

THE APPEAL KEEPS IN FRONT

BECAUSE:

- 1-It aims to publish all the news possible.
- 2-It does so impartially, wasting no words.
- 3-Its correspondents are able and energetic.

THE APPEAL

THE APPEAL STEADILY GAINS

BECAUSE:

- 1-It is the organ of ALL Afro-Americans.
- 2-It is not controlled by any ring or clique.
- 3-It asks no support but the people's.

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The Honey Bee in Hot House Gardening

How a Thrifty German Gets Cucumbers Out of Season and Makes Money.

"The one great mission of the honey-bee is fructification; the honey she may store is to interest us in her propagation."

Up-to-date horticulturists have known for years that the presence of bees among the blossoms means an increase in quantity and quality of fruit.

In some sections there has been objection raised to bees by fruit-growers who declared that they were stinging the fruit.

Those who have made a study of bees know full well that the bee has no implement with which to open a sound specimen of fruit. The hornet and wasp, both of which have sharp jaws with which to tear old bark from trees and kindred substances with which they build their nests, will frequently bite a grape, a pear, or a peach; and because a honey-bee is seen sipping the juice that runs, some fruit-growers have declared them enemies when the reverse is the case.

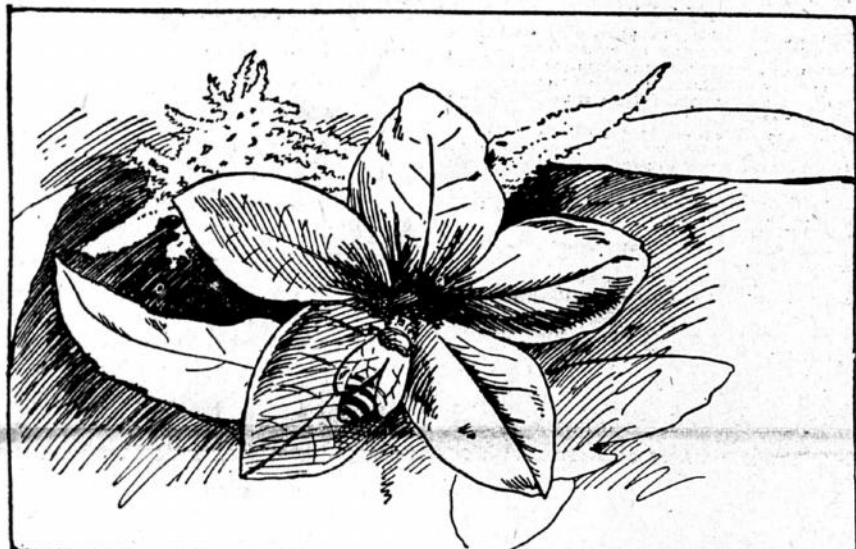
One has but to watch the busy fellows as they work from blossom to blossom, to see that, in pollinating fruit, they are the greatest of benefactors. Take, for instance, an apple-blossom. We find in it the stamens with their corresponding anthers. While it is true that the winds will, in a measure, carry the pollen from the anthers to the stamens, yet at best it is imperfectly done.

The body of a honey-bee is covered with a heavy down that plays a very

wild in old trees, will fully accomplish the purpose. When it comes however, to raising early cucumbers in a hothouse, when the vines will be blossoming before the bees are afloat, one is confronted by a serious proposition.

Mr. J. F. Becker, of Morganville, N. J., found that, if he could get a crop of cucumbers grown in hothouses so as to get them to market before those grown out in the field should arrive, he would be able to command a splendid price for them. After careful thought he determined to try the experiment of placing a hive of bees in each hothouse to see if they would pollinate the vines. Hives with strong colonies were brought, and placed in each end of each house so that the bees could fly out into the house from one hive-entrance or out of doors as they preferred. The writer visited the hothouse during April, when the blossoms covered the vines, and the noise of the bees could be distinctly heard as they went from flower to flower. So thorough did the little bees do the work required, that, with few exceptions, healthy cucumbers formed at each female blossom.

The crop that followed was enormous both as to size and quality, some specimens being a foot long, and as much as three inches in diameter. Not only were the cucumbers fine in appearance, but especially luscious were they for eating. So thoroughly did Mr. Becker succeed that he deter-



CAUGHT IN THE ACT.
(Cucumber Blossom with a Bee Scattering Pollen Upon It.)

Important part in this respect. Of course, the bee unconsciously does its work of fertilizing blossoms, its prime object being to secure the nectar secreted in the corolla; but as it buries itself deep in the blossom it carries on its downy body the fertilizing pollen, which is transmitted to the stamens.

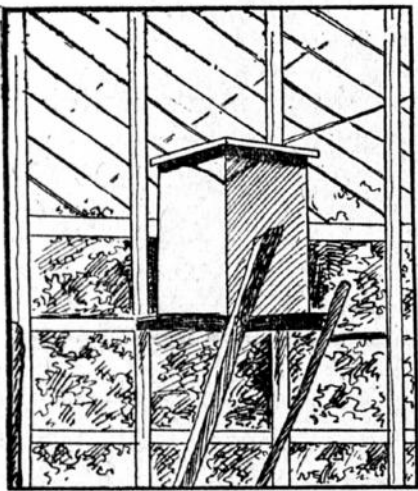
Jean Ingelwood noted the little fellows coated with pollen, and wrote:

Oh, velvet feet you're a dusty fellow!

