

any other known race. When storing honey, Cyprians fill the cells quite full before sealing, and thus the cappings rest against the honey, preventing a semi-transparent and 'watery' appearance, which is undesirable. They are extremely sensitive, hence easily angered by rough or bungling manipulations; and when once thoroughly aroused, are very energetic in the use of their stings. These faults have caused a very general rejection of Cyprians, especially by those who produce comb honey. Even the producers of extracted honey do not seem to have learned how to manipulate Cyprians easily and without the use of much smoke, nor how much more rapidly they could free their extracting combs from Cyprian bees than from Italians." Again Mr. Benton remarks: "It would be easier by selection in breeding to reduce the faults of this race than to bring any other cultivated race to their equal in the other desirable points."

Then follows a minute description of these bees, which should be valuable. But, while recognizing that Mr. Benton should be in a position to know the traits of the Cyprian bees, he was sent out there by Mr. Jones, and had a somewhat extensive experience, yet we were at the time a student with Mr. Jones, and the Cyprians he sent to Beeton were difficult to handle, so easily aroused that a careful bee-keeper could often not control them. They were very prolific, and the result of their labors went in the direction of bees rather than surplus honey. One colony gathering 1,000 pounds of honey may be correct, but that even number and the size gives it a suspicious look. One trait Mr. Benton has not mentioned is the large number of queen cells they build. The only time we like to have the Cyprian or their crosses in the apiary is when we want queen cells. We doubt if there is a half Cyprian bee to-day on the American continent, and they certainly were received with open arms. Why then so universally discarded? Mr. Benton prefers Italians to the common brown or black bee. Of Carniolans

Mr. Benton says "These, the gray bees from the elevated Alpine Province of Carniola, Austria, are the gentlest of all races, and as, besides their other good qualities, they winter the best of any, it is not surprising to see that they have steadily grown in favor. Their sealed combs are exceedingly white, as they do not fill the cells so full that the honey touches the capping, and they gather little propolis, qualities highly appreciated by the producer of comb honey. They are quite prolific, and if kept in small hives, such as have been popularized of late in the United States, are somewhat more inclined to swarm than the other races introduced here. This tendency becomes more pronounced when they are taken in a country whose summers are hot, like ours, and they have been bred for centuries with only slight introduction of outside blood, in a climate where the summers are short and cool. Moreover, the practice in Carniola is to place the long, shallow hives used almost exclusively there in beehouses, and side by side, one above the other, with intervening air spaces, so that at most, only the front ends are exposed to the sun. This management, long continued, has doubtless tended to develop and fix more or less permanently in this race certain characteristics which should be taken into account in their management elsewhere."

We think the above an excellent description of the traits of the Carniolans, and we think with proper management the Carniolan bees are yet bound to come to the front.

After speaking of the natural history of the bee, Mr. Benton passes on to the manipulation, and gives some very good hints in this direction, which can also be found in any good standard work on bee-keeping. His advice to beginners to begin in spring, to buy good colonies only, even if they cost a little more, is good. He condemns too much shade, which might produce dampness.