

A NEW UNCAPPING BOX.

How to Extemporize one out of Old Hive Bodies.

By Harry Howe.

Take a good tight hive and nail a cover to the bottom; then wax the crack, and you have a fair capping-tank. For the box to cut the cappings into, take another and tack a piece of wire cloth over the bottom. Bring the edges of the cloth up inside of the hive-body some two inches or so, and tack a strip over it all the way around. This will leave it so that the bulge from the weight of cappings will come down into the lower body, which is used as a tank. By tacking the screen inside, the two bodies will fit close together and make a good joint. Then, too, none of the dripping honey will fall outside.

Put a piece of board across the top to rest the frames on while they are being uncapped. Then when you wish to leave it, a cover closes it bee-tight. This will hold enough for half a days' work if the cappings are cut up once in a while with the uncapping knife, and this cutting helps very much in the draining.

In this way one gets the lower hive-body just about full from the cappings that the upper one will hold.

Have a pail of water and a good whetstone handy by and keep the knife in perfect cutting order. Then when you cut, CUT. Many people take off the cappings as though the combs were something precious, and not to be handled roughly. By cutting just into the honey one can cut much faster, and will have more wax. If a comb buldges cut it down level. By putting eight in a ten frame super they mostly do buldge some; but it is easier to take the honey from eight big thick combs than from ten thin ones.—Gleanings.

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