

they renew themselves by seed, as Fennell, and other herbs. You may remove them before they put forth shanks: a good Pot-herbe.

Fennell is renewed, either by the seeds (which it beareth the second year, and so yearly in great abundance) sown in the fall or Spring; or by dividing one Root into many Sets, as Artichoke. It is long of growth and life. You may remove the root unshankt: It is exceeding good for the eyes, distilled, or any otherwise taken: it is used in dressing Hives for swarms; a very good Pot-herbe, or for Sallets.

Fether-few shakes seed. Good against a shaking Fever, taken in a posset drink fasting.

Flower-deluce, long lasting. Divide his roots, and Set: the roots dried have a sweet smell.

Garlick may be Set an handfull distance, two inches deep, in the edge of your beds. Part the head into severall cloves, and every clove, set in the latter end of *February*, will increase to a great head before *September*: good for opening, evill for eyes: when the blade is long, fast two and two together, the heads will be bigger.

Hollihock riseth high, seedeth and dyeth, the chief use I know is ornament.

Itop is reasonable long lasting: young Roots are good Set, slips better. A good pot-herbe.

July-flowers, commonly called Gilly-flowers, or Clove July-flowers, (I call them so, because they flower in *July*) they have the name of Cloves, of their sent. I may well call them the King of flowers except the Rose, & the best sort of them are called Queen-July flowers. I have of them nine or ten severall colours, and divers of them as big as Roses; of all flowers (save the Damask Rose) they are the most pleasant to sight and smell: they last not past three or four years unremoved. Take the slips (without shanks) and Set any time save in extreame frost, but especially at *Michael-tide*. Their use is much in ornament, and comforting the spirits, by the sense of smelling.

July-flowers of the wall, or wall July-flowers, Wall-flowers, or Bee-flowers, or Winter-July-flowers, because growing in the walls even in winter, and good for Bees, will grow even in stone-walls,

walls, they will seem dead in Summer, and yet revive in Winter, they yield seed plentifully, which you may sow at any time, or in any broken earth, especially on the top of a mud-wall, but moist, you may set the root before it be brancht, every slip that is not flower'd will take root, or crop him in Summer, and he will flower in Winter, but his winter seed is untimely. This and Palmes are exceeding good, and timely for Bees.

Leks yield seed the second year, unremoved: and dye, unlesse you remove them, usually to eat with Salt and Bread, as Onyons alwayes green, good pot-herb, evill for the eyes.

Lavender-spike would be removed within seven yeares, or eight at the most: slips twined, as Hysope and Sage, would take best at *Michael-tide*. This flowre is good for Bees, most comfortable for smelling, except Roses: and kept dry, is as strong after a year, as when it is gathered. The water of this is comfortable.

White *Lavender* would be removed sooner.

Lettice yields seed the first year, and dyes: sow betime; and if you would have them Cabbage for sallets, remove them as you do Cabbage. They are usuall in Sallets and in the pot.

Lillies white and red; remove once in three or four years, their roots yield many Sets, like the Garlick. *Michael-tide* is the best. They grow high, after they get root. These roots are good to break a byle, as are Mallows and Sorrel.

Mallows, French or gagged, the first or second year, seed plentifully. Sow in *March*, or before. They are good for the housewives pot, or to break a bunch.

Marigolds, most commonly come of seed, you may remove the Plants, when they be two inches long. The double Marigold, being as bigge as a little Rose, is good for shew. They are a good Pot-herbe.

Oculus Christi, or Christs-eye, seeds, and dyes the first or second year: you may remove the young Plants, but seed is better. One of these seeds put into the eye, within three or four houres will gather a thick skinne, clear the eye, and bolt it selfe forth without hurt to the eye. A good Pot-herbe.

Onyons are sown in *February*, they are gathered at *Michael-tide*, and all the Summer long, for Sallet; as also young parilly, Sage,

Sage, Chibals, Lettice, sweet Sicily, Fennell; &c. good alone, or with meat, as muttons, &c. for sawce, especially for the pot.

