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# **Little Creatures About Our** Homes By LE ROY WELD X.-Honey Makers and Their Kindred.

HE order hymenopters, or mem-brane winged insects, includes

the most intelligent of all the class insects. Although there are more than 20,000 species included in this order, we shall speak of but very few of the best known. The ant. the most intelligent of all, has been given a separate article. The honeybee given a separate article. The honeybee is probably the best known and the most useful. Some moderately warm day, about 10 a. m., place a few drops of honey on a clean blue dish, as bees are attracted most by that color, and carry it near the hive. Some bee will find your honey in a short time and fill her crop. She will then fly away to the hive, but will return for more honey as soon as she has deposited her first supply in the comb. She will make a trip every fifteen or twenty minutes. and you will have plenty of time to study her and other bees which may find the honey through her assistance. There is little danger of being stung. Bees seldom sting those who feed them. They soon learn to know you, and when they find that you intend no harm you are safe from their stings. The worker, or undeveloped female, the only bee which leaves the bive in search of food and other necessaries has four transparent wings, with no wing covers, as in beetles. The front pair of wings is the larger, and all of them move with great rapidity in flight -190 times a second. The eyes are large and compound, being composed of a great number of simple eyes, but these composite eyes seem to be fitted for long vision only. When inden with material for the

hive, they fly with great rapidity in a straight line toward home; hence the saying "straight as a bee line." At the hive, however, they are obliged to feel their way in. Two jointed antennze, or feelers, project from the head. These neem to guide them about the hive, and some writers claim that they communicate with each other by

and hang in the same way, and so on until a cluster of bees is formed sometimes weighing three or four pounds Here they remain for about twentytween the segments of the abdomen. One bee detaches herself from the cluster, climbs to the top of the hive, turns herself around several times to crowd the bees out of the way and begins to pick the wax off her abdomen and form it into a little lump. Another bee soon takes her place, then plate of wax hangs where the bees were. Cells for brood and honey are next begun on both sides of this plate. A few bees are detailed to feed and care for the queen. A few more ventilate the hive by fixing themselves with their heads toward and near the entrance and moving their wings as in flight. In this manuer they create a current of pure air throughout the hive. Still another detachment is en-gaged in guarding the entrance against marauders

When the bees have finished a large brood comb, the queen begins to lay eggs at the rate of about 200 a day, placing one egg in each cell. All these eggs will produce workers. After con-tinuing this process for about a month or six weeks she begins to lay male eggs in the larger cells, stopping once in two or three days to place a female egg in one of the royal cells. If from any cause the queen should be re-moved from the hive when there are no eggs or larvæ in the royal cells, the bees at once enlarge a worker cell and feed the larva on royal jelly instead of the pollen, etc., given to the worker larve. The larva develops into a queen, and the life of the colony is again insured. Should there be no worker eggs or very young larvæ in the comb the bees become distracted, quit work, wander about aimlessly and soon die or are destroyed by their enemies. If things move on normally, the first egg placed in a royal cell is hatched, passes through the larval and pupal stages and becomes fully developed and ready for liberation in sixteen days. The old queen then becomes restless and wan-ders about in search of the young princess. The bees stand guard over her and close up the cell so that she can and close up the cell so that she can-not escape. They keep the old queen away from the royal cells or her sting would soon put an end to all life there. On the first fine day the old queen, with a large number of the bees, leaves the hive and seeks a new home. The young queen is now allowed to come forth from her cell, and if the swarm

# CHOICE MISCELLANY

# Cost of England's Wars.

If we coasider total expenditure, the four hours, when the wax begins to South African war is the most expen-goze out from under the scales be sive war that England has ever waged, with the stagle exception of the twenty-three years' war with France (1798-1815), the great cost of which was nearly four times that of the South African war. The Boer war, however, will have cost over twice as much as the war with the American colonies, two and a half times as much as the another and another until a large, thin Seven Years' war, more than three times the cost of the Crimean war and from four to fifty times that of any of the other wars. Taking the duration of the wars into consideration, the South African war is by far the most costly war that Great Britain has ever been engaged in. The average annual cost of the Boer war is over £53,-000,000. The war with France (1793-1815) cost £36,150,000 per year, or about 68 per cent of the annual cost of the South African war; the Crimean war cost about £35,000,000, or 65 per cent; the Seven Years' war and the war with the American colonies cost each less than 20 per cent, and no other war has come up to one-tenth of the average annual cost of the South African war. - "Annals of American Academy."

