

"There is poetry and charity in Virgil's treatment of the complicated government and wonderful economy of the hive interior, and he believed, with others before him, that 'Bees have portions of ethereal thought.'"

Our readers will be interested in the assigned origin of "tanging the bees," a custom still observed in many parts of the old world. One story goes that the Curetes, wishing to hide the birth of Jupiter from his father, Saturn, set up a clashing of cymbals to drown the noise of his infant cries. The noise attracted a swarm of bees to the cave where the infant was hid, and their honey nourished him.

It is a good thing to be able to tear ourselves away at times from discussing whether (to quote Mr. York's words) "the swarming habit can be bred out, and whether it is necessary to disinfect foul-broody hives," and indulge in recreative reading of the kind that D.M.M. provides us with.

"Nemo" in the B.B.J., quoting from "Schweizerische Bienenzeitung" refers to the foul brood insurance scheme of the Swiss Bee-Keepers' Society and to the working of the Federal Act which requires the notification of the presence or suspected presence of disease in apiaries. The members of the society are entitled to compensation for destruction of colonies. No purchase of bees can take place without a health certificate, and the purchaser who does not conform to this condition forfeits all right to compensation in the event of foul brood being found in his apiary.

Gleanings

Gleanings, as usual, furnishes the usual budget of matter interesting to the bee-keeper. That careful observer of nature, Wesley Foster, has been watching the work of his queens and he has got hold of "a few things that come pretty near

being-facts." This is what we are all on the lookout for,—facts. "The queens on May 1 had, on the average, about 7000 cells of eggs and brood in various stages of development, which, if in one frame of solid worker comb, with no pop-holes, would fill this frame clear to the wood on all four sides. This brood was in from three to five frames. By June 1 the queens had their hives full of brood and eggs. I have found that a good queen will rarely get over five frames of brood in an eight-frame hive; that is what would make five solid frames of brood filled to the edges. This amount of brood would be in seven or eight combs, as I get the queens laying in nearly every frame by spreading the sealed brood. As nearly as I can come at it, I should say that my queens laid on the average 40,000 eggs from the 15th of May to the 15th of June. I should think at least ten per cent never hatched out of the egg, either on account of being infertile or chilled by cool weather. Another ten per cent, perhaps fifteen per cent., was lost between the egg and the hatching of the bees. About 30,000 workers on the average is what I get in new workers from a month of laying in the breeding season. For this location, where the bees do not build up as rapidly as in the East and a good many other places, I think two months will be needed before a hive will be strong enough to swarm. I know there are colonies that will come through the winter almost strong enough to swarm; but the average will be on four and five frames. Our bees were more often found on two and three frames this spring than on even four and five.

"If a queen will be able to lay 30,000 eggs from May 1 to July 1, and have 60,000 of them hatch into bees, in all probability she will maintain throughout the honey flow a little over 50,000 workers, which I consider a good swarm of bees, fit for storing surplus. The mor-

talities among bees come from watching the queen, the heavy val, and pupa stages of bee development. We find our bee ideas about draft hive. The bee generations sought for with, and has so dampness principle. Primitive bees sit in the ground, and tality is very high.

We don't know better off for its liam Beucus stating thus: "Swarm migratory habit v the pressure of c difficult or imposed by the inmates of respective functions.

Ch. Noel Eddow preventing the balance out the tendency; know? Perhaps!

European bee-keepers with the bee-louse site we have often bee. Dr. Brunnich sect and tells us that queens, young bees have noticed it or would appear that obtains its food in when the bee is far the act has never louse is never seen flying out and for. The creature has deep hollows, says found two feelers v fulfil the purposes are deposited by the smooth pupa falling of the hive where