

posed, however, you already have one. If not, why take any old tin pan and build a fire in it of any substance which will produce lots of smoke. Punky wood is obtained about as easily as any. Get some old table out in the yard close to where you purpose working, and on this arrange all the little fixings required. Cut up a lot of cedar splints or strips, say one-quarter inch square, and sufficiently long so that when they are laid over the frame they will extend over the top and bottom a quarter of an inch or a little better. Have as many pieces of fine wire, (No. 30 will do very nicely), say eight or ten inches long, with which to fasten the sticks together at top and bottom of frames to hold the combs in position. If you cannot obtain wire handily, string will answer the purpose. These are about all you want for the job itself. But to do the work you need a hatchet or hammer, a small saw, a long-bladed knife and a basin of warm water. If you have an old chisel around it will come in useful to cut the nails with, but the hatchet will pry the sides off the hives pretty well.

Now that everything is in readiness proceed with smoker in hand to the colony to be transferred. But perhaps, we had better say first that you need a hive with movable frames, though we supposed you understood this, as we know you did move the box hive over and set the new hive just in the same place; use the smoker at the entrance of the hive until the bees have had a pretty good smoking. They will, when thus treated, fill themselves up pretty well with honey, and be less pugilistic. Just here a word as to the *time* of day when it is best to do the work. The fewer the bees in the hive the better, so that about 10 o'clock in the morning, while most of them are away in the field, will be the best time. Of course, you understand that you want to choose a nice warm day on which to work. It is as well to keep the transferred hive as close to where the box hive stands as possible, so that the bees when returning from the fields, may not have much trouble in hunting up their home. Well, we left you smoking the bees. When you have this done to your satisfaction, turn the box or log gum up on its end, with bottom side up, easy, without too much bending, and take off the bottom board. Over the box place

another one improvised for the purpose, so that the bees may run up into it. Then beat the sides of the box containing the colony sharply with a couple of sticks until you have got the most of the bees out and up in the top box. Lift off the top box and set it down at the side. Then, with the hatchet, split off one or two sides of the hive. In our list of things needed, we forgot to mention that three or four good, wide shingles (division boards will do), are wanted to lay the combs on as they are taken from the hive. Next cut the sides of the combs in the box loose with the long bladed knife:

Lean the division boards or shingles up against the combs and tip the combs over on to the boards, cutting the combs loose at the bottom. Lift the boards up and put them on the transferring table; keep on at this until all the combs are taken out. Commence at once to fit the combs in the frames. In fact, if the bees were coming back from the fields pretty early, it would be advisable to fit up the first or second comb cut from the old box. Then, when the bees enter their new home they will find combs ready for them, and it will not appear so strange as if they were ushered into a home having only the bare walls, and they will be more apt to stay. There will also be a place for them to store up the honey or pollen which they have been gathering.

HOW TO PUT THE COMBS INTO THE FRAMES.

Fit the piece of comb into the frames to the best advantage, and fasten the split cedars on both sides with the pieces of wire which have been previously prepared. When the pieces of comb are fitted in the frame, lay over the top as many pieces of cedar as will be required to hold them in position till the bees can fasten them. On top of these pieces of cedar, lay another shingle or division board and "whop" the whole over. Remove the board which now forms the top and lay cedar sticks on the top side, opposite to those put on previously; then fasten the ends, make the sticks fast at the top of frame first, and the bottom pieces can then be drawn together more tightly, holding the combs more solidly.

Be careful to transfer only worker comb—remove all drone comb and melt