# The Paper of Today.

Only paper of the very best quality s now made from rags, the bulk of that employed for newspaper and book work being manufactured from wood pulp. Other materials are also coming into use to meet the enormous demand by down the lines of the arbitration for paper, and plants which were at one time supposed to be of no econ le importance are contributing their fiber to the manufacture. Among the new materials may be named bagasse, the refuse of the sugar mills, formerly a waste product save that it was em ployed for fuel. Rice straw, long only used as bedding for cattle, is also en listed in the service of the paper maker. In the meantime protests are being raised against the quality of the paper, made from these substitutes for rags. It answers the purpose of ephemeral It answers the purpose of ephemeral literature, but there is good reason to believe that it rapidly deteriorates and that books made of it will have but a short life. It is somewhat humiliating for us to have to acknowledge that our modern documents cannot compare in permanence with those written on Egyptian papyrus before our own his-torical period began.—Chambers' Journal.

proval at the next meeting at Louisville,

THE BELLS OF NINETEEN-TWO. an for The Free Press. The wheels of Time are rolling round,

Ring out the old, ring in the new; We almost feel the mighty bound That takes from us our Nineteen-tw Dear Bells, that ring so swert and low,

Ring out the . Id, nir g in the new; Strike high, and break the clouds or w.e. That shadowed hear's i. Nincteen-two. Send love to homes with broken ties,

Ring out the old, ring in the new; Lift up the heart of bitter sighs, Ring tender tones for Nineteen two

To every sin-sick, sorrowing soul, Ring out the old, ring in the news New life, by Jesus' blood made who e, Bing out the dark of Ninsteen-two.

The God of love, who holds the keys Bings out the old, sings in the new; He calls for help in Ninstean-three To save the lost of Ninstean-two.

MRS. B. W. HATCHN Rigston, N. C., Doc. 31, 1900.

ALL WAITS ON CASTRO.

The Cabinet Diseases the Question of the Best Way of Terminating the Blockade. Washington, Dec. 30.-President Cas-ro's answer to the allies' proposal to arhitrate the Venezuelan troub es has not been received. In fact Secretary May had nothing of importance on the Vene-spelan situation to communicate to the cabinet. There are, however, under die uss on such questions as those relating to the best means of terminating the blockade and other matters touching the personnel of the commission, which s expected will meet in Washington to cheme.

Caracas, Dec. 80 .- President Castro ar rived here this morning. At 8 o'clock this afternoon Minister Bowen called upon the president and communicated the recommendation that the issues be-tween Varsuels and the allies be taken into the court at The Hague. Venesuels's answer will be received tomorrow at 11

The victory gained by the government at Barquisimeto argues for President Castro's continu .nee in power.

Tobacco Grower's Org also Against The

Lezington, Ky., Dec. 30 .- The State Executive Commission of the Kentucky T barco Grower's Association met have tonight and appointed a committee to Iraft articles of incorporation for apIN DARK MYSTERY.

2 tales

The Corpse of Policeman Rogers Found After Eight Works Disappearance. Durham, N. C., Dec. 30 .- News reached here tonight that the remains of John Rogers, a policeman, who disappeared from his home at Virailina, on the Nor folk and Western road, some eight weeks ago, were found near that station on Saturday by a party of hunters. The body was so had y decomposed that

recognition was only possible by the weapons and clothes of the decensed. The story told me tonight is that about eight weeks ago a negro was killed in Virgiline. His body was found next morning and with the finding of the body officer John Rogers disappeared. It was generally supposed that Rogers killed him. Rogers had money in the bank and it was found that this had been taken from deposis.

Later, members of his family received Later, demoters of his family received a letter stating that Rogers had gone to Asteville and that he would not write again, and for them not to be measy. This prevented any uncasiness on the part of the family until the dead body was found Saturday by hunters. The supposition is that Rogers killed the n-gro, drew out his money and attemptd to get out of the country, but that be negro, killed and then robbed. The same authority makes the statement that Rogers was engaged to a well-known young lady in this community. The

whole matter is wrapped in mystery. The story is told by a prominent citi-sen living in that section. It is impossi-ble to verify tonight on account of there retta anolis e unco deargante on galed dark.

