

winter feed for the bees themselves, and it is easy to rob them of their white clover stores, and compel them to stock up again from buckwheat blossoms. The great drawback to bee-keeping in this country is the want of late summer and early autumn forage. This is removed in localities where buckwheat is largely grown.

Dairy work is still at its height, and with the extra demands made on the female members of the household by haying and harvesting, will be found pretty oppressive in many cases. The factory system, already so largely established in this country gives relief to a great extent from the toils of the dairy, and this is one of its great recommendations. Without extra kitchen help during the dairy season, it is hardly possible for all the work to be thoroughly done, if cheese be made on the farmers own premises.

Happy is the farmer who has green corn, vetches, or other soiling crops, wherewith to eke out the pasturage so apt to fail under the fervid heats of July. His milk pails shall still be full to overflowing, his butter and cheese rich as in June, his young stock shall grow without check, and his teams continue fat, sleek, and strong to labor. He that has no patch of green fodder for a time of need in July, may yet have one for a similar time in September. A rich bit of ground near the barn should be chosen for this purpose, and sown forthwith.

Orchards will be grateful for a stirring of the soil this month. Over-production of fruit should also be guarded against, and care taken that the trees are not broken down through being over-loaded. Now is the time for thumb-pruning of young fruit-trees, and thereby giving beauty of shape, vigor and fruitfulness to them. Budding may be done so soon as the terminal buds are well formed. Grape vines may be layered this month, and well-rooted plants obtained by winter. The duties of the garden in July are more than can be well enumerated. In fact their name is "legion"

at all times when work is practicable. Extirpation of weeds is the chief thing to be done this month. This must be thoroughly accomplished year by year. "Eternal vigilance is the price of" a garden, as well as "price of liberty."

July is the Apirian's harvest. Now, if at all, the surplus honey boxes are to be filled, and such arrangements made as will maintain stocks in full number and strength. Put on boxes forthwith, if they have not yet been supplied. Prevent late swarming, or unite two or three to make vigorous colonies. There is nothing more conducive to successful bee-keeping than to see to it that colonies are strong. Weak stocks are liable to many evils that never trouble strong ones. Some bee-keepers imagine that strong stocks consume far more honey in proportion than weak ones, and are therefore harder to winter. This, however, is a mistake, as is every other argument in favor of weak rather than strong colonies. The value of an apiary is to be estimated, not by the number, but by the weight of the hives composing it.

BLANK PLACES IN THE TURNIP FIELD.

Owing to defect in the seed, or to fly ravages, there will often be blank places in the turnip field. These to a farmer of neat instincts and habits are a great eyesore. Moreover, they involve waste of rich lands, valuable manures, and costly labor. When these blank places amount to a considerable proportion of the field, the loss of crop thereby occasioned becomes a serious item. It is therefore every way desirable that these blank places should be filled up and turned to some useful account. This may be done in a variety of ways. The best, were it practicable, would be to transplant from rows that have an excess of plants, and so occupy the vacancies and make the field complete. But this can hardly be said to be practicable, though we believe it is done to some extent by British farmers. The turnip does not transplant kindly, and only submits to the process in a humid climate, or during a remarkably wet time. Even under such conditions, the plant is checked and the bulb stunted. Mangolds are much more docile under transplantation. Indeed, during a spell of moist weather, they can be transplanted almost without their knowing it. Hence there need