

requires about twenty days, the time being varied by the weather. After cooling it is pumped up to the third floor, and into the big steam crutchers. Pouring into them it looks not unlike golden syrup. In the crutchers it is whirled and stirred with great rapidity, and begins to assume a tawny yellow hue like pulled taffy, and one feels tempted to seize a handful and taste it, so inviting is the appearance. Here the proper perfumes are added, and when the processing is completed large frames holding 1,300 pounds each are rolled under the crutcher, a vent is opened, the golden stream flows forth, the frame is filled and rolled away, another follows, until row upon row of frames are lined up on the vast floor and left for the soap to harden.

*The Shaping
of
"Comfort"*

After about four days the adjustable sides and ends of each frame are removed, leaving the great squares of soap standing upright, and ready for the cutting machine; and this soap cutter is one of the wonders of this mammoth factory. This machine seizes the great block of soap, and as easily and carefully as a mother handles her child, it trims, squares, slabs, divides crosswise and endwise, rounds, places on racks, and spreads each individual cake of soap ready for the drying room. This great machine works through the compass of two flats, and it is fascinating indeed to watch the great automaton as with precision and certainty it takes the great square of soap and hands out the finished cakes of "Comfort."

This is the only automatic steam cutting machine in the world which will take a