soon entirely filled with water and my legs and body become twice their natural size. I was obliged to sit upright in bed for several weeks in the midst of the severest agony, with my arms over my head, and in constant fear of suffocation."

"And did you still make no attempt to save yourself?"

"Yes, I made frantic efforts. I tried everything that seemed to offer the least prospect of relief. I called a council of doctors and had them make an exhaustive chemical and microscopical examination of my condition. Five of the best physicians of Syracuse and several from another city said I must die!

It seemed as though their assertion was true for my feet became cold, my mouth parched, my eyes wore a fixed glassy stare, my body was covered with a cold, clammy death sweat, and I read my fate in the anxious expressions of my family and friends."

"But the finale?"

"Came at last. My wife, aroused to desperation, began to administer a remedy upon her own responsibility and while I grew better very slowly, I gained ground surely until, in brief, I have no trace of the terrible Bright's disease, from which I was dying, and am a perfectly well man. This may sound like a romance, but it is true, and my life, health and what I am are due to Warner's Safe Cure, which I wish was known to and used by the thousands who, I beleive, are suffering this minute as I was originally. Does not such an experience as this justify me in making a public statement?"

"It certainly does, but then Bright's disease is not a common complaint, doctor."

"Not common! On the contrary it is one of the most common. The trouble is, few people know they have it. It has so few marked symptoms until its final stages that a person may have it for years, each year getting more and more in its power and not suspect it. It is quite natural I should feel enthusiastic over this remedy while my wife is even more so than I am. She knows of its being used with surprising results by many ladies for their own peculiar ailments, over which it has singular power."

The statement drawn out by the above interview is amply confirmed by very many of our most prominent citizens, among them being Judge Reigel, and Col. James S. Goodrich, of the Times, while Gen. Dwight H. Bruce and Rev. Prof. W. P. Coddington, D. D., give the remedy their heartiest endorsement. In this age of wonders, surprising things are quite common but an experience so unusual as that of Dr. Martin's and occurring here in our midst, may well cause comment and teach a lesson. It shows the necessity of guarding the slightest approach of physical disorder and by the means which has been proven the most reliable and efficient. It shows the depth to which one can sink and yet be rescued and it proves that few people need suffer if these truths are observed.

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