

transferred in October, with splendid success, but would advise none but old hands to attempt it so late in the season.

Before commencing the operation as many hives should be provided as there are colonies to be transferred. Everything necessary should be right at hand. If the colony is in a box hive, the following tools will be useful:—a handsaw, a hammer, chisel to cut nails, a sharp-pointed, thin knife a board a few inches larger each way than the frame to be used, having one side covered with one or more thickness of flannel, a wing or small bee-brush, a small box without a top a dish of water and a towel.

In addition to this, something will be needed to hold the comb in place. This can easily be made of No. 14 wire, cut into pieces 11-18 inches in length. Bend to a right angle in the same direction at one end 3-4 inch, at the other 1-4 inch. Bend down 1-4 inch from the longer end. The end with the double bend forms a hook that is to be placed over the top bar, and the single bend is pushed under the bottom of the frame after it is filled with comb. Six or more should be prepared for each frame that is to be filled. If the wire is not at hand thin stripes of wood placed on each side of the comb filled frame and tied with string may be used.

If the bees are at all disposed to rob, place what is to be used in some building or room where the bees cannot enter. Blow a little smoke into the hive from which you are about to transfer. The bees become frightened and fill themselves with honey, making them kind and good-natured, as a hearty meal transforms a cross, hungry person. It is said, that a bee filled with honey will never sting unless carelessly handled and pinched in some way.

Next move the hive to one side and place the new one without the frames in its place. Then carry the old hive

bees and all, to where you have placed the utensils to be used in transferring, turn the hive bottom side up if it is a box hive; place one edge of the small box before spoken of on one edge of the turned-over hive. Either prop or hold up the opposite edge of the box and drum slightly on the hive with the hammer or a small stick, and you will soon see the bees going into the box.

In this way drive out all the bees that will readily leave, keeping them subdued with smoke. When all or nearly all the bees are in the box, empty them out on the ground or sawdust in front of the new hive. Now run the saw down one or two sides of the hive on the inside, cutting the comb and cross sticks loose from the sides, choosing the side from which the flat side of the comb can be readily got at. Then with a chisel cut off the nails, and remove the two sides of the hive. Take away one or more of the combs, as much as will fill one of the frames, and lay on the flannel that has been nailed to the board as already directed.

The flannel prevents injury to the sealed brood. Place one of the frames on this comb in such a way as to save as much as the brood as possible, and with a sharp, thin knife cut the comb to the size of the inside of the frame, to fit snugly. Put on as many of the previously prepared wires (or sticks) as may be needed for the upper side. Then raise the board, comb and frame, placing it on end, turn over the frame and contents and lay the wired side down on the flannel and wire the other side. It is now ready to place in the hive where the bees are. Proceed in a like manner till all the worker comb has been transferred, rejecting all drone comb, if there are any other bees within two or three miles, and let others less careful raise the drones. Brush the remaining bees, if any, down in front of the new hive. The honey from the remaining pieces