you see that the bees are capping the comb) it is time to extract.

Raise one corner of the cloth and blow a little smoke on the bees which will cause them to run down out of the way. Then have ready another set of combs to take the place of those you are going to take out. This will be convenient as you will have to go but once to a hive. Place the full combs in a comb basket made for that purpose, and if there are any scattering bees on the comb, brush them off with a bee brush, and take your frames to your honey house where your extractor is.

Hold the honey knife in hot water so that it will not stick to the comb when uncapping. As fast as you uncap a comb, place it in the extractor, and be sure to have all the combs as near the one weight as possible, in order that the extractor will run more easily.

If the honey is new you will not require to turn very fast, a few turns will throw out all the honey on one side, then if your extractor is not of the reversible kind you will have to turn each comb so as to throw the honey out from the other side, although when uncapping the comb both sides should be uncapped at the same time.

Proceed in like manner with each hive. If there is a good honey flow you will have to extract two or three times per week unless you add another top hive.

I have always used full frames for extracting and by this method the brood nest is not disturbed. The queen excluder keeps the queen from entering the top hive, and you will not be bothered with any brood.

Another advantage in this method is that the different kinds of honey may be kept separated.

The criminal judge may be a man of few words, but he is not always a man of short sentences.—Philadelphia Record.

FORMIC ACID.

The greater part of apiculturists trouble themselves but little with the importance of the role which formic acid plays in the economy of the bees. If the pain from the sting did not remind them from time to time of its presence they would be led to ignore it completely.

Formic acid is found in certain plants such as the nettle and the pine and everywhere in the venom of bees, ants, etc.

Every one knows that, if we open a hive, the bees raise their abdomen in the air, present their sting, and throw out a tiny drop of venom; a penetrating odor, which induces sneezing, impregnates the air—it is the formic acid, an extremely volatile substance which is the cause. The whole of the interior of the hive is constantly impregnated with it; this fluid penetrates into the combs, into the wood and gives them their yellowish color.

Virgin combs, at first white as snow, quickly take on this color, when left for some time in the hive.

Formic acid has a very precious quality; it is perhaps the most powerful antiseptic known. Thanks to it honey may be preserved indefinitely.

There has been found at Dresden, the capital of Saxony, in the cellars of an old house, well preserved honey which dates from the fifteenth century. Thanks to formic acid, with which the air of the hive is constantly impregnated, the combs, the pollen, the food of the larvae, are preserved from fermenting. Mr. De Planta relates an experiment of Professor Erlenmeyer at Munich "In a certain quantity of beer in full fermentation, a small quantity of formic acid, well diluted in water, was placed and the fermentation was immediately arrested." It is only natural after this that apiculturists should say "if formic acid is an antiseptic powerful enough to kill the