

able that others less accustomed to so "natty" a job, or perhaps through nervousness, might run a great risk of damaging the delicate little larvæ, or of not getting it in its natural position, which is essential to success. After many trials I at last found the following plan answer well:—Prepare the frame before, and get the cells accepted by my "approbation" plan; then, with a sharp, warm knife, cut the accepted cell just above the base (inside), so that the base is left on the bar, and the part cut off forms a collar which fits on the base. Then with your "former" slightly enlarge the base of the collar, but avoid handling the collars more than is necessary, and always have clean hands. Now cut out a piece of comb containing suitable larvæ (a strip 2 in. or 3 in. long is now best), shave off the back cells down to the mid-rib or septum—I find cells that have been used for breeding once or twice best for this process, new cells being too soft, and old comb too tough—and cut the front cells down to $\frac{1}{4}$ in., taking care not to touch the larvæ, or it will be irretrievably damaged. Cut out as many complete cells containing larvæ as are required, and remove all the surplus wax of adjoining cells from the sides of the chosen ones. Now place carefully a small portion of thin royal jelly on the top of the young larvæ, and by the time you have placed the jelly in all the cells the young grub in the first cell operated on will have wriggled its way to the top of the food, and be seen floating on the royal jelly. It is then transferred bodily on to the base of the prepared cup; then slip over the "collar" which was cut off and press well home, and the job is done. When all cells are fixed and on the frame I slip the latter into a well-warmed flannel bag, take it to the hive, and put it in the super as quickly as possible.

All these operations must be carried out in a temperature of not less than 85° Fah. I prefer one of a temperature of 90°, as the young grubs are then kept growing and run no risk of being chilled. I have a small workroom built expressly for this particular work of queen raising, in which the temperature can be raised at will. It is also necessary to have a small box into which a block of heated lead or iron, wrapped in flannel, is placed for purpose of transporting the larvæ, when cut out, and a bag (large enough to hold a standard frame) made of several thicknesses of woollen material. The heated box is also useful for carrying queen-cells about from hive to hive when completed.

For the first of these processes I have discarded cutting the combs to obtain the lar-

væ, and now remove the frames, bees and all, into my warmed workroom (taking care the queen is left in the hive). I lay it on a sloping wired frame and remove the little grubs as required. My workroom is provided by a window which swings round on centre pins, so that if the bees are troublesome and block the light while I am working, one swing of the window and they are all outside. This will be found a great convenience.

In America, where the temperature rises above 85 deg. for months together, heated appliances and rooms may, of course, be unnecessary; but here in England, where in April and May last the temperature for weeks together was not more than 54 deg., and on some days (when I successfully transferred the little larvæ in my heated room) was down as low as 42 deg. in the open, had I not been practically able to control the temperature I should have failed. There are no doubt some days, even in this country, when the work could be done in the open, or with slight protection; but they are few and far between, and generally occur at a season when the best results cannot be obtained, as it is too late to get the finest queens.

One of my experiments has been devoted to finding out, as nearly as possible, at what temperature very young larvæ will chill and die, and I find approximately that from four to five minutes outside at 65 deg. is fatal to it, while under the shelter of an open shed, protected from the wind, it is alive after fifteen minutes at the same temperature. Be whether it would recover the effects of the chill if subjected to subsequent warmth, I am at present unable to say. HENRY W. BRICE, *Thornton Heath, Surrey.*—*British Bee Journal.*

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Unlucky Selection.

The pastor had no dislike to the choir, but some of its members were almost ready to resign, not long ago, on account of the quality of his announcements.

So many of them were sick that the choir seats were deserted. The good man was sorry for it, but the idea uppermost in his mind was to choose a hymn that the entire congregation could sing.

He mentioned the absence of the choir and then said, "Since Providence has seen fit to afflict them with hard colds, let us join in singing, 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow.'"—*New York Herald.*