

NEW PLAN OF HIVING BEES.

From the Mechanic and Farmer.

I have practiced two methods of securing new swarms of bees when they leave the old hive, both of which I think preferable to the old fashioned way of rattling all the old tin pans and sleigh bells in the neighborhood, until the swarm settles, and then brush them topsyturvy into the hive. My first method is this:—as the season for swarming approaches I cut an evergreen, such as fir or spruce, about six or eight feet high, and trim off all the branches on one side close to the tree so that it may be laid flat on the ground, the lower end, or butt, is sharpened like a stake and set in a hole made by an iron bar in the ground about ten or fifteen feet in front of the hives. Swarms will very seldom seek any other resting place when a bush like the above is at hand. When a swarm leaves the hive I say nothing, but stand and look on, until they become still and quiet on the bush. I then carefully raise the bush from the hole, and lay it flat on the ground, and place the hive over them. If the limbs on the upper side interfere, I press the hive down and lay a stone or some heavy substance on to keep it in its proper place, till the swarm takes possession, which is generally in ten or fifteen minutes. In this way I have never lost a swarm, and have frequently hived a swarm and removed them to the bee house among the old hives in one hour from the time of their leaving the hive.

My other way is as simple, and as far as I have tried it, equally sure. I take a board wide enough to set a hive on, and two or three feet long, bore a hole in the centre, and drive in a pin, one or two inches in diameter, and eight or ten inches long; I then take two small cords and fasten the end of each to the corners of the board so that they form a loop at each end of the board about two or three feet long: this board thus prepared I suspend from two stakes in front of the hives, with the pin pointing downwards, taking care that the stakes slope towards each other so that the board may not touch at the end; around this pin the bees will cluster, and when they get still, unhook the cord from the stakes, turn the board over carefully, lay it on the ground and set the hive over it: in this way much time and trouble may be saved, or there is no need of watching for swarms, only provide such resting places, and there you will find them. I have left a swarm suspended under the board as last mentioned, through the day and found them safe in the evening, and hived them after the other labor of the day was past. I think on the whole this method the best, as they seem more contented under cover of the board than when more exposed, and not so likely to take wing before they are hived.

From the Western Star.

BOTANY.

In the whole family of sciences there is not one more instructive and pleasing than Botany. It cultivates and purifies the better feelings of our nature, by directing our minds to the goodness of God, as displayed in the very extensive portion of His works. And while it refines the taste and captivates the fancy, it enlightens the understanding and strengthens the judgment.

Cold and unthankful indeed must that man be, who feels no warm emotion while he beholds the bounties and smiles of an Omnipotent Creator. How then can that that science fail to be interesting which treats of so important an operation in nature as the process of vegetation, and which classifies plants and explains their properties. Whether we survey nature in the wild luxuriance of the forest, or in the most delicate beauties of the garden, without some knowledge of the science, all is equally irregularity and confusion. We may admire the wilderness of the one, or be pleased with

the variety of the other, but we cannot feel that interest which even a partial acquaintance with this science will impart. All then is order, beauty and harmony. We see the sturdy oak of ages, and appropriate to it its legitimate place in the vegetable kingdom; we scrutinize the polish petal of the flowers and glow with admiration and delight. We no longer walk in the woods, or the fields, or amuse ourselves in the garden without discovering new beauties in every shrub, and plant, and flower, which comes under our notice. The vegetable world at once becomes animate. We read new lessons of wisdom and goodness in every blade of grass, and find that there is not a leaf nor a fibre, which does not perform its proper office in the production of the plant.

The science of Botany has already secured itself a place in almost all schools of the higher order, and only needs an introduction to be gradually received and studied, in our schools of even the humblest character. It has nothing abstruse in it, but is entirely within the capacity of every grade of intellect, and may be acquired even by children. True they may not become thoroughly versed in it, nor are they capable of fully understanding many other branches of knowledge which they study. It is a matter worthy of investigation and trial whether the introduction of as pleasing a study as that of flowers, for which all children have a great fondness, would not have a happy influence on our schools. It would be connecting pleasure with improvement, and would have a tendency to create a taste for study which should not be the least object of schools.

