

will be able in future to tell fertile workers. But do not run away with the idea that a fertile worker is the same as a queen, and that if you move the hive away you will carry the fertile worker away, because she will remain in the hive, and that things will go on prosperingly afterwards. We have frequently tried that experiment, and have removed the old colony away, and caught all the old bees on the combs at the old stand, and they at once commenced laying fertile worker eggs again. In fact we are not sure every bee in the hive could not lay fertile worker eggs if it liked.

Artificial Swarming.

We are asked by a friend who is just beginning bee-keeping, how she will make her bees swarm artificially, as they will not swarm naturally. Now we would say, Miss S. that your bees are not strong enough to swarm or they would. This is not the first time we have been asked how to make bees swarm artificially, and would have thought the parties meant, how to make artificial swarms had they not stated that they knew how, from reading Prof. Cook's Manual of the apiary. Well there are only two ways that we think you are likely to make them swarm artificially. Strengthen them by adding brood or bees, until they become crowded in the hive, and they will swarm, which will be an artificial, natural swarm. Another way, would be to cage the queen on another comb, hang it up near where the hive was sitting, remove the old colony, take out the combs, and shake the bees. You would get enough to go back and light on the combs to make a swarm, but we cannot see any object in either. Natural swarming, where increase is required, will give the best results, unless in the hands of the most experienced apiarist.

One of our lady bee-keepers was trying to make a swarm stay in the hive the other day, and after hiving it the third time, came to the conclusion that she would try the water cure; and as soon as she shook them off the limb into her wire swarm-catcher, with the watering can, she drenched them with cold water, and then dropped them down in

front of the hive. The result was, she says, "that they lay there pouting on the grass for some time, scarcely offering to move, but as the sun warmed them they gradually crawled in on the combs. I then poured another can of water over the hive, and on the grass around it, and all went in without grumbling as soon as they got dry enough to crawl, and we have no swarm that has done better work since, than this one." She has ordered a force pump, and thinks she will try a finer spray, but feels confident that using water is a good plan. There is more virtue in water, friends, than many bee-keepers are aware of. The water cure is good in more ways than one.

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One of our neighbors had a second swarm of bees, and as they were lighting he happened to catch the queen, fancying she was the only one. He placed her in a cage back by the hive, setting the old colony to one side, thinking by this means he could make them come back and hive themselves, but to his astonishment, after a while, when they got tired of remaining on the limb, they commenced absconding, and, in spite of his efforts, they left for parts unknown. He then recollected that nine days before, the same hive had swarmed. He had ample time to hive them many times, but thinking that he had the key to the situation when he had a queen, he allowed them to go. On looking over the hive he found seven queen cells that the queens had just gnawed out of, and the hive contained two young queens. So in figuring up, he thought that the swarm left with four young queens. If you do not want your bees to swarm too much, give them plenty of room, and don't fail to give them room in time. Do not wait till they start queen cells, and they are almost ready to cap. Keep your eye on them, and do not give them all the room at once, but keep enlarging the brood chamber by degrees.

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Alsike clover is yielding wonderfully well in many localities this year.

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For smoker fuel, dry cedar bark cut short, and pounded finely, pleases us so well that we feel like saying it is the best.