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OUR OWN APIARY.

PREPARING BEES FOR MOVING.

OUR boys are busy preparing our bees for a move of about thirty or forty miles to a new location where there are large quantities of boneset, golden rod, asters, willow herb, snapdragon and other Fall flowers. We intend giving this matter a pretty good testing this year. The colonies will be taken from the various bee-yards and will be fair average colonies. We shall mark the hives from each yard and will then be able to tell the difference in the amount of honey gathered in the home apiaries and the new location. There is no doubt in our mind, if the Fall is favorable, that it will be a great success but it depends entirely on the weather. We think there is no question about there being sufficient bloom judging from present appearances. We place the combs about two inches apart from centre to centre—the major part have large quantities of brood. There is a nail driven through each end of the frame into the body of the hive holding them in position during transit. A wire screen is placed over the top of the hive or rather a rim that fits on top of the hive about six inches high with wire cloth tacked over the top. This enables the bees to pass over the top of the combs into this air chamber and prevents their smothering which would be inevitable were the screen down on top of the frames. These are transported in spring wagons to their destination.

Bees are now killing off the drones in many of the hives and those who have not taken the precaution to have drone colonies for late queen rearing will soon be left without drones. We place drone comb in the hive we wish to breed

drones from, and when they are filled with eggs or larvæ, remove them to these queenless drone colonies, and by keeping these colonies queenless after the honey harvest fails they do not kill off the drones. By this means we always have the very finest drone colonies until the end of the season.

A GOOD SWARM CATCHER.

Our friend, Mr. Maynard, of Thompsonville, has just called on us and tells us that this year he had two queens in a hive for ten days. We asked him if he did not think they were unfertile. He thought so. He also told us how he had arranged a very successful swarm catcher by putting two posts in the ground about eight or ten feet apart and fastening a scantling or pole on the top, in the centre of which he placed a plank about three feet long, crosswise, the centre of the plank resting on the pole and each end projecting about eighteen inches. In each end of this plank are a number of auger holes into which little bushes are stuck. A nail through the plank kept it in position, but we would suggest that a loose wooden pin would be preferable as it could then be moved if desired. His first swarm alighted on the under side of the plank not in the bushes, every succeeding swarm alighting in the same place. There were no trees in the immediate vicinity.

RASPBERRY JUICE.

Our bees are now coming into the hives with that portion of their abdomen around the honey-sack almost blood-red. Some of the students wondered what the matter was, and this was explained by the fact that they were carrying in the juice from the wild red raspberry. Our bees get considerable juice from this source in some seasons. It can scarcely be called raspberry honey, because when ripened down thick in the hive it is yet simply the thickened juice from the raspberry. We would not care to