Parsly sow the first year, and use the next year: it seeds plentifully, an herb of much use, as sweet Sicily is. The seed and roots are good against the stone.

Parsneps require an whole plot, they be plentiful and common, sow them in *February*, the Kings (that is in the middle) seed broadest and reddest. Parsneps are sustenance for a strong stomach, not good for evil eyes: When they cover the earth, in a drought to tread the tops, makes the Roots bigger.

Penny-royall, or pudding grasse, creeps along the ground, like ground Ivy. It lasts long, like daisies, because it puts and spreads daily new roots. Divide, and remove the roots, it hath a pleasant tast and smel, good for the pot, or hacktmeat, or Haggas pudding.

Pumpions: Set Seeds with your finger, a finger deep, late in *March*, and so soon as they appear, every night if you doubt frost, cover them, and water them continually out of a water pot: they be very tender, their fruit is great and waterish.

French Poppy beareth a great flower, and the seed will make you sleep.

Raddish is sauce for cloyed stomachs, as Capers, Olives, and Cucumbers: cast the seeds all summer long here and there, and you shall have them alwayes young and fresh.

Rosemary, the grace of herbs here in England, in other Countries common. To set slips immediately after *Lammis*, is the surest way. Seed sown may prove well, so they be sown in hot weather, somewhat moyst, and good earth: for the herb, though great, is nesh and tender (as I take it) brought from hot Countries to us in the cold North: set thin, it becomes a window well. The use is much in meats, more in Physick, most for Bees.

Rue, or herb of grace, continually green, the slips are set. It lasts long, as Rosemary, Sothernwood, &c. too strong for mine Housewives pot, unlesse she will brew Ale therewith, against the plague: let them not seed if you will have him last.

Saffron, every third year his roots would be removed at *Midsummer*, for when all other herbs grow most, it dyeth. It flowreth at *Michael-tide*, and groweth all winter: keep his flowers from birds in the morning, and gather the yellow, (for they

they shape much like Lillies) dry, and after dry them: they be pretious, expelling diseases from the heart and stomach.

Savery: seeds and dyes the first year, good for my Housewives pot and pye.

Sage: set slips in *May*, and they grow aye; let it not seed, it will last the longer. The use is much and common. The Monkish proverb is *tritium*.

Cur maritum homo, cur salvia crescit in horto?

Skerots: the Roots are set when they be parted, as *Pionie*, and Flower-deluce at *Michael-tide*, the Root is but small and very sweet, I know none other special use but the Table.

Sweet *Sicely*: long lasting, pleasantly tasting, either the seed sown, or the root parted, and removed, makes increase, it is of like use with parsley.

Strawberries: long lasting, set Roots at *Michael-tide*, or the Spring, they be red, white, and green, and ripe, when they be great and soft, some by *Midsummer* with us. The use is, they will cool my Housewife well, if they be put in Wine or Creame with Sugar.

Time: both seeds, slips, and Roots are good, if it seed not, it will last three or four years or more, it smelleth comfortably. It hath much use, namely in all cold meats, it is good for Bees.

Turnep: is sown. In the second year they bear plenty of seed; they require the same time of sowing that Carrets do; they are sick of the same disease that Cabbages be. The root increaseth much, it is most wholesome, if it be sown in a good and well tempered earth; Sovereigne for eyes and bees.

I reckon these herbs onely, because I teach my Country Housewife, not skilfull Artists; and it should be an endlesse labour, and would make the matter tedious to reckon up *Land-theefe*, *Stock-Gilly-flowers*, *Charvell*, *Valerian*, *Go to bed at noon*, *Phony*, *Lycoras*, *Tansie*, *Garden mints*, *Germander*, *Centaury*, and a thousand such Physick herbs. Let her first grow cunning in this, and then she may enlarge her Garden as her skill and ability increaseth. And to help her the more, I have set down these Observations.

CHAP. IX.

Generall rules in Gardening.

IN the South parts, Gardening may be more timely, and more safely done, then with us in *Torkeshire*, because our ayre is not so favourable, nor our ground so good.

