

its attack, it must die quite soon, for a bee unable to sting is never found in the hive. I must refer to this trait in not volunteering an attack when unmolested and not being able to sting a second time as a wise provision, so that this insect should not become a nuisance to man, who by his intelligent management can remove the product of the bee from its home without any danger, but enables the insect to defend its stores from the throng of thieves, such as wasps, bumble bees, moths and flies too numerous to mention, which would soon deplete the unprotected larder; so that the dream of the unskilled bee-keeper, that a stingless bee may some day be the crowning result of evolution can never be realized, for we find that in Australia the imported hive bee is rapidly exterminating the small, stingless native variety. Here we have a very forcible example of the sur-

vival of the fittest. In Nature's struggle for existence we see the bee armed with a sting able to rob and starve out its competitor, whereas the stingless bee is quite powerless to enter the hive of its more powerful enemy, and in course of time becomes quite extinct. Without the sting we see the insect could not live, and this fact again intimately connects the bee and our fruit crops.

(To be Concluded)

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