

The Apiary.

Swarming of Bees.

An unusual occurrence took place on Sunday at the Camp on the Curragh of Kildare. A rate of the 20th Regiment took a can and a ree of iron, with which he commenced beating the can for the purpose of causing some bees to swarm about the camp to swarm. Shortly after he commenced the noise, the bees gathered upon the side of his face, extending in a thick cluster from the top of his head to half down his arm, between his shoulder and elbow. He called out for assistance, and was placed in a chair, when fire was obtained, which was held over his head, covered with a sheet, with a view of endeavoring to get the bees to enter the hive, but in the hour of three o'clock, when our correspondent saw him, there was little prospect of his removing, and, the day being extremely hot, it was conjectured they would not take to quarters which were provided for them earlier than six or seven o'clock in the evening. The soldier was removed to the guard-room, out of the air, for the purpose of preventing any assailants gathering about him, and to give shelter from the overpowering rays of the sun from which he was suffering greatly in consequence of the state to which the sudden and generous assemblage upon him had reduced him. The above paragraph, which we extract from *Wentworth's Journal*, is an amusing illustration of the prevalent ignorance of bee-management. It is told that the noise of the can was produced for the purpose of causing the bees to swarm; instead of which it was doubtless for its sedative efficacy in causing the swarm to settle. The circumstance of the bees settling on the man's face was doubtless owing to the fact that the queen, perhaps heavy with eggs, or slightly injured in her wings, had alighted on him as the nearest prominent object. The mode of proceeding was erroneous in the extreme: by covering the swarm over with a sheet the bees were rendered quiet, and, being shaded, were supposed to move. Had the side of the hive been held against the man's face so that the edge touched the cluster of bees, and had the lower part of the swarm been sprinkled with water, the bees would have ascended rapidly into the hive; or had any bee-master been present, he might have separated the clustered bees with his hands, secured the queen, and placed her in the hive, when the bees would speedily have followed. As to the danger of the occurrence, it was positively none. Bees, unless injured, are not stinging at the time of swarming, so that the possibility of other "assailants" attacking the man existed only in the fertile imagination of the narrator.—*Ed. of the Field, London.*

If the failures of life arise from pulling in a horse as he is leaping

Veterinary.

On the Roman Bath as applicable to Training Race-Horses.

The most wonderful discoveries have lately taken place in every branch of science, and the most extraordinary inventions and improvements in every item connected with the luxuries and the comforts of mankind: general education has civilized and enlightened the great working classes. The islands are looking up: even our domestic animals have improved in quality, and twenty per cent. in point of size, from poultry and pigs to sheep, cattle and horses, owing to care and attention in breeding during the last century; and nothing has retrograded but seamanship, emasculated by the introduction of steam: sailors are numerous, but seamen are scarce. Lloyd's list of wrecks proves the melancholy fact; but there is one profession on an humble scale which has made no progress, no improvement for one hundred and fifty years—I mean the training of race-horses; and, at the same time, I must add my testimony that a more respectable or a better class of tradesmen do not exist than the majority of English trainers, who, from being in constant communication with gentlemen, imbibe liberal ideas, and prove themselves worthy of the highest trust and responsibility.

Thanks to Mr. Urquhart (to whom this country is more indebted than to any living man) for the introduction of Turkish *alias* Roman baths: a new era has arisen, the present barbarous system of preparing horses to race by drastic purgatives, hot clothing, hot stables, and four and five miles sweats will be ameliorated, and we may look forward with confidence to a revolution, by the aid of hot-air baths, which will enable a trainer to bring his horses to the post in first-rate condition, without subjecting them to a destructive apprenticeship.

There was always a difficult problem to be solved. How is a trainer to prepare a horse to race? *alias* to get his inside clean and his muscles in full vigour, without the assistance of strong purgatives, and galloping long distances under a weight of heavy woollen clothing. I do not deny the necessity of giving horses the strongest exercise, wisely adapted to their age and condition. It is proved that you can lighten a horse's frame as well by the operation of a hot air bath as by a four-mile sweat; and the question arises—which is the best practice to get them into condition? My belief is, that a smart two-mile or three mile gallop, with the horse stripped, carrying a light weight, and a hot-air bath afterwards, is more beneficial to a horse's lungs, and, no doubt, to his legs and sinews, than a four-mile gallop under heavy clothes.—Try it on a jockey; let him take his usual walk