# A Thirteen Cent stamp.

The thirteen cent stamp is not only ew in design but is also new as to de mination. Heretofore the traditio unlacky thirteen has been skipped by Uncle Sam, but now it is desmed econom ical and convenient to have a baker's tosen. Foreign postage almost demand ed it. In the past in order to secure a proper amount for foreign postage (5 cente) and registration (8 cents), it re-quired more than a sectamp on an envelope or package. Two stamps, the five and the sight, or the three and the ten, were the least that could be used, out now only the new issue is all that is PONDATT.



Judge Robert B. Peebles' first court will be held in New Hanover county the irst Monday of the new year. The term will be for the trial of criminal cases only. Raleigh News-Observer: The State

Carolina Exchanges.

treasurer is busy these days cashing pen-sion warrants, at the rate of ten to fifteen thousand dollars a day. It is thought that all will be in by January 15th.

A tannie acid factory and tannery will soon be erected at Brevard. The or pany has purchased 9,000 acres of tim-bered mountain land, and expect to use was run down by the friends of the dead 10,000 cords of oak wood per year in their operations.

Tarboro Southerner: At Pinetop two sbooting affrays occurred, one Sa and the other Monday. In the fight, one colored man was shot through the nose and another in the head. In the secon one was shot twice or more in the mo and once in the cheet, and so seriously wounded that it is believed he will die Both parties to this second affray were olored.

A special from Newton, 30th, says: Last night, the young child of W. E. Houser, colored, a brick manufacturer, was accidentally killed. The child was about five years old and had been given a toy pistol which fired shot. It pinced the pistol near to one sys and fired it. The shot passed through the eye and penetrated the brain, causing death. The pistol was fired by compressed air or a spring and was not considered especial. le dangerous.

Asheville special to Baleigh Post: News reached here Tuesday from Balsam Mountain that Rufus Jones is in a dying B as a result of stab wounds ceived at the hands of "Mont" Duncan. Jones and Mont Duncan got into a fight bears the picture of the late ex Pie-ident Christmas day at their homes. Jones was struck by Duncan above the left car with a knife. The blade penetrated his head and broke off and remained in the man's skull until Monday evening when it was removed by Dr. Way of Waynesville, and the skull trepanned. Duncau has not been arrested. Elizabeth City Tar Heel: Mr. C. H. Brock, of Powell's Point, Currituck. county, was a caller this week. Mr. Brock, who is a prominent merchant, entertained us highly on the greatness of the wild goose country. He said that one man, in three, recently killed over one hundred dollars worth of wild de This, of course, was exceptional, but Mr. Brock says that the gunning industry of Curritnek is a source of immense revenue. Sometimes there is rarely a minute in the day but that one can hear the report of one or more guns, which sound is like distant cannonading on a battlefield. Goldsboro Argus, 29: Jonas Wilson, a white man living in the Buck Swampe tion of this county, come to the city this morning with his lefs arm in a sling to stand trial in two cases for assault with a deadly weapon. It seems that Wilson got somewhat rowdy about Wristman and had some trouble with his the and his nephew, George Garris, both of had secured warrants for Wilson. When he appeared for trial this morning his accusers were not present and he tol Justice Broadhurst about a shootin scrape which took place on Friday night. Wilson said that he retired as usual at some on Friday sight and that he was wakened during the night by some one knocking at his door. He got up and went to the door and was met by a voley from a shot gun. The whole los hot took effect in his left fore-arm, which was badly lacerated.

body is made up of three distinct parts, head, thorax and abdomen. Two pairs of wings and three pairs of legs are attached to the thorax, while

the abdomen has no appendages. In the middle portion of the hind legs is a nearly triangular cavity, surrounded by thickly set stiff hairs, forming a sort of basket, in which hive material is carried. The ends of the feet are supplied with little books. The other four feet are furnished with little hair-brushes used in collecting pollen, etc., and the end of the abdomen is armed with a sting. The males have no sting. The mouth has a tonguelike proboscis for lapping up the nectar of flowers. The bee has two stomachs, the first being a sort of crop in which the honey undergoes a chemical change not well under-stood. Digestion takes place in the

