

I could not lift them. Must be a pile of honey there. Now, will you please inform me how I can get the honey out and live. The colonies have grown wonderfully. I believe there must be a million bees in one hive. It's my opinion you would not dare to touch the big colony yourself."

The hives are double, or two-story hives, having in each upper story fifty-six one-pound boxes. Their removal is easy, safe and quick, if the bee-keeper lose the fear of the bees. If there were only one colony, the bee-keeper might take his own time in removing the honey, but there are three colonies, and hence, must be no delay, else the bees from other hives will take a hand, and help themselves, fight and kill each other, and possibly take liberties with the bee-keeper. First drive the bees into the brood chamber with smoke introduced into the top of the hive. Then remove the second story entire and carry it to the house, or some place where bees cannot enter. Do not leave the hive uncovered while doing this. Cover with a sheet, or better still, place upon the hive another second story. In the house, bees clinging to the frames are dislodged and return to the hive. Remove the filled sections, and replace with empty ones, or sections with foundation. Take out only the honey capped on both sides. If a half dozen cells uncapped appear, the section may be placed with the perfect honey. This, however, is not a good way, if the honey is to be shipped to market, or if it is to be exposed for sale anywhere. Return the imperfect sections and the new ones, that is the second story entire, to the hive as quickly as possible for the work there is interrupted, and will not go on again till the half story be in its place.

It is a better way, perhaps as there is less disturbance, if one frame be removed at a time, the hive quickly covered, the frame carried to the house and treated as the half-story was. Taking one frame at a time allows the bees to begin at once the work of repair, and before the last frame is taken out, the first has been mended and refilling has begun.

In removing honey in any shape there is more or less breaking of brace-combs, and in these brace-combs are usually a few cells of honey. These are broken and the honey liberated. The odor of honey travels faster to bees than to man, and therefore great care must be taken that robber bees do not get in, attracted by the running honey, when the hive is open.

Use the smoker sparingly: Give them just enough to remind the bees that you are in command. Wear a veil and if you are going to jump every time a bee looks at you, (1) wear gloves. But usually one or more bees will get inside in spite of veil or gloves, and then one is equal to several outside, and the frantic attempts of the bee to escape, lead the beginner, in telling the story of his marvellous rescue from a terrible death, to inform his listeners that more than a thousand bees smote him right and left, and nearly made an end of him.

GEO. A. STOCKWELL.

CRIMSON CLOVER ONCE MORE.

EDS. COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.—Through the kindness of Dr. A. T. Neale, director of our Delaware State Experiment Station, I am able to present your readers with some further information regarding Crimson clover that I am sure will prove of interest. Dr. Neale and his able corps of assistants have given this clover considerable attention, and have brought out much valuable information.

This clover grows wild in Southern Switzerland and Northern Italy. It was introduced into France about 1830, and is so well liked and so generally used there that the name French clover is often applied to it. Seed from five different varieties of this clover is offered on the European markets.

(1) Bees never trouble me much; but Dr Girdwood dare not go near his own hives!

A. R. J. P.

These varieties vary in color of blossom and season of blooming and also in hardness. The plant is noted for stooling, for deep rooting and for rapid growth. Fifty flower stalks to a single root have been repeatedly noticed, and seventy stalks to one root have been reported. Roots have been followed more than four feet down into a heavy clay, so hard that spades had but little effect. The plots at the experiment station made an extremely vigorous growth. During the fall and winter the ground was not only concealed but completely protected against freezing; for with a temperature approximately 14° above zero the soil was found soft and free from frost directly under the clover, while that unprotected was found frozen hard. The plants remained green, and at no time during the winter did they show any indications of suffering from cold. On May 12, the crop was in full bloom. It was then cut and weighed, then plowed under as a green manuring. The maximum yield was 13 tons and 400 pounds per acre. A chemical analysis showed that this amount of green clover per acre was equal to two tons and 600 pounds of very dry hay; also that the 13 tons of green clover contained 115 pounds of nitrogen, 131 pounds potash and 35 pounds phosphoric acid. To secure this plant food in form of fertilizer at market price would have cost \$24. Of this amount \$17, or 70 per cent. of the total is credited to nitrogen, that element which clover can secure from the air, while 30 per cent. is credited to phosphoric acid and to potash, elements which can only be secured from the soil.

Mr. E. H. Bancroft, one of the most intelligent and successful farmers of Kent county says of this clover: "It is first class for soiling, and for ensilage there seem to be no limit to its usefulness. Its season of growth and maturity enable us to fill the silo in May and provide a supply of the best ensilage, and the supply may readily be made adequate to the requirements of the entire year. To plow down for green manuring, no other plant of the same season has yet become known here that can approach it in value, for cheapness of production, for quantity of crop, and for fertilizing qualities. Taking it all in all, it certainly impresses these who know it best as offering possibilities to the agriculture of a vast portion of our country never before anticipated."

Mr. Jacob G. Brown, a veteran fruit grower of Central Delaware, says: I have known this plant during a period of about five years, and each year increase my estimation of it as a forage crop. There is no other adapted to this soil and climate that can in any way equal it. It is the most easily seeded, will grow on the poorest soil, and under conditions when other grasses would utterly fail; will produce the largest yields, either for use in the silo or for hay; in quality not excelled. It is the most wonderful restorer of poor or worn out soil in existence. I verily believe that with it land can be brought into the highest state of fertility without the application of a dollar's worth of manure."

The Wynkoop Bros, of Milford have raised this clover six years, and expect next year to have nearly ninety acres of it. Mr. P. P. Wynkoop says: "Scarlet clover is a first class forage plant, for use either as hay, as ensilage, or for soiling, as a crop to turn under for green manure, its value is very great."

Upwards of four hundred and fifty bushels of home-grown seed, have found an eager market in this little State alone during the past month. This amount of seed if properly used is sufficient to cover an area of more than three thousand acres. This will give some idea of the popularity of this plant among those who know it best.

Kent County, Del.

E. G. PACKARD.

The seed of this plant is advertised for sale by Mr. HENRY NUNGESESSER, 65 Pearl St., New York.—EDS.

Country Gentleman.