

swer the same purpose by putting in one-half pound more than there is given in the recipe but it makes considerable difference in the price.

Did you ever see any unfair comments in the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL on other supply dealer's goods?

#### UNITING BEE IN FALL.

G. M. Doolittle gives minute directions in the above matter in a late issue of Gleanings. Though methods have been often given before in the C. B. J., there may be some points in the following which will be of interest:

"I have just been uniting up some weak colonies of bees, or, rather, large nuclei, as they would be more appropriately termed; and I like the way I did it so well that I thought the readers of Gleanings might wish to know how it was done. In the first place, the queens in a part of the colonies were taken away to fill late orders: but if I did not wish to use the queens not needed in the united colonies, I killed the poorer ones, as I considered them; for, so far as I have practiced this plan, I find that queenless bees are less inclined to quarrel, and are more disposed to stay where put, than are those having queens. Having the queens disposed of from the colonies which are to be united wait three days to a week (three days in any event, so the colonies may realize their queenlessness) for some cool cloudy day when it is from five to ten degrees colder than is required for the bees to fly, when you will find the bees are clustered compactly, something the way they are in winter. When taking the queens away, take all the combs from the hives but three (the three which contain the most honey), and spread these combs about three-fourths of an inch apart, setting them about two inches from the side of the hive so that the bees may be all clustered on these combs instead of hanging to the sides or any part of the hive. The hive which is to receive these bees and combs is to be also prepared beforehand, by taking all the combs but three or four, those being left being the ones having the most honey in them, said combs being placed close to one side of the hive.

When the right day arrives, light your smoker and put on your veil, for in following the plan described you may not be able to use the hands to get a stinging bee off the face as you otherwise would; for doing a part of the operation both hands will be so employed that you cannot use them at anything else. Now go to the hive having the queen, and uncover it giving the bees a little smoke to keep them quiet, and leaving the hive open so that you can set the other frames right in without any hindrance. Next go to ones of those that you took the queen from blowing plenty of smoke in at the entrance while uncovering the hive. Blow a few puffs of smoke around the combs and over them, when the smoker is to be laid down the two front fingers placed between the two first frames near their ends, the large fingers between the second and last frames, while the third and little fingers are placed beyond the third frame. Now close

up with the thumbs and all of the fingers, thus lifting the frames and cluster of bees all out of the hive at once, when they are carried to the open hive, where they are to stay, and sit down in it all together, close up to the frames of bees that are in this hive. Go back and get the smoker, and blow smoke enough on the bees to keep them down, when you can arrange the frames, division board and hive, as you like without very many, if any, bees flying, should a few bees stick to the hive that you took the frames out of, bring the hive to the one having the united colony in it, and brush them out on top of the frames, as they will be pretty well chilled by this time. In doing this you will have to smoke those in the united colony pretty well, or many will fly at you, for these partly chilled bees will throw their poison out on their stings so that the scent of it will anger the bees in the united hive. If you fixed all as it should be, when taking the queens away and preparing for uniting, and smoked the bees as I have told you, there will be only now and then one that will require this last operation, as all will be snugly clustered on the combs. Close the hive as soon as you have things fixed to suit you, when you are to remove every thing from the stand of the colony that was united with the other, so that when the bees come to fly on the first warm day they will find that all that looks like their old home is gone. Some bee will fly or hover over the old spot where home was, but not finding it, will return to the united colony. In this way I never have had any quarrelling of bees, or any queens killed; and it is so simple and easy that I like it much the best of any plan of uniting bees late in the fall.

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#### CARBOLIC ACID TO PREVENT ROBBING.

At the last International Mrs. L. C. Axtell stated that she used carbolic acid to stop bees from robbing weak colonies. Sometimes, says she, when working with bees when no honey is coming in, it will start robbing quite lively. If we take a bunch of grass and wet it, then take the cork out of the bottle of acid, turn it up a time or two against the grass, then mix the grass through and through to even it up, then place it round the entrance of the hive—the robbers will disappear. Rub the combs and around the top with the grass.

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