In a swarm there are three class of been-males, females and workers. The workers were formerly known as neuters, but they are now known to be undeveloped females. There is but one perfect female in a swarm, and the perfect tenance in a swarm, and abe is called the queen. The number of workers varies from a few hun-dreds to 40.000. The number of males is usually one to about thirty work-ers during the fore part of the sum-

ers during the fore part of the sum-mer. Later every male is either driven out of the hive or killed. The queets tays all of the eggs and is frequently the mother of nearly all of the swarm. She is much larger than the workers and somewhat longer than the males or drones. The or do no work, but are cared for by the workers. They have no use but to perpetuate the species. The workers clean out the hive, collect the food and other material, feed and nurse the

and other material, feed and nurse the young, build the comb, stock the hive with honey, ventilate the hive, guard against intruders, fight all the bat-tiles and do everything that is done about their well ordered home. Upon encoring a new live the bees carefully examine its interior, and if any cracks are found they accure ma-terial for cementing them so that cold winds and maranding inacts may be kept out. The workers go to the sticky bats of the poplar and various plants, eather the guos and ill every chink. If you put in a gians window, they will cover that, foo, wills this mine waxy substances, called propolis, for they do not like the light. During the first

s that had a pleatiful supply

is too weak to send off another swarm she is allowed to kill the remaining princesses in their cells. After a few days she leaves the hive and, with the drones, takes a flight in the air, returning in about half an hour to repeat the life of her mother.

The common bumblebee is also social in its habits, but the number in a single colony is very small, usually from ten to thirty. Their mission seems to be to carry pollen from male to female flowers like, their more aristocratic cousins, the honeybees. Their nests are built in the ground, and all drones and workers die in the fall, only the queen hibernating or living over to the following season. There may be more than one queen in a colony. There are several species of solitary

bees. These bees are of but two classes, males and females, the latter doing all the work. The female con-structs from one to a dosen cells, ac-cording to the species, in earth, clay or wood, and deposits in each an egg and a supply of pollen and sometimes a little honey for food for the grab. There are two groups of waspe, the solitary and the social. Of the so-cial group the compoon hornet is a good example. The social waspe live in calonies of from 100 to 500 mem-bers and consist of makes, females and workers, as do the bess. The fe-makes and worksits all have powerful stags, which they use on the least provocation. All except a few young queens, die on the approach of winter. Each of these queens constructs a few cells in the spring and lays an egg ib each. These soon batch, and the doing all the work. The female con each. These soon batch, and the mother supplies them with food. They are all workers, and when mature relieve the queen mother of further abor. Additional broods increase the number rapidly. The males and perrect remains are not hatched until late in the sensor. Some species build their nests in the ground, others on the branches of trees or the timbers of buildings. The nests of the tree wasps are very ingeniously built of pulp made. from wood resembling paper. (Copyright, '80, by Lewis D. Samps

Drag Thele Entries. The habit of drugging their babies a but they can be left alone in very con-ton in Ludia among motifiest very conon in India among mothers who work i factories. In the city of Madras the faut mortality is given as 255 per

takip and Epiteptic Fits arkable historical fact wh in millioni by p.

# Usefal Light.

Stationed off the island of Islay, on the west coast of Scotland, at the Otter rock, there is an interesting and novel lightship, which is described in Cassell's Magazine.

It is unmanned, yet it can be relied on to display the warning light to guide the mariner on this dangerous coast. It is a very ingeniously constructed vessel and the only one of its kind in existence. In its two steel tanks sufficient gas can be stored to supply the vessel for several months. Experiments have shown that the light may be depended upon to burn continuously for months at a time. The approximate duration of the light can always be predetermined, and there is no danger whatever of the light being extinguished either by wind or spray. The light is visible at a distance of eight to twelve miles. The lightship also has a bell which is made to ring automatically by means of an ingeni-ous device which utilizes the gas as it passes from the tanks to the lantern to work the bell clapper. The light is not interfered with in the slightest degree y the device for striking the bell.

Cat Perty-two Years Old. Herr Pohl, profident of the German Society For the Protection of Cata, has not published the results of his laves lightion in regard to the age which it is possible for these animals to attain. Cais, he says, are like human beings one remeet. The more peaceful and in one respect. The more peaceful and better regulated their life is the longer they are likely to liver As a proof he points out that a favorite cat in the royal castle of Nymphenburg has lived to be forty-two years old and consequently may fairly claim to be consid-ared the dean of cats in Germany. That this remarkable animal has still

ome youth in her is evident from the fact that she gave birth to a kitten two years ago. Moreover, the kitten thrived wonderfully and attracted much atten-tion when it was exhibited at the exposition in Breslau.

