

The peach and European fruit trees furnish the second harvest. This honey has no aroma; but that of the third gathering, on the contrary, yielded by late flowering heaths and other woody plants, has a very decided aroma. The Italian colonies, treated with varying consideration by the Boers, produce annually from 60 lbs. to 80 lbs. of honey. Under experienced and careful management they would easily yield 100 lbs. per hive.

During winter the bees often suffer from the attacks of a very small and very beautiful bird of the finch tribe, which catches them singly as they leave the hive.

When melting combs for wax, the solar wax-extractor is invariably used; with considerable success.

The wild bees which nest in hollow trees and sometimes in the ground, produce but little honey. This is supposed to be caused by their very short tongue. The cross of this bee with the Cyprian results in a very ill-tempered variety. Crossing the bees with the view of securing a variety with a longer tongue has become a kind of mania, especially in Cape Colony, where in offering bees for sale, the length in millimetre, is given of their tongue. European tradesmen have sought to take advantage of the great consumption of honey in South Africa, and we see quantities of "Swiss honey," and other artificial products on the market. The Transvaal and Orange Free State Governments have, however, prohibited under severe penalties the sale of anything not the natural product of the bee under the name of honey. Syrups may be sold so long as they are not called honey.

"Apiculture," (Italy).—A girl in Switzerland suffering from poverty of food could get no relief through

medicine; at last she tried a honey cure, which restored her to permanent health in rather more than a month. The treatment was as follows: Morning and evening honey dissolved in hot milk; honey water ad libitum. Honey taken during the day in all about 2 lbs. each week.

"Le Rucher Belge" (Belgium).—It has been suggested that the larger producers of honey should co-operate and form an association for the special purpose of extending the sale of honey to the public without the assistance of the middleman. The association would keep a register of the names of honey producers, and would thus be able to afford the buying public all information on the subject, thus bringing buyer and seller together. Through advertising, some good might, no doubt, result.

"L'Apiculture," (France).—Independently of the common bee, there are several other varieties more or less valuable. The Italian bee is distinguished from the common bee by two yellow rings, and the hairs which form a slight down are yellowish, especially when young; she is somewhat larger than the black bee, her scent is more delicate, and her buzz is gentler. These bees defend their hives better than the others, and never permit a strange bee to enter. They are gentle and easy to handle, and generally winter successfully. They raise more brood than the ordinary black bee, but for that reason they consume much more food in the spring. This race crossed with other varieties is not so gentle as the pure Italian, but these workers are very active and robust.

Then there is the Cypriot bee, somewhat more yellow than the Italian, the queens smaller, but very prolific. They are very industrious, but not good tempered. and they slaughter bees of other races unmer-