

or any other large insect, should get in, notwithstanding all resistance, they sting it to death; and then cover it over with a coat of propolis, to prevent the effects of a bad smell, or maggots, which might proceed from its putrefaction. They seem also to be warned of the approach of bad weather by some particular feeling. It sometimes happens, even when they are very assiduous and busy, that they suddenly cease from their work; not a single one stirs out, and those that are abroad hurry home in such prodigious crowds, that the doors of their habitations are too small to admit them. On this occasion look up to the sky, and you will soon discover some of those black clouds which denote impending rain. Whether they see the clouds gathering for it, as some imagine, or whether they feel some other effects of it upon their bodies, is not yet determined; but it is alledged, that no bee is ever caught, even in what we call a sudden shower, unless it have been at a very great distance from the hive, or been before injured by some accident, or be sickly and unable to fly as fast as the rest. Cold is a very great enemy to them: to defend themselves against its effects during a hard winter, they crowd together in the middle of the hive,