Plat Destroy Lotus Bods. The beautiful Egyptian lotus holds which for the past quarter of a con-tary have lined the extreme westerly shores of Lake Eric from Monroe, Mich., to Point Place are threatened with complete annihilation by fish-mys the Chickmant Enquirer. At the present rate of destruction, which has been going on for the past five years, it is said by good authorities that not a single totus bed will exist in the lo-cality within the sent three years. The cuto has found that the roots and tp has found that the f the latus make apl which

January 29. This association proposto fight the so called tobacco trust, buylog the leaf from the grower. Before in corporation it is necessary that forty thousand growers become members. It was stated tonight that this number would be signers before the meeting Jan uary 25 Organizations have been formed in almost every county in the State and in many counties of Ohio and Indiana.

> pertains to the White Burly district. Th capital stock will be \$1 000,000.

I he association is a tri-State affair and

Moody Claims a Fair Count Gives Him 600 Majority.

Asheville, N. C., Dec. 30 .- Cong Moody is here in conference with his at torneys and others relative to biscontest with Mr. Gudger. He asserts that when property madjusted and counted by a bunni it will be shown that he he a majority of 800 over his opponent. His apprint that in Blitmore precinct the egistration was in Bagrant violation of registration was in ingrant violation of law and that the registration and poll books have been ion, dostroyed or stolen, has excited peculiar interest from the fact that Biltmore is a part of the George Fanderbills catate and that most of t antate employee went there to cast their ballots. Chas. McNamer, Mr. Vander-bilt's manager, was among the very active Republican workers at Biltmore.

Features of the Century. Cowless butter, motherless shickens, oresisse carriages and bloodless eurery.

What Court Dress Is. "Full court dress" consists in England of either a black veivet aui, while knee breeches or a plum colored chain with with trousers. Both costumes ar of modern invention, supers day th inpped conts of many colors and am. idered waistcoats, and are un.a creating if hudfensive.

Magnu Charta. Magnu Charta the great charter of Englishmen's libertles, is preserved in the Pritish moseum. It is somewhat stained by time, but King John's scal and name are still quite legible at the othin of It.

Queer Church Ornament. A queer church ornament is a fiddl and here weithercock which swings to he wind on Great Gemersby church realises, Regland. The ch b and who fit

The thirteen cent stamp is smaller than" the two and is of a brownish color. It Benjamin Harrison.

# Death to Typhoid Germa.

f hicago, Dec. 29 .- That lemon juice vill destroy the typhoid germs in water authorativ-ly announced by the Chiago health ... partment, after careful experiments . stending over the last three 9.78.

One te spoonful of the julce to half a lassful of water is known to be a good ombination, and repeated trials have avariably produced the same resultvery perm was killed.

The investigations followed and their waults cohfirm the announcement made on Christmas Day by Dr. Asa Ferguson, a London physician, to the effect that lemon juice was a deadly for to typhoid.

## The Vedder Ayres Matter.

Raleigh, Des. 29.-Commissioner Willia of Charleston, S. C., Mr. Bayins Cade, of Warnerville, and Mr. Isler, of Goldeboro are here examining the records regarding Vedder Ayres lands in this State. These lands are in Jones county. The commis-sioners were appointed by the govern-ment to conduct the unit for the State and the Vedder Ayres beirs, as there has been contest regarding these lands.

Against the Texas Forer. Washington, Dec. 30.-The secretary of agriculture has issued the annual or ders quarantining against a number of of the southern or Texas fever. The mara tine against Terms and Ohinhs ma le a month earlier, this year taking ff et January 1, but it is not operativ valuet the other states until February 1. Except in this respect the provisions of the order are identical with that in previous years The prescribed territory includes Arkansas, Tennessee, Virginia and all south of them.

Sheriff Oasted From Office. Sullivan, Ind., Dec. 29 -- Gov. Durbin ha otified Sherif John S. Dudley that he is o longer to cousider himmil a public of lo r because be permitted a mob to take a prisoner from him and lynch him. Dadley has announced his determined ion to context the constitutionality

be statute.

# A Good Thing.

German Syrup is the special pro-on of Pr. A. Bosches, a calabrate as physician, and is acknowledge one of the most fortunate disc ion of iv. A. Bonan physician, se one of the me a medicine. It quickly curve for a medicine. It quickly curve for olds and all Lung troubles of the st name, recovering, as it does, the of the affection and leaving the part a strong and healthy condition. the state of the test of years, given in the very case, which which wanting take over season of the fillion bottles and annual Ayrap wa