2. Secondly, most seeds shakt, by turning the good earth, are renewed, their Mother the earth keeping them in her bowels, till the Sun their Father can reach them with his heat.

3. In setting herbs, leave no top more then an handfull above the ground, nor more then a foot under the earth.

4. Twine the roots of those slips you set, if they will abide it. Gilly flowers are too tender.

5. Set moist and sowe dry.

6. Set slips without shanks at any time, except at *Midsummer*, and in frosts.

7. Seeding spoiles the most roots, as drawing the heart and sap from the root.

8. Gather for the pot and medicines, herbs tender and green, the sap being in the top, but in Winter the root is best.

9. All the herbs in the Garden for flowers would once in seven years be renewed, or soundly watered with puddle water, except *Rosemary*.

10. In all your Gardens and Orchards, banks and Seats of *Camomile*, *Penny-royall*, *Daisies* and *Violets*, are seemly and comfortable.

11. These require whole plots, *Artichokes*, *Cabbages*, *Turneps*, *Parfneps*, *Onyons*, *Carrets*, and (if you will) *Saffron* and *Skerrits*.

12. Gather all your seeds, dead, ripe, and dry.

13. Lay not dung to the roots of your herbs, as usually they do: for dung not melted is too hot even for Trees.

14. Thin setting and sowing (so the roots stand not past a foot distance) is profitable, for the herbs will like the better. Greater herbs would have more distance.

15. Set and sow herbs in their time of growth, (except at *Midsummer*

summer, for then they are too too tender) but trees in their time of rest.

16 A good Housewife may, and will gather store of herbs for the pot, about *Lammas*, and dry them, and pound them, and in winter they will do good service.

Thus have I limmed out a Garden to our Country Housewives, and given them Rules for common herbs. If any of them (as sometimes they are) be knotty, I refer them to Chap. 3. The skill and pains of weeding the Garden with weeding knives of fingers, I refer to themselves and their maids, willing them to take the opportunity after a showre of rain, withall, I advise the Mistress either to be present her selfe, or to teach her maids to know herbs from weeds.

CHAP. X.

The Husbandry of Bees.

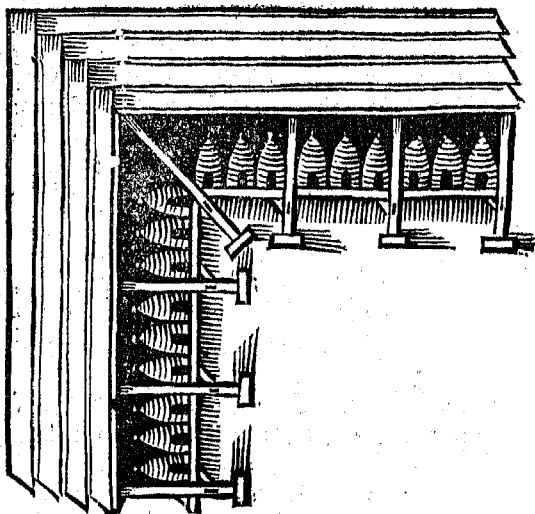
THere remaineth one necessary thing to be prescribed, which in mine opinion makes as much for ornament, as either flowers, or form, or cleanness, and I am sure as commodious as any of, or all the rest: which is *Bees*, well ordered. And I will not account her any of my good House-wives, that wanteth either *Bees*, or skilfulnesse about them. And though I know some have written well and truly, and others more plentifully upon this theme: yet somewhat have I learned by experience (being a *Bee-master* my self) which hitherto I cannot find put into writing, for which I think our House Wives will count themselves beholding unto me.

The first thing that a Gardener about *Bees* must be careful for, is an house, not stakes and stones abroad, *Sub dio*: for stakes rot and reel, Raine and weather eat your hives and covers, and cold moit of all is hurtfull for your *Bees*. Therefore you must have an house made along a sure dry wall in your Garden, near, or in your Orchard: For *Bees* love flowers and wood with their hearts.

Bee-houses.

