

males, and workers, the latter being undeveloped females. They do not leave their young to live upon stored food, but give them constant care.

Our two most common social wasps are the white-faced wasp or hornet, and the yellow-jackets. These forms and their nests are well known to all country boys.

Procure an empty nest and use it as a subject for a lesson. In fact it is a good introduction to the study of wasps. Note its general shape, means of attachment, position of the entrance, and composition. Test the waterproofing of the paper. Wasps were the first paper makers, and man no doubt obtained initial hints for paper manufacture from these little creatures. Remove one side of the nest so as to expose the several sections of comb, and ask your pupils to diagram the nest, showing its internal structure, and also use it as a subject for descriptive composition.

One may learn many interesting things about wasps by procuring an occupied nest and watching them at their work. The nest is easily taken on cool evenings. As a special precaution plug the entrance with cotton before cutting the twig to which the nest is attached. Next place it in an upright position in a glass covered box, arranged in a window so as to allow the wasps freedom to come and go with their supplies. But such an experiment is obviously better fitted for private study than for school work.

Expose a dish of honey or molasses outside the window, and note for a day or two the visiting insects. Do wasps like sweets? They are also fond of various insects, the white-faced wasp being an inveterate fly catcher.

Of the other two well known families of the hymenoptera, bees and ants, and of their great social development we hope to write something at some future time. In closing we commend to all the great open book of nature,—study nature more than books.

[The cuts in this article are copied from Elementary Entomology through the kindness of the publishers, Ginn & Company, Boston, Mass.]

I really think my sister May Is stupider than me,
Because she said the other day There wasn't any "b"
In honeycomb, and spelt it just
C-double o-m-e!
Of course she's wrong; I told her so!
There's got to be a "bee"
Somewhere in honeycomb, because
He makes it: don't you see!

— *Our Little One*

CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARIES OF THE WAR OF 1812

J. VROOM.

XXVI.—The Close of the War on the Niagara Frontier.

November 5.—The battle of Lundy's Lane was followed by the siege of Fort Erie. The fort had been enlarged and strengthened by the invaders; and when the British troops attempted in August to take it by assault they were repulsed with heavy loss. A month later, on the seventeenth of September, Brown ordered a sortie from the fort to drive the British from their line of batteries. There was a fierce struggle all along the line, with the results for a time in his favour; but in the end his whole force was driven back by the British, the losses on both sides being very heavy. A few days later, General Drummond raised the siege, falling back a short distance and establishing his headquarters at Niagara Falls.

Brown was relieved of his command early in October, by the arrival of his superior officer, General Izard. Izard saw at once that to gain any advantage he must attack Drummond's position, and he advanced to do so; but after a heavy skirmish he withdrew, finding Drummond too strongly intrenched. It was his final effort. Sir James Yeo, with another new ship added to his fleet, again had the supremacy on Lake Ontario, and was bringing up reinforcements. Izard, therefore, decided to abandon Fort Erie; and accordingly, on the fifth of November, his whole army having been withdrawn to their own side of the river, the fort was blown up and left in ruins.

And so the war on the Niagara frontier came to an end, leaving the British in possession of everything on the Canadian side of the river, and of Fort Niagara on the opposite side. To the invaders, the net results of their three campaigns for the conquest of Upper Canada were the possession of Amherstburg, which they had held since Procter's retreat, and the loss of their strongest fort.

The series of articles on the War of 1812 will be continued until it ends with the anniversary of the peace. These notes are not a history of the war. Deriving their chief interest from the dates of occurrence, the articles have necessarily been detached and disconnected. They have not pictured horrid war, nor glorious war, but the