

who have long since died—from friends who were at one time enthusiasts in bee culture—from ladies propounding questions touching queen bees and colonies who are now the queen bees in domestic colonies of their own—from beginners who to-day are authorities on matters about which they once knew little or nothing, and from being the instructed have become our instructors. We reproduce an old article on introducing queens written twelve years ago. We may reproduce others from time to time:

"Success or failure in introducing queens depends very largely upon the amount of knowledge possessed by the operator; little time is required, and the danger of losses is small with those who understand the art thoroughly. Many bee-keepers appear to labor under the impression that because they are larger and stronger than a bee they can force the little creatures to do as they wish by "main strength and awkwardness." Everybody has a method of his own, and everybody's methods, of course, the best—because they have tried it once, or one season, and it has happened to work right. After numerous trials and many years of experience we find that the variations in season, temperature, flow of honey, and many other conditions, have much to do in the matter of successful introduction. We also find that queens very frequently cause their own destruction by their unwise movements. A queen just hatched may be introduced into a queenless colony at once, and she will be taken no more notice of than any young bee; the reason is readily explained. Her movements are natural, she is innocent, fearing no harm, and her actions do not cause any unusual excitement among the bees. Under these circumstances an older queen may be introduced in the same way, with no cause for fear as to her acceptance. Few apiarists have made this part of their profession a subject of close enough study, and few observe closely enough to be able to decide how to act under all the circumstances that may arise. We have no hesitation in saying, however, that we believe the time will come when almost any bee-keeper will be able to introduce any queen into any queenless colony at any time, and in the space of one minute, with perfect success. We shall continue experimenting, and hope ere long to be able to advise even novices how to introduce as above, but, in the meantime, we purpose explaining only one method, now which we practice very largely in our own apiaries, and which while it is very simple and will not lead to confusion, will be found in the majority of cases to succeed. It is intended only for beginners and

all others who do not succeed in their own way, and are willing to receive a word of assistance.

Take a piece of wire cloth about four or five inches square, and out of the four corners cut other pieces about five-eighths of an inch square. Bend sides down till corners meet, and you have a wire box having four sides and a bottom, but no top. Ravel out each edge of the wire cloth about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch, so that they will push readily into the comb. In this box or cage place the queen, and should her wings not be clipped, it will be better and safer to cover the top with a piece of pasteboard or a thin piece of wood; then take out the frame on which you wish to cage her and place the cage on a smooth part of the comb that contains some honey; and, if possible, some hatching brood. The queen will run on the wire cage in her attempts to escape, and while thus engaged slacken the cage and the pasteboard or wood that you have used as a cover will drop out; then press the wires into the comb, and there you have your queen caged, and right over honey and hatching brood. Examine the colony the following day, and if the queen is not liberated, you may raise one corner of the cage a little, and the bees will gnaw her out and accept her, as it is all done so quietly that the queen does not become frightened and run over the comb exciting the bees. The young bees that have hatched under the cage accompany the queen, and less danger is to be apprehended on that account as she acts more naturally. While caged, queens will often deposit eggs in all the empty cells.

It is better not to examine or disturb the hive for some time after the queen has been introduced and accepted, but if you should it must be done very carefully and quietly, as the queen is much more liable to be "balled" then than later.

Aside from freshly introduced queens "balling" is often caused by rough and careless handling, especially when the honey flow is irregular and, after having searched in vain for a cause, the verdict is arrived at that the queen died from natural causes, and the whole race must necessarily be a short lived one, and all through ignorance of the fact that the queen was killed by their own carelessness.

Exercise great care then while handling your bees, as they can be, and generally are, made cross or quiet by the way in which they are handled."

Sweating in Comb Honey. Its Cause and How to Apply a Remedy.

WE are in receipt of a letter from a friend who had a quantity of comb honey this season and who placed a portion of it in his summer kitchen,