

wings. The bees of a swarm are in a great hurry if their queen is ready to lay. In this case they give to their new cells but part of the depth they are to have, and defer the finishing them till they have traced the number of cells requisite for the present time. When, by any accident the queen dies, the bees of her hive immediately cease working, consume their own honey, fly about their own and other hives at unusual hours, when other bees are at rest, and pine away if not soon supplied with another sovereign. Her loss is proclaimed by a clear and uninterrupted humming; but if they procure another queen, even from any other hive or swarm, the flock instantly revives, pleasure and activity are apparent through the whole hive; the presence of a sovereign restores vigour and exertion, and her voice commands universal respect and obedience.

In the space of a few weeks, the number of the inhabitants in one hive, of moderate size, becomes so great, that there is no place to contain the new comers. While there is room enough in the hive, they remain quietly together; but necessity compels a separation. Sometimes the young brood refuse to depart, and even venture to resist their progenitors.

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