

new one in its place, and run in the forced swarm. In two days I had eight new, straight combs with every cell worker, and containing a good start of brood. Twenty-one days after the transfer I drive the old hive clean of all its bees, uniting them with the former drive, and put on the boxes if they are not already on. If there is any nectar in the flowers, this colony will show you box honey. I run them together as I would one colony in two parts. Now to the old beeless hive. Of course, there is no brood left, unless a little drone-brood, and we have before us some combs for wax, for more foundation, and some first-class kindling-wood.

If you have no method by which you can use a full hive of frames, of full sheets of foundation, running a full swarm into them at once, by all means procure it without delay. But if anyone has a mind for cutting up combs and fitting them into frames, my method given above does not prohibit them from using all the straight worker-combs the old hive contains, after first extracting the honey from them. Should anyone wish to increase his colonies at the same time he transfers, only the following deviations from the above are necessary: Run the second hive into another hive of full frames of foundation, and use the old hive as before. Now that we have foundation perfected, so that the bees will draw the lines or side walls to full breeding depth, in from two to three days, why fuss with the old comb from the old hive? Having once experienced the advantages to be attained by using the above method, I shall certainly never go back to the old one. All of you know what a nuisance a few odd-sized hives are in the apiary; also some who have just started wish they had adopted some other style of hive. The above method of transferring will get all such out of their trouble.

The cost of foundation and new hives is fully made up by the better comb, and you have the change to better style of hive thrown into the bargain. I have thoroughly tested the results of the plan herein described, and am speaking from experience.

We have just practiced the above upon 72 colonies, and without a failure or mishap of any sort. I purchased 16 colonies of bees; that is, I purchased the bees, brood and honey with the agreement that I should return the hives and empty combs, which I have done. We made each one cover two sets of combs in two brood-chambers, with two queens, besides the surplus sets used above for extracting, and all are rousing strong. When you plan to double your colonies, you remove the old colony to an entirely new location, when you make the first drive.

It is now my opinion; that, even without the use of comb foundation, in the days when we had none this plan of transferring would have been the preferable one. As we are cutting out the old combs for wax, we transfer any that we find, that are perfect, now that they are all clear from bees, honey and brood.

THE TIME TO TRANSFER.

The proper time to make the transfer is during fruit bloom—the general consensus of opinion is that it is best just before or during apple bloom. There are few bees and little brood and honey, and all the comb building and repairs may be made during this flow from apple bloom.

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RETAIN THE EXTRACTOR.

FRIEND STOKES WANTS TO SEE CHEAP HONEY.

TALK about doing without the extractor! I think it is not only a boon to the bee-keeper but to the public. Whether I am like other bee-keepers or not, I enjoy seeing a laboring man—like the average bee-keeper—going home to his family with ten pounds of good pure honey for one dollar, and having a good repast at so cheap a rate, instead of a few choice sections to those whose money is counted by thousands. We ought not to look wholly at what we can make and how little we can give for the money, but how much for the dollar, and come to this I find that the poor or rather the man that toils all day for his living is our best customer and why not keep his custom and be a benefit to him? In two apiaries in this locality we had between us 2500 lbs. honey, all extracted excepting fifty pounds or so. This has been sold locally. It is common for the farmers to get from 10 to 50 lbs. in a season. They say it is far cheaper than preserves and no bother for the women folks during the busy summer season. I am glad to find that on going among small grocery men they say that their store is not complete now without honey, and extracted fills the bill every time. Many never ask for comb honey; some want a little and tell us to quote prices and they can sell it, meaning that the few who want it are those who are able and would rather pay extra and have something that the average class have not.

The cry that is often raised that the beautiful nectar is wasted away by every breeze for want of bees to gather it. Why not save the largest quantity that is gathered and sell it lower for the benefit of mankind? Because a man has an extractor he does not need to rob his bees caus-