

living in the vicinity, would not be aware of colonies near, as they rise up out of the way of mischief.

CROSS BEES.—When there has been a good flow of honey, and it suddenly ceases, bees are excited over it, and sometimes are ready to sting anybody or anything that comes in their way. This year, at the close of the basswood harvest, mine attacked a coop of broody hens. Seeing a commotion among these cackling aspirants for motherhood, I divined the cause, and opened the door, when the hens made a "bee-line" for the raspberry bushes. The cat made frantic leaps into the air, with her tail somewhat resembling a rolling pin. When the bees are cross, it is folly to open a hive.

FALL HONEY.—This season hives are very populous and bloom is abundant, yet there is no security that there will be a flow of honey. Hot nights and days are necessary for the secretion of nectar, and yet nights continue week after week to be very cold. There has not been a full crop of honey harvested in Peoria county so far, and those who rushed their honey off to the local market, may wish they hadn't before the season closes.

FEEDING BEES.—I have some nuclei that are not well supplied with the needful honey. Hence, I have been giving them the cappings from the extracted honey to clear up. I take out a painful loosely, and set it in the cap of the hive, making a little aperture for the bees to come up through. It is, of course, apparent that no bees gain access to it from the outside, or robbing will be induced. I lately came to grief in this way: I placed a pan of cappings in the top of a hive and failed to shut down the cover closely. Soon the whole apiary was demoralized, robbing and stinging being the order of exercises. I not only got stung myself by the bees, but the whole family heaped reproaches upon me for my carelessness in making the bees so cross.—Mrs. L. Harrison, in *Prarie Farmer*, Peoria, Ills.

Systematic Work.

COMB AND EXTRACTED HONEY IN THE SAME APIARY.

IS it well to produce both comb and extracted honey in one apiary, or shall we divide the number of colonies kept, into two yards, working the one for comb honey, and the other for extracted?

This is a question which often enters the minds of those keeping bees, some thinking that both comb and extracted honey production should not be mixed together in one apiary. I see little if any reason why two yards are neces-

sary for a mixed production of honey, therefore I will say a few words why I should produce both in one apiary.

Twenty years ago, when I began to keep bees, I had much trouble to get certain colonies to work in boxes, and often after a colony had nearly completed a given number of boxes, they would begin to swarm, leaving the bees in the hive so weak as to numbers that the boxes would remain unfinished at the end of the season.

I tried cutting out the queen-cells and returning the swarm, but this did little good, for in a few days they would come out again and thus keep up their swarming till the honey season was over, doing little or nothing in the boxes, as bees having the swarming fever will do little else save preparing to swarm.

As I had no extractor at that time, the only way that I could do away with this state of affairs was to clip off all of the queen-cells while the swarm was out, cage the queen between two combs and return the swarm, leaving the queen thus caged for eight or ten days. At the expiration of this time the colony was looked over and all of the queen cells again cut off, when the queen was given her liberty.

As nearly one half of the brood had hatched during this time, there was plenty of empty cells in which she could deposit eggs and as the bees had no larvæ to nurse, the disposition to swarm was broken up, as a rule, and I would get the boxes completed; but it will be noticed that during those eight or ten days, I got little or no honey, as queenless bees and those having the swarming fever, are practically good for nothing as comb builders, and a colony treated as above was about as good as queenless.

The result was that I lost ten days of the best of the honey harvest, during which time a colony not having the swarming fever would store from forty to sixty pounds of honey. This was a serious loss, but not so great as to have the swarm in a separate hive, in which case I would get nothing but the swarm.

After a while I purchased a honey extractor, when I found I had this swarming mania, of colonies which should be in better business, practically under my control. When a swarm issued as above, I would extract all the honey from the brood-combs while they were out, and clip off the queen cells, when they would go to work with a will on being returned, losing all desire to swarm.

Here I had a plan that accomplished the desired result without the loss of ten days in my best harvest, besides I obtained extracted honey enough to pay me for my time, while in the