This the form ; a Frame standing on posts with one floor (if you would have it hold more Hives, two floores) boarded, laid on bearers, and back posts covered over with boards, flat-wise.

Let the floors be without holes or clefts, left in casting time



the Bees lye out and loyter.

And though your Hives stand within an handbreadth the one of another, yet will Bees know their home.

In this frame may your Bees stand dry and warm, especially if you make doores like doores of windowes to shroud them in winter, as in an house: provided you leave the hives mouth open. I my self have devised such an house, and I find that it strengthens my Bees much, and my hives will last six to one.

Hives. Mr. *Markham* commends hives of wood ; I discommend them not : but straw hives are in use with us, and I think, with all the world, which I commend for nimblesse, closenesse, warmenesse, and drynesse. Bees love no externall motions of daubing or such like. Sometimes occasion shall be offered to list and name hives, as shall appear hereafter. One light entire hive

hive of straw, in that case, is better then one that is daubed, weighty and cumbersome. I wish every hive, for a keeping swarme, to hold three pecks at least by measure. for too little hives procure bees, in casting time, either to lye out, and loyter, or else to cast before they be ripe and strong, and so make weake swarms and untimely : whereas if they have roome sufficient, they ripen timely, and casting seasonably, are strong, and fit for labour presently. Neither would the hive be too great, for then they loyter, and waste meat and time.

Your Bees delight in wood, for feeding, especially for casting ^{Hiving of Bees.} therefore want not an Orchard. A *May's* swarm is worth a Mares Foal : if they want wood, they be in danger of flying away. Any time before *Midsummer* is good for casting, and timely; before *July* is not evill. I much like Mr. *Markham's* opinion for having a swarm in combs of a dead or forsaken hive, so they be fresh and cleanly. To think that a swarme of your own, or others, will of it self come into any such hive, is a meer conceit, *Experto crede Roberto*. His smearing with hony, is to no purpose, for the other Bees will eat it up. If your Swarm knit in the top of a tree, as they will, if the wind beat them not to fall down, let the stool or ladder prescribed in the Orchard do you service.

The lesse your Spelks are, the lesse is the wast of your hony, ^{Spelks.} and the more easly will they draw, when you take your Bees. Four Spelks athwart, and one top Spelk are sufficient. The Bees will fasten their combs to the hive. A little Hony is good, but if you want, Fennel will serve to rub your hive withall. The Hive being dress and ready spelkt, rub'd and the hole made for their passage (I use no hole in the Hive but a piece of wood hoal'd, to save the Hive and keep out mice) shake in your Bees, or the most of them (for all commonly you cannot get) the remainder will follow. Many use smoke, nettles, &c. which I utterly dislike : for Bees love not to be molested. Ringing in the time of casting is a meer fancy, violent handling of them is simply evill, because bees of all other creatures love cleanliness and peace. Therefore handle them leisurely and quietly, and their Keeper whom they know may do with them what he will without hurt : Being hived at night, bring them to their seat. Set your hives all of one year together.

Signs of breeding, if they be strong.

- 1 They will avoid dead young Bees and Droans.
- 2 They will sweat in the morning, till it run from them, always when they be strong.

Signes of casting.

- 1 They will fly Droans by reason of heat.
- 2 The young Swarme will once or twice in some faire season come forth mustring, as though they would cast, to prove themselves, and go in again.
- 3 The night before they cast, if you lay your eare to the hives mouth, you shall hear two or three, but especially one above the rest, cry, Up, up, up, or Tout, tout, tout, like a Trumpet sounding the alarum to the battel.

Much descanting there is of, and about the master Bee, and their degrees, order, and Government: but the truth in this poynt is rather imagined, then demonstrated. There are some conjectures of it, viz. wee see in the combs diverse greater houses than the rest, and we commonly hear the night before they cast, sometime one Bee, sometime two or more Bees, give a loud and several sound from the rest, and sometimes Bees of greater bodies than the common sort: but what of all this? I lean not on conjectures, but love to set down what I know to be true, and leave these things to them that love to divine.

