

cause we suppose, as the packing was frozen solid to the hives. It was not intended that the packing should have been so exposed, but the clamp was not completed in one day, only a portion of the hives being set in and covered. The end which was left exposed suffered the effects of a sudden and heavy rainstorm, the packing from that end should certainly have been removed and replaced by dry, but it was not, and we paid the penalty with the loss of two colonies.

About 3 o'clock on the morning of the 20th we set out the bees at our home apiary. The foreman came to our window and awoke us by shouting "Get up! It's time to set out the bees." On going out we found him and about a dozen more of our hands with lamps and lanterns ready to enter the bee-house which contained 400 colonies.

They first placed the lights at suitable distances around the yard so that it was quite light. The sky was clear and the stars shone brightly; there had been a very slight frost and the atmosphere was chilly yet had every indication that the coming day would be warm and pleasant. The men arranged the hive stands placing a lid at the side of each and all being ready to carry out we opened the doors. Thermometers indicated 44° at lower part and 46° at the upper. The bees occupied rows of shelves around the outside and two double rows in the centre, leaving three narrow halls between the hives. A man placed himself in each hall for the purpose of lifting the hives from the shelves and handing them to the several carriers allotted to his division, who, like so many trained soldiers, after receiving their precious load marched out deposited it on its stand, commencing at one row, when that was filled then another, and so on till the work was done. Immediately they set a hive on its stand the lid was placed upon it the entrance left open. The bees did not offer to fly out though some would run down off the combs to the entrances but the cool atmosphere and darkness of the night prevented them from venturing further. Occasionally one would crawl out from under the cloth into the bosom or sleeve of one of the carriers which fact was usually made known by the increased celerity of the party. In less than an hour all the colonies were set upon their summer stands, and were left to cool off be-

fore daybreak. The sun rose very bright but was soon hidden behind a cloud remaining hid for several hours. A few bees ventured forth but as they would light on the ground they soon became chilled and appeared as if dying. The foreman came and said: "It will not do to allow the bees to fly yet as the weather is not warm enough." We went into the yard and finding a large number lying about on the ground, chilled, and more coming forth from many hives, ordered the entrance blocks to be placed on all, closing them up tightly, and preventing the bees from coming out; we kept them thus closed until about 10 a.m., when the clouds passed over, and the sun shone forth very brightly. Those chilled and lying about began to revive, and some in the hives began to crowd away their entrance blocks. We then opened the entrances allowing them to have a purifying flight, and oh, such a sight! Fancy the bees from about 400 colonies flying in the air; it was enough to make any bee-keeper happy. The bees that had been chilled had fully revived, and in less than two hours were flying in the air with the others but seemed lost not knowing which hive they had come from, more especially as the hives were set closely together, the rows being from six to eight ft., and the hives from two to four ft. apart in the rows. The lost ones appeared to be willing to enter any hive, and after flying about some time they gradually settled and passed into a few hives, thus giving these hives an unusual number of bees, which we found very convenient as we occasionally came across a colony not quite up to the standard in strength, and we would take from each of the strong colonies a comb having bees clustering on it, then shake the bees off in behind the division board of the weak colony thus strengthening it at once with bees that would accept the situation and not go back; in this way all the weaker colonies were strengthened. We find that bees when being set out upon their summer stands will accept any location, and if strong colonies are divided with weaker ones they will not return to their original hives, neither do they ball their queens if properly united. Several queenless colonies yet strong in bees were found, so we searched out the ones containing queens, carried them over to the stronger queenless colonies, lifted out