

per cells for the reception of the rising progeny, and protecting them from external danger, employ their unceasing industry. But soon after, and towards the latter end of summer, when the colony is sufficiently stored with inhabitants, the drone bees are marked for slaughter, and soon destroyed.

When the flowers that are near home are rifled, then are these industrious insects seen taking more extensive ranges, but if they are obliged, in quest of honey, to go too far from home, they are over-wearied in the pursuit, devoured by birds, or beaten down by the winds and rain. From a knowledge of this, in some parts of France and Piedmont, they have contrived a kind of floating bee-house, containing a number of hives, with which they gently float down the sides of the river.

Besides the capital instincts which we have already mentioned, bees are possessed of others, some of which are equally necessary for their preservation and happiness. They anxiously provide against the entrance of insects into the hive, by gluing up with wax the smallest holes in the skep. Some stand as centinels at the mouth of the hive, to prevent insects of any kind from coming in that way; but if a snail,

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