You've powdered your legs with gold!

According to *Gleanings in Bee Culture* no state, perhaps, produces more apples and grapes than does New York, and perhaps in no other state is bee-keeping carried on so extensively. The connection between the two, therefore, is manifest.

I remember reading of a section of California where cherries were produced in enormous quantities, and incidentally bees were kept by some who were not engaged in the produc-



HIVE PLACED WITH ENTRANCE INSIDE OF GREENHOUSE.

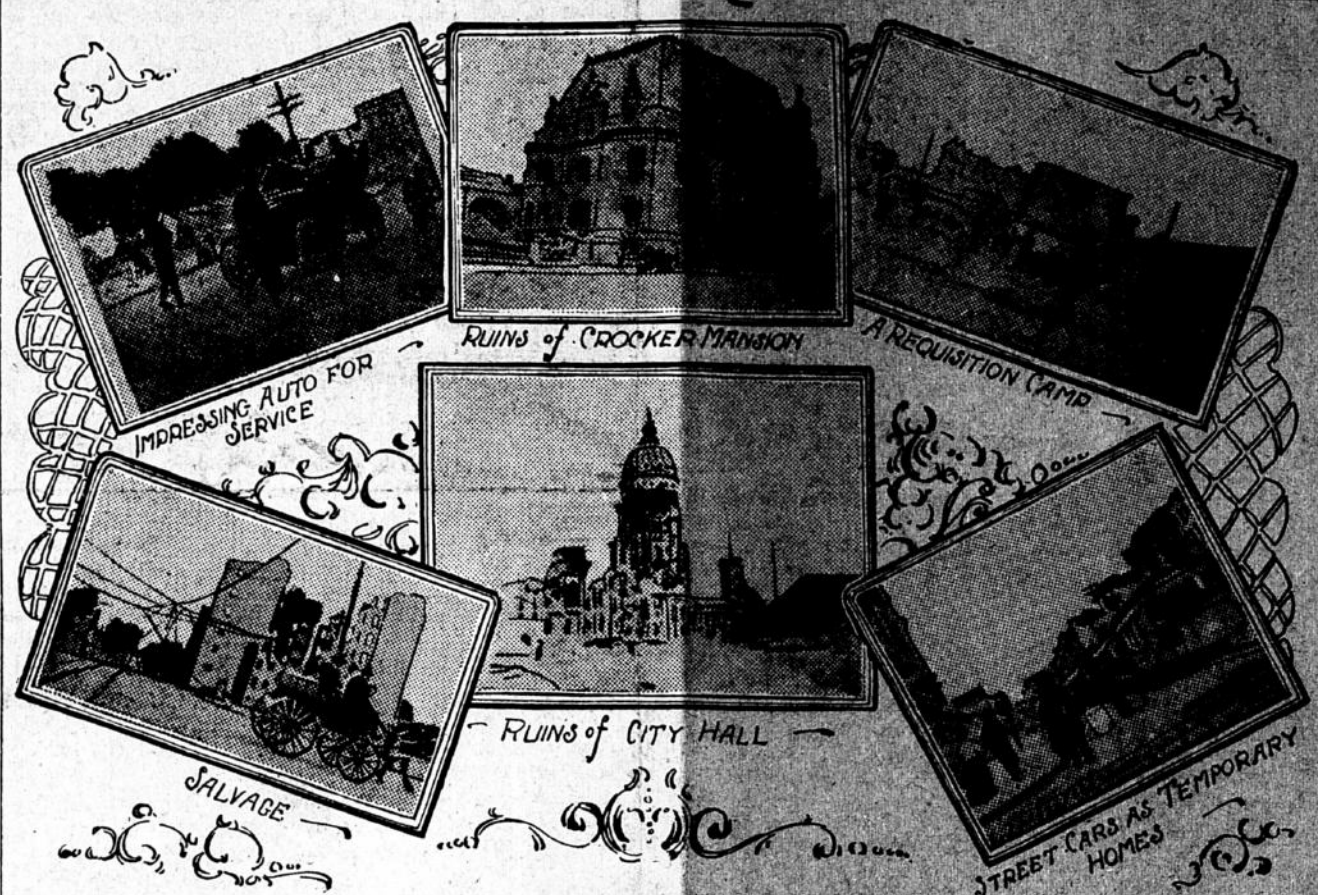
tion of fruit. For some reason a quarrel arose between the bee-keepers and the cherry-growers, who claimed the bees were stinging the fruit, with the result that the bees were shipped away. In a few months the cherry crop began to dwindle, and almost fail; and when the growers met together to consider the cause it was found that, with the sending away of the bees, the crop had begun to fail.

There happened to be one or two wise heads in the convention, who surmised the cause; and as an experiment the bees were brought back, with the result that the crop went back to its former proportions, thus showing the close relation between bees and fruit.

