

but this food must be considered as exceptional. The young are probably fed entirely upon animal matter. As a typical example of wasps, there is no better than the large black and white species so common here, which builds the large oval paper nests which may be often seen hanging to trees, shrubs and sheds, and which are generally spoken of in this country under the name of "Hornets." The true Hornet, however, is a very large and exceedingly venomous tawny species found in Europe, and which, strange to say, has in some way been imported into the State of New Jersey, where Prof. J. B. Smith tells me that in some places it is not uncommon. Even in the case of wasps which are useful insects which destroy many injurious species, the sting is not produced on all occasions and without provocation. Unless molested or when their nests are interfered with, our wasps and, even the formidable European hornet, will seldom sting. It is claimed by one of our members that even when by accident he had broken down the nest of a colony of wasps, by standing perfectly still until the insects had settled down, and then moving away very quietly, he has escaped without a single sting. It must be acknowledged, however, that it requires a good deal of coolness and pluck to carry out such a programme. The Social wasps live in colonies similar in many ways to those of the honey bee, consisting of males, females and workers. The winter, however, is passed by the queens or impregnated females only, all the males and workers dying before winter. In the spring each female starts a new nest, and all of the first young produced are workers, who soon build up a new colony. Perfect males and females appear towards winter. Wasps, as a class of insects, are divided into first, the *True Wasps* which have the fore wings folded lengthwise when not in use. Here we find not only the large black and white wasp mentioned, but also the Yellow-jackets, which are social in habit, and a large number of solitary wasps, in which only males and females are developed; and secondly, the *Diggers*, which are always solitary, including the Carpenter, Mining, Digging and Mason wasps.

All bees belong to a super-family known as the *Apoidea*, in which we find social or solitary species with the tongue long or short, and the hind legs or the under side of their bodies furnished with brushes for carrying pollen. Bees of all kinds are very beneficial from the good work they do in cross-fertilizing the flowers of fruit and other trees while visiting them to gather nectar or pollen. The two most conspicuous divisions of the bees are the Honey Bees and the Bumble Bees. These latter are social in their habits in a similar way to the Wasps,