

grand, solemn anthem of praise and thanksgiving to the great Author of their existence.

MARCELLUS.

*To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.*

GENTLEMEN,

HAVING sent you some papers relative to the economy and management of Bees, which were inserted in your truly patriotic miscellany, I beg leave to add a few farther remarks on that subject, suggested by what lately occurred to my observation.

In the latter end of July, 1811, I was presented by a friend with a hive of Bees, just swarmed. It being so late in the season, I did not cherish very sanguine hopes of their doing well. However, as the weather proved favourable until near November, I had hopes, that by careful management, they might weather the winter. In this I was not disappointed; and having fed them carefully in February and March, I was pleased to find them pretty strong in April. During the summer, however, they did not exhibit in strength and numbers an appearance equal to my expectation. I saw no drones, nor any increase of numbers in the hive. And although the few which appeared, wrought very assiduously on a bed of mignonette, which I had provided on purpose, until near October; in the beginning of that month, I found all the bees dead, having left about a pint or a pound and half of honey in the hive.

Now, from these appearances, I conjecture, that the bees died of age. There never appeared to be any increase of the number of bees, which I attribute to the queen having died. That there was no queen, I conclude, from my not having been

able to observe any royal cell in the combs, for which I searched with care. And these observations appear to me to establish three facts relative to bees:—

1. That bees will inhabit a hive, and work vigorously, without a queen, or any prospect of one being produced.

2. That the working bees have not, of themselves, nor even with the aid of drones, any power of creating or producing a queen-bee.

3. That a bee's age does not extend to much beyond the period of a year.

I submit these remarks to those of your intelligent readers, who are conversant with this subject, who will set me right, if I have fallen into error.

A.Z.

*To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.*

I OBSERVE in the Newry Telegraph, some discussion as to the propriety of having some alteration made in the rules of the several Bible societies, so as to favour the distribution of the Doway Bible among Roman Catholics. The rule, that the copies of the Scriptures to be distributed, shall be unaccompanied by any comment, excludes this Bible, and, of course, prevents the members of the Romish Church from enjoying any benefit from those institutions. Now, I put it to the public, and particularly to those of your readers and correspondents who are interested in the subject, if it would not be well for the Hibernian Bible Society to remodel the rule, so as to embrace the distribution of the Roman Catholic Bible. I am not one of those who, when any relaxation in favour of the Catholics is proposed, are ready with the cry, "the church is in danger,"