What is true of fruit-blossoms is also true of many others, chief of which is the cucumber. There are two distinct kinds of blossoms upon a cucumber vine—the male and female; and in order to get the fruit the pollen must be carried from the male to the female.

During the summer, when the cucumbers are grown out of doors, bees in the vicinity kept in hives, or living

AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE AND FIRE



Showing the devastation caused by the recent calamity at San Francisco. For days following the fire many families made their homes in street cars, glad even of this temporary shelter.

BEHANZIN, DEPOSED MONARCH OF DAHOMEY, REMOVED TO ALGERIA

American visitors to the charming island of Martinique will no longer be able to gratify their curiosity and pay their respects to a real living king of Africa, for Behanzin, the former king of Dahomey, has departed under the direction of the French government for Bldah, Algeria, where he will remain a prisoner, close to that other royal captive, Ranavaloa, queen of Madagascar.

King Behanzin has been interned at Fort de France since 1894 when he was captured by Gen. Dodds and the Dahomey uprising quelled. The life of the old warrior here was a sad and melancholy one notwithstanding the fact that his three wives two daughters and only son, Prince Wanlo, were his constant companions, and the further fact that his movements in Martinique were not restricted. He was free to move about the city and surrounding countryside, yet while the possibilities of escaping from the island were remote, some one, whose business it was to know, could always account for him. He was often seen driving out accompanied by his favorite wife and Prince Wanlo. Once each month he appeared at the governor's to receive the allowance made him by the French government. He always appeared in public attired in his kingly robes and invariably smoking a cigar in a very long pipe.

The government allowed him a house, too, where he and his family lived peacefully, sadly and always with with longing for his former do-



KING BEHANZIN AND TWO OF HIS WIVES.

minions. He made many requests to be returned to Dahomey, and his exiled condition moved many people to intercede for him. The local population sympathized with him, officials pleaded his cause, and for years political journals of the colony have teemed with editorials bewailing his sad position. Finally the minister for the colonies compromised and consented to his transfer to Algeria.

Behanzin never liked any of the features which other people find so charming in Martinique. When he was brought here after the end of that memorable campaign in West Africa when his warriors cut up whole companies of the French soldiery he was confined for a time in the old Fort St. Louis. It was thought he would be more reconciled if given more liberty, so he was allowed much freedom. During the volcanic disturbance of Mount Pelée, in 1902, he was very restless, and his discontent was marked during the recent seismic movements. Anything served as an excuse to ask to be sent back to his country.

Of the thousands of tourists who

came to Martinique many were more anxious to see Behanzin and hobnob with royalty than to look upon the many scenes of beauty and interest for which the island is justly celebrated. He was indeed a royal exile. The exiled king returns to Africa, but not to his own country. In Algeria he will still be an involuntary exile. People here will now be more interested in the voluntary exiles, of whom there are a number, such as former President Simon Sam, of Hayti; Lafontant, former minister of finance, and several deputies and generals, all of whom have been condemned to death by default in the Haytian republic and are here waiting the passing of President Nord before it will be safe to return to the black republic.

Behanzin's son, Prince Wanlo, is an illustration of what education can do for man. Educated in the common schools and the Lycée of Martinique, he compared favorably with his black and white fellow students in his studies, and this in a country where the standard of education is very high. Wanlo in late years was always present when the king deigned to give an audience. He is the mouthpiece of his dethroned father and translates his native tongue into beautiful French.

Of Behanzin's three wives one is his favorite, of course, the youngest. His favoritism is indicated by her constant presence at his side, and she is always seen holding an umbrella over her regal spouse. She shows her devotion, also, by holding for him a small glass dish like a finger bowl, half full of sand, always ready for such use as a smoker might have for a vessel of this kind.

is concerned is the extreme lack of privacy. At one time even her religious confessions had to be made in the presence of the king and, although this restriction has now been done away with, still the minutest detail of the day's proceedings is mapped out in advance. It is said that the queen mother seldom has more than ten minutes at her disposal during the course of the day.

In accordance with the custom of the Spanish court, the royal trossau will be exhibited for the inspection of the public. This, however, will not take place in the royal palace, which is the residence of the bridegroom elect. It has not yet been decided where the display will be made, cer-

tain buildings in the vicinity of the palace being under consideration, such is the ministry of marine, the senate or the palace of the council of state. The trossau of Queen Maria Cristina was shown in the ministry of marine, but that building is not at the moment in very good condition, and it would not be strange if another building would be chosen. The senate adjoins the marine ministry and its salons are very large. If the cortes are closed the senate building, as it offers innumerable advantages for such a show, not the least being the absence of steps to its approach. According to the usage of the Spanish court all the articles of the trossau are exhibited down even to the most intimate details of household linen, the dresses on lay figures and the jewelry and other articles in glass cases, the whole being under the care of the halberdiers.

and to her surprise she observed the same young man. She nudged her friend. "There's the young scapegrace," she whispered.

"That's the store detective," replied her companion. "He wasn't flirting with you. He thought you were a shoplifter. No wonder he followed you when you didn't buy anything."

Poor King.

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