Keep none weak, for it is hazard oftentimes with losse. Feeding will not help them: for being weak, they cannot come down to meat, or if they come down, they dye, because Bees weak cannot abide cold. If none of these, yet will the other Bees being strong, smell the honey, and come and spoyl and kill them. Some help is in casting time, to put two weak swarms together, or as *Tr. Alarkham* well saith, Let them not cast late, by raising them with wood or stone, but with imper (say I.) An impe is, three or four wreaths wrought as the Hive, the same compass, to raise the Hive withall: but by experience in tryal, I have found out a better way by Clustering, for late or weak swarms; hitherto not found out of any that I know. That is this: After casting time, if I have any stock proud, and hindred from timely casting, with former Winters poverty, or evill weather in casting time, with two handles and crooks fitted for the purpose, I turn up that stock so pe-

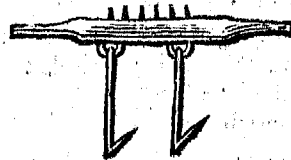
Catching.

Clustering.

stered with Bees, and set it on the crown, upon which so turned with the mouth upward. I place another empty hive well drest, and spelkt, into which without any labour, the swarm that would not depart, and cast, will presently ascend, because the old Bees have this quality (as all other breeding creatures have) to expel the young, when they have brought them up.

There will the Swarm build as kindly, as if they had of themselves been cast. But be sure you lay betwixt the Hives some straight and cleanly stick or sticks, or rather a board with holes, to keep them asunder: otherwise they will joyn their works together so fast that they cannot be parted. If you so keep them asunder at *Michael-tide*, if you like the weight of your swarme (for the goodnesse of swarmes is tryed by the weight) so caught, you may set it by for a stock to keep. Take heed in any case the combs be not broken, for then the other Bees will smell the honey, and spoyl them. This have I tryed to be very profitable for the saving of Bees.

The Instrument hath this form. The great streight piece of wood



the rest are in 6 clasps & nails, the clasps are loose in the staple, two men with two of these fastned to the Hive, will easily turn it up.

They gather not till *July*; for then they be discharged of their young, or else they are become now strong to labour, and now sap in flowres is strong and proud by reason of time, and force of Sun. And now also in the North (and not before) the heats of greatest vigour put forth their flowres; as Beans, Fennel, Burrage, &c.

The most sensible weather for them, is heat and draught, because the nest Bee can neither abide cold or wet; and showres (which they well fore-see) do interrupt their labours; unless they fall in the night, and so they further them.

After casting Time, you shall benefit your stocks much, if you help them to kill their Droans, which by all probability and judgment, are an idle kind of Bees, and wastfull. Some say they breed, and have seen young Droans in taking their honey, which I know is true. But I am of opinion that there are also Bees

which have lost their stings, and so being as it were gelded, become idle and great : there is great use of them. *Deus & natura nihil fecit frustra.* " They hate the bees, and cause them cast the
 " sooner: they never come forth, but when they be over-heated ;
 " they never come home laden. After casting time, and when the
 bees want meat, " You shall see the labouring Bees fasten on them,
 " two, three or four at once, as if they were theeves to be led to
 " the Gallows, and killing them, they cast them out, and draw
 " them far from home, as hatefull enemies. Our Hout-wife, if she
 be the Keeper of her own bees (as she had need to be) may with
 her bare hand in the heat of the day safely destroy them in the
 hives mouth. Some use towards night, in a hot day, to set before
 the mouth of the hive a thin board with little holes in it, at
 which the lesser Bees may enter, but not the Droans ; so that you
 may kill them at your pleasure.

Annoyances.

Snails spoyl them by night like theeves : they come so quietly,
 and are so fast, that the Bees fear them not ; look early and late,
 especially in a rainy or dewy evening or morning.

Mice are no lesse hurtfull, and the rather to Hives of straw :
 and therefore coverings of straw draw them : they will in either
 at the mouth, or shear themselves an hole : The remedy is good
 Cats, Rats-bane, and Watching.

The cleanly Bee hateth the smoak as poyson; therefore let your
 bees stand neerer your Garden, then your Brew-house or Kitchen.

