

dreds of colonies in the woods, and but very few of them were lined the distance of a mile. At this distance the line would lead through open fields and brush lots. During the past two seasons my apiary has consisted of 19 colonies of Italians. When at work in the fields, traveling the highway, picking wild berries on the mountain where golden-rod, aster, pinks, old field balsam etc., grew in profusion, I kept strict watch, and not an Italian bee was seen at the distance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the apiary. One mile seemed to be about the limit of their search, and but very few were observed at this distance.—Farm and Home.

There is no greater mistake than that bees will only go a mile or less for pasture, we have known bees to gather buckwheat honey from between two and three miles from the apiary, and store the hive full of it, when not a stock of buckwheat grew any nearer the apiary. We have lined bees over three miles to trees in the woods, and we have lined bees 4 miles to our own apiary, in times of scarcity. When we were traveling in the east, in the interests of bee-keeping, we took special pains to observe the distances bees would go, and the following very striking illustration occurred showing how far bees would sometimes fly. At Bethlehem, there were a great many bees kept on the roof of a monastery, from appearances, there were some hundreds of colonies. As we rode along there was a continuous stream of bees passing down the valley. The lane on either side seemed to yield no bee pasture and in fact, very little of anything, no trees, and very few shrubs. But away to the right, what was termed the edge of the wilderness of Judea, was a kind of sandy shale, very hilly, with here and there a little water trickling down into this valley, and as our route lay in that direction for about eight miles, we tracked the bees going and coming directly from the apiary on the roof of the monastery, which could be plainly seen from a great many points along the route. After we had gone perhaps from four to six miles, the bees were not quite so plentiful, but still quite a number continually passed us laden with honey. We watched them as far as the eye could see and that was very much further than we can see in this country, and are confident they were the Bethlehem bees. Some of them must have gone from eight to ten miles, which was a great surprise to us as we had no idea

before that bees ever travelled so far in search of stores. As the water dried up, and the flowers quit yielding in the vicinity of Bethlehem, the pasture kept getting farther off and the little workers continued their course downwards, tempted along mile after mile, and day after day, by the yield of nectar in the flowers further down the valley. We recollect of friend Doolittle or some other bee-keeper telling about bees following up the side of the mountain or height of land perhaps from four to six miles, until they had gathered a quantity of honey.

THAT WONDERFUL PUNIC BEE.

The writer in the American Bee Journal signing himself "Veritas" deals with a Hallamshire Bee-Keeper's new breed of honey bee in the following sascastic strain:

Hurrah! The bee-keepers' millenium has dawned, and with that dawning has faded the vision of *Apis Americana*. We old fellows who have worked for a quarter of a century to develop the good and eliminate the bad from what was supposed to be the best honey-bee on earth (excepting, perhaps, *Apis dorsata*, which was not getatable), might as well hang up our horns. Is it not strange that a thing may be so plain before our eyes and yet we do not see it until some one calls our attention to it, and that one generally from a distance.

It is all plain now. The punic bee originated during the second Punic war, and was a cross between the African pissmire and the Roman mosquito. They retain all the indomitable energy of the pissmire, with the strength of wing of the mosquito.

The centuries have come, and the centuries gone, and Punic remained in the dark, because the bee was dark, and was in the "Dark Continent." But the bustling bee-keepers of America will care less for the origin of a thing than for prospective results. I must be very brief, for I am excited, and in a great hurry to start for Hallamshire for two or three of those wonderful queens, and I expect at least a dozen fellows will get the start of me.

Why, my head fairly swims, and you must make some allowance for this article.

Let us see, a colony will increase to twenty, and give 1,000 pounds of the nicest honey in one season. The second year, to 400, and give 20,000 pounds. The third year, to 8,000 colonies and give 8,000,000 pounds of honey.

O, shades of Colvin, Cary and Quinby! why did you not get the "Punic" instead of the "yellow jackets." By this time we might have had 100 colonies for each man, woman and child in the United States and Canada.

In a private note from a friend in Europe, in answer to questions regarding the qualities of the Punic or African