

the surplus queens without difficulty. Your closing remarks are very appropriate, many people rush into business without the slightest knowledge. We know of no business that can be carried on successfully without a fair knowledge of its working. No doubt if the majority had investigated one or two of our bee-books and bee journals and studied them thoroughly before commencing it would have saved them many times their cost.

STRAIGHTENING TRANSFERRED COMBS.

J. M. WILLIAMS, JR.—I transferred two swarms into your Combinations all right. There is this about the job that I do not like, I was only able to get 6 frames into the Combination on account of the combs being so thick. There were 7 frames in the Chaff hive, I would have had one over but after cutting out the drone brood and combs I just had what filled the 6 frames. I would rather have the seven with a more regular thickness. Now, how would this work—if I were to put a second story on the hive placing the queen excluding board between them, then taking, say half the frames of brood and putting them in the second story and in their place put frames of foundation for the bees to make brood comb, then as the brood comes out of the thick frames in the second story take them out altogether and bring up the balance of the thick combs of brood from the hive and put in the second story and in their place in the hive fill up with frames of foundation. I would then have fine and regular comb in the brood chamber and 7 frames as I think there ought to be. My idea for putting on the queen excluding board was to keep her from laying in the combs carried to second story. When all the brood taken to the second story is out I would take that story away and put on the supers when necessary. Now do you think my way of doing will be all right? I saw in the Root A B C to put on a second story full of foundation that the queen would go up and lay there, then the second story with the bees could be placed where you liked, but I thought the queen would keep on laying in the first hive and if you were to separate the stories you would lose part of the brood. Am I right in so thinking?

Hamilton.

The combs are usually a little thick and crooked when first transferred but those projections can be shaved off so long as the septum is in the centre between the frames allowing the cells to be the same length on either side. Slight bulges after the bees fasten the combs may be pressed to their proper place without difficulty. Your plan of getting the brood chamber filled with nice straight comb will work all right, but why destroy these combs that will either

do for brooding purposes or for extracting unless they are very uneven? With a little care they may be made almost as perfect as comb made from foundation. They will no doubt be well worth keeping for the second story to extract, in fact, we have been just as successful with combs in the brood chamber that were not perfectly straight and true as those that were both, the latter looks much the nicer of the two. You could allow them to fill the second story full of honey and seal it which would form a good reserve and one or two of these combs could be placed in the bottom of each colony in the fall and furnish sufficient stores for winter if their other combs had much in them. Two or three well-filled combs will almost keep a colony over winter especially if wintered in-doors. The queen frequently lays in the upper story and sometimes occupies it exclusively without a queen-excluding honey-board between. We think ourselves that queen-excluding honey-boards are so valuable that they are almost indispensable where second stories are used. By their use you entirely prevent the queen from laying either in sections or upper story.

THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

THE D. A. JONES Co., Ltd.,
PUBLISHERS.

D. A. JONES,
Editor
and President.

F. H. MACPHERSON,
Asst. Editor
and Business Manager.

BEETON, ONTARIO, JUNE 27, 1888.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT.

ORDERING FROM SAMPLES.

Another frequent cause of trouble arises in the following way:—A bee keeper wants to see a certain style of hive and he writes to us asking us to fit him up a hive just as it should be ready for the bees, including sections in the supers, honey boards, separators etc., saying when he orders the sample that if it suits him he will send on the order for his season's supply. The sample hive arrives in due time is examined, meets with satisfaction and the order will be forwarded perhaps several weeks later for a quantity of hives