It would be an instructive amusement too for youth of both sexes to study this science even after leaving school. Youth is a period in which amusement will have a place in the distribution of time. This is as it should be, but that course cannot be an unwise one, which makes that amusement a source of instruction. The study of which we speak, is one where the path of science is literally strewn with flowers. How many an hour which we spend in idle lounging, might be occupied in some pursuit, which while it recreated, would improve us. And at this season of the year nothing could be better suited to such a purpose than the study of Botany.

TO PREVENT HORSES BEING TEASED BY FLIES.

Take two or three small handfuls of walnut leaves, upon which pour two or three quarts of cold water; let it infuse one night, and pour the whole next morning into a kettle, and let it boil for a quarter of an hour;—when cold it will be fit for use. No more is required than to moisten a sponge, and before the horse goes out of the stable, let those parts which are most irritable be smeared over with the liquor, viz. between and upon the ears, the neck, the flank, &c. Not only the lady or gentleman who rides out for pleasure, will derive benefit from the walnut leaves thus prepared, but the coachman, the wagoner, and all others who use horses during the hot months.—*Farmer's Receipt Book.*

INDUSTRY.—Whatever busies the mind without corrupting it, has, at least, this use, that it rescues the day from idleness; and he that is never idle, will not often be vicious.

INDOLENCE.—Perhaps every man may date predominance of those desires that disturb his life and contaminate his conscience, from some unhappy hour, when too much leisure exposed him to their incursions; for he has lived with little observation, either on himself, or others, who does not know that to be idle is to be vicious.

FRUGALITY.—Without frugality none can be rich, and with it, very few would be poor. A man's voluntary expenses should not exceed his income.

Let no man anticipate uncertain profits.

SETTING UP AND SETTING DOWN.

A chap once told St. Patrick's Dean While rising from his seat, "I mean To set up for a wit."
"Ah!" quoth the Dean, "if that be true, The very best thing you can do Is quickly down to sit."

'Too many, like that would-be wit, Set up for what they are not fit, And always lose their aim;
Set up for wisdom, wealth, renown, But end the farce by setting down With poverty and shame.

A middling farmer thinks he can Set up to be a gentleman, And then sit down content;
But after many a turn and twist Is set down on the pauper list— A fool, not worth a cent!

When tradesmen's wives and daughters fair Set up with silks and Leghorns rare, To look most wondrous winning,
They sit upon a slippery stand, Till indigence, with iron hand, Upsets their underpinning.

Some ladies too, whose costly gear Has made them to their husbands dear, Set up to lead the ton:
Though they are high on fashion's seat, Age, death, or poverty, albeit, Will set them down anon.

Some fools set up to live by law, And though they are all "over jaw," Soon fail for lack of brains;
But had the boobies only just Known where they ought to sit at first, They'd saved a world of pains.

A quack set up the doctor's trade, But could he use the sexton's spade No better than his pills,
The man might toil from morn till night, And find his match, with all his might, To bury half he kills.

You may set up for what you choose, As easily as wear old shoes, If e'er so low at present;
But when you have set up in vain, And find you must set down again, 'Tis terribly unpleasant.

BUTTER.

Butter is of a yellow color, possessing the properties of an oil, and mixes readily with other oily bodies. When heated to the temperature of 96° it melts and becomes transparent: if it be kept for some time melted, some curd and whey separates from it, and it assumes exactly the appearance of oil.—When butter is kept for a certain time, it becomes rancid, owing in a good measure to the presence of these foreign ingredients, for if it be well washed, and a great portion of these matters separated, it does not become rancid near so soon. Butter may be obtained by agitating cream newly taken from milk; or even by agitating milk newly drawn from the cow. But it is usual to allow cream to remain for some time before it is churned.—Now, cream, by standing, acquires an acid taste; butter, therefore, is commonly made from sour cream. Fresh cream requires longer churning before it yields its butter than sour cream does; consequently cream acquires, by being kept for some time, new properties in consequence of which, it is more easily converted into butter, which in all cases is perfectly sweet.

The affinity of the oil of cream for the other ingredients is such, that it never separates completely from them. Not only is curd and whey always found in the cream, but some of this oil is constantly found in creamed milk, and even in whey it has been ascertained by experiments that butter may be obtained by churning whey. This accounts for the fact that more butter may be obtained from the same quantity of milk if it be churned as drawn from the cow, than when the cream alone is collected and churned.