

ing instinct will become lost or impaired, but if so, the process is so slow as to be imperceptible. I think therefore, that it would be advisable on the part of all bee-keepers who think of emigrating to South America to bring with them a good supply of fresh queens of the most approved breeds, so that, by the introduction of fresh blood (if such a term can be used when speaking of bees) from time to time, the original instincts of the bees may be preserved, and any deterioration prevented.

Insect pests are plentiful, and when the hives are weak may give a good deal of trouble, but, with proper care and attention, seldom do much damage. Toads of gigantic size are also numerous, but cause little destruction if the hives are raised a sufficient distance from the ground. Ants are abundant, but give little trouble except in very weak hives. The bees are not subject to disease. I have heard of very few cases of foul brood, and those have generally been due to carelessness. Larger enemies are not much in evidence. In Southern California I remember to have seen a bee farm at the foot of the mountains, which was surrounded by a barb wire fence to protect it from the attacks of the grizzly bears. No such precautions are necessary here.—John D. Leckie in 'The Field,' (Irish Bee Journal.)

HONEY AND ALMOND CREAM.

Honey 1 oz., powdered Castile soap, 1-2 oz., oil of sweet almonds, 13 oz., oil of bitter almonds, 1-2 drachm, oil of bergamot, 1-4 drachm, oil of cloves drops, balsam of Peru 1-2 drachm, liquid potassa 1-2 drachm. Mix the oils with the balsam, then mix the honey with the soap; add enough of the potassa to make a nice cream; add this to the first mixture, and beat for several minutes.—"American Bee Journal."

Robber Bees in an Apiary

At all times robber bees are a thorough nuisance in an apiary, and at times make a bee-keeper very irritable, especially if he is busy at something else at the time the robbing takes place. There are many methods of preventing it, various bee-keepers, each believing in his own system. Perhaps it would be as well to tell what brings about the robbing at various times of the season. During a cold snap, or wet weather during a honey flow, (which prevents the blossoms of the various trees and shrubs exuding the nectar, which the bees gather as honey, and which requires a few warm days to bring them into a fit state for the bees to operate on again) the bees get restless and will try and get into the hives of their neighbors, and then "ructions" for a few days. Again, leaving pieces of honey-comb, cappings, etc., where the bees will get at it, will lead to robbing. What I find the worst time is the latter end of the honey season, when the honey flow is nearly over. It seems the natural time of the year for them to rob; they wish to fill up their own hives with honey at the expense of their neighbors. And how will we stop them? We can't stop them, but we can prevent them from doing further mischief when we find them at the game; and they are prevented in various ways as follows: 1st. Get a lot of half dry grass and pile up against the entrance of the hive being robbed; this will sometimes prevent further mischief. 2nd. If the first does not stop them spray a weak solution of carbolic over the heap of grass, which is a good remedy. 3rd. Turn the hive robbed around in the