

At the close of the season when all sections are removed, the second storey will be found to contain a quantity of honey, and this can be extracted.

We may not get quite as many sections working on this plan as we might with only one body box, but we have this advantage that there is no swarming, and if the bees are properly managed there is no desire to swarm. We do not use excluder zinc or honey boards of any description, but place the sections right on the top of the frames. The bees must also have plenty of room to go in and out freely, we therefore raise the hives in front by means of wedges, so that there are three sides which they can use for this purpose, and this at the height of the honey season will not be found too much. Outer cases, as

ning any risk of its doing so, as soon as the frames were full of brood and the hive full of bees, we put on our sections. All the frames were then removed from the lower body-box and put into the upper one, the lower box being filled with frames of empty comb and comb foundation, and the sections put on the top. We used no board or excluder-zinc between the boxes. As the brood was hatched out the cells became filled with honey, and as fast as the sections were completed they were removed and empty ones put in their places. This being a hive on legs, and the legs fixed to the lower body-box, it was impossible to work it otherwise than by managing in this way: we induced the bees to continue work uninterruptedly in the supers, and were also able to get extracted honey without

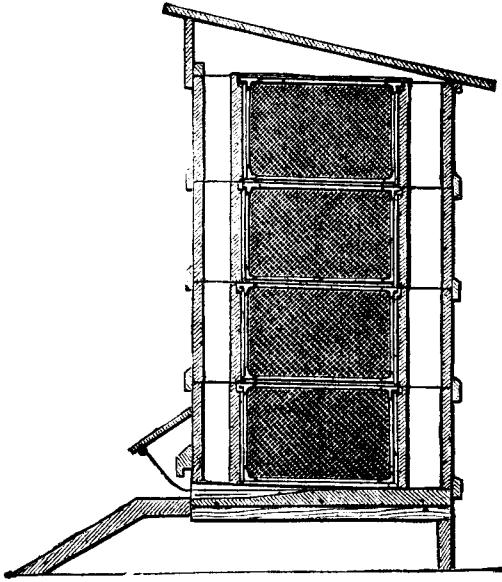


FIG. 3.—FOUR HIVES: STORIFYING.

described on page 11, to protect the hives from the sun, and allowing plenty of ventilation, should also be provided. Those who have hives on legs will find that they can easily work them in the way we managed the Alexandra hive, brought out by Mr. Hooker in 1879. It has two body boxes, and his method of working it was to put a rack of sections on the lower hive, and if the bees swarmed, to hive them in the upper hive, and place a board between the two. The sections were then put on the second storey, the swarming fever checked, then the communication between the two hives was opened, the parent and swarm reunited of themselves, formed one colony, and work in the supers went on briskly. We worked our hive somewhat differently, and instead of allowing the stock to swarm, or run-

any attempt on their part at swarming. Hives on legs can easily be worked in this way, and if the tops are hinged the hinges should be removed so as to allow them to be raised above the three tiers of supers. The floor-boards must be lowered to enlarge the entrance.

We must again impress upon our readers the important fact that if they wish to work without swarming, they must have young and prolific queens, and the bees must have more than sufficient combs to store their honey in. We say more than sufficient because, when they are collecting honey rapidly and it is thin, they require plenty of room to distribute it before it is properly evaporated to seal over. If they have not this room they waste their time or are induced to swarm, therefore always give them