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hovering in front of the hive, with their heads turned towards it. This action is to mark their station before taking to field work, and they will gradually extend their circles further and further from the hive; then off they will go to the fields for honey and pollen. They are not, however, great workers in the field for the first two weeks, but attend more to comb-building, as at this period of their life they are great secreters of wax and scarcely matured enough for the long flights and arduous duties of honey and pollen gathering.

This member of the family is the only one provided with perfect wax-secreting glands, eight in number, on the underside of the body, which is composed of rings or segments, six in number, which allows the insect to expand itself to accommodate the load of honey in the honey sack. Its legs are a marvel of usefulness in its domestic economy. On the hind legs, at the articulation of the tibia and adjacent tarsal joints, are the wax-pinchers, by which it removes the wax-scales from the wax-pockets as fast as secreted. Also the pollen baskets are situated on the outer face of the femur of this leg, and on this spot it also carries loads of propolis, or resin, gathered from the buds of various trees and plants, which it uses to stop up cracks in the hive, etc. On the front leg it has the antennae.

It is provided with two compound eyes and three ocelli. Its tongue, with which it sucks the nectar from the flowers, is about a quarter of an inch long, whereas the bumble bee's tongue is three-eighths of an inch.

In the posterior of the abdomen is situated the sting and poison bag. The worker bee in the field never volunteers an attack, and when it does sting it does so but once, as the shaft is barbed, and in the bee's effort to free itself, the sting and poison bag is torn from its body, and although it flies away home a

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