They say Sparrowes and Swallows are enemies to Bees, but I
 see it not.

More Hives perish by Winters cold, then by all other hurts :
 for the Bee is tender and nice, and only lives in warm weather,
 and dyes in cold: And therefore let my House-wife be perswaded,
 that a warm dry house before described, is the chiefest help she
 can make her bees against this, and many more mischiefs. Many
 use against cold in Winter, to stop up their hive close, and some set
 them in houses, perswading themselves, that thereby they relieve
 their bees. First tossing, moving, is hurtfull. Secondly, in houses,
 going, knocking, & shaking is noysome. Thirdly, too much heat in
 an house is unnatural for them : But lastly, and especially, Bees
 cannot abide to be stoppt close up. For at every warme season of
 the Sunne they revive, and living eate, and eating must needs
 purge

purge abroad : in her house the cleanly Bee will not purge her
 self. Judge you what it is for any living creature, not to dis-
 burden nature. Being shut up in calme seasons, lay you ear to
 the Hive and you shall hear them yearn and yell, as so many hun-
 dred prisoners. Therefore impound not your Bees, so profitable
 and free a creature.

Let none stand above three yeeres, else the combs will be black ^{Taking of}
 and knotty, your honey will be thin and uncleanly ; and if any ^{Bees.}
 cast after three yeeres it is such as have swarms of old bees kept
 all together, which is great losse. Smoaking with Raggs, Rosen,
 or Brimstone, many use : some use drowning in a tub of cleane
 water, and the water well brew'd, will be good botchet. Draw
 out your spelks immediately with a paire of pinchers, lest the
 Wood grow soft and swell, and so will not be drawn, then must
 you cut your hive.

Let no fire come neer your honey, for fire softneth the waxe ^{Straining}
 and droffe, and makes them run with the honey. Fire softneth ^{Honey.}
 weakneth, and hindreth hony from purging. Break your combs
 small, when the dead empty combs are parted from the loaden
 combs, into a sieve, born over a great bowl, or vessel with two
 staves, and so let it run two or three dayes. The sooner you tun it
 up, the better will it purge. Run your Swarm honey by it selfe,
 and that shall be your best. The elder your Hives are, the worse is
 your honey.

Usual Vessels are of Clay, but after wood be satiated with ^{Vessels.}
 Honey (for it will leak at first : for honey is marvelously searching
 though thick, and therefore vertuous) I use it rather, because it
 will not break so soon with falls, frosts, or otherwise, and greater
 vessels of clay will hardly last.

When you use your Honey, with a spoon take off the skin
 which it hath put up.

And it is worth the regard, that bees thus used, if you have but
 forty stocks, shall yield you more commodity clearly than forty
 Acres of Ground.

And thus much may suffice, to make good Housewives love
 and have good Gardens and Bees.

Deo laus.
 FINIS.

The.



The Contents of the Country House-wifes
Garden.

Chap. 1. <i>The Soyl</i>	pag. 69	<i>Bee-house.</i>	ibid
Chap. 2. <i>Site.</i>	p. 70.	<i>Hives.</i>	p. 80
Chap. 3. <i>Form.</i>	ibid.	<i>Hiving of Bees.</i>	p. 87
Chap. 4. <i>Quantity,</i>	79.	<i>Spelkes.</i>	ibid
Chap. 5. <i>Fences.</i>	ibid.	<i>Catching.</i>	p. 88
Chap. 6. <i>Two Gardens</i>	ibid.	<i>Clustering.</i>	ibid
Chap. 7. <i>Division of herbs.</i>	79.	<i>Droans.</i>	p. 89
Chap. 8. <i>The Husbandry of</i>		<i>Annoyances.</i>	p. 90
<i>herbs.</i>	ibid.	<i>Taking of Bees.</i>	p. 91
Chap. 9. <i>General Rules.</i>	84.	<i>Straining honey.</i>	ibid
Chap. 10. <i>The Husbandry of</i>		<i>Vessels.</i>	ibid
<i>Bees.</i>	p. 85.		