
Reviews of Foreign Bee-Papers

By R. Hamlyn-Harris, F.R.M.S., F.Z.S., F.E.S.

"Bulletin de la Societe d'Apiculture du Tarn" (France).—The foot and mouth disease in cattle is largely treated with honey. The Government publishes the following instructions:—"To treat effectually this disease, first remove the small skins resulting from the breaking of the blisters; then bathe the mouth with water in which vinegar and honey have been mixed." The writer himself experienced similar symptoms in the mouth as the animals, but it was quite cured in a few days by the use of honey alone.

"Gazette Apicole de France."—For more than fifty years the inhabitants of Moldavia and Ukraine have prepared a kind of sugar (white and solid) from honey, and this sugar is used by the Dantzig distillers in manufacturing the liqueurs so highly esteemed in that country. The method of preparation is to place the honey in casks and expose it to frost during three weeks, and it is with this sugar that 'rosolia' is made, which is held in such high estimation by the Italian confectioners."

"La Nature."—"A doctor of Arca-
 chon has given with much success the following preparation:—Honey (one part), fresh butter (two parts). These ingredients are well mixed and used in lieu of cod-liver oil. The mixture named forms a pale golden-colored cream, fresh to the taste and taken to eagerly by children.

"Canaries suffer at times from a malady which causes the plumage to become dull and lose its color; their little claws become rigid, and they can often hardly stand; their song also completely ceases.

As a remedy it is advised to give

every morning a little breadcrumbs soaked in warm honey.

The canary refuses this food at first, but soon takes to it, and improvement gradually sets in. The rigidity of the feet disappears, and the plumage recovers its lustre and its colour; the bird resumes its song clear and vigorous."

"Schweizerische Beizenzeitung (Australian Bee Bulletin)."—"An Australian bee-keeper, having to supply his bees with water, found that 200 colonies used up 1,500 gallons of the precious fluid in sixty-five days."

A bee-keeper asks how to clear his combs of bees found head foremost in the cells, as is usual when they die of hunger. An obliging confrere gives him several ideas on the subject. He says:—1. Mice do this duty with great pleasure, but they spoil the combs. 2. By exposing the combs in a very dry place, the dead bees will shrivel up and fall out with a gentle tap. The third and best remedy is to winter the bees with sufficient provisions and so prevent the bees from dying in the cells.

"Bienenwirthschaftliches Centralblatt."—Do fowls eat bees? In Oldesloe, in Mecklenburg, fifty colonies of bees were kept close to a fowl run where the fowls had full liberty to roam at will and about the hives. They ate the refuse from the hives but never touched a live bee. But here (in Doberau) a dozen fowls kept in a small closed place hunted after every bee that crossed their yard. How can we explain the difference? Probably the last named fowls, being shut in, suffered from want of animal food. Therefore they hunted after bees, flies, etc. Ennui has a great deal to do with this. As we see fowls confined in close spaces plucking each others' feathers out—clearly a want of proper food and occupation.