

the bees out and up in the top box. Lift off the top box and set it down at the side. Then, with the hatchet, split off one or two sides of the hive. In our list of things needed, we forgot to mention that three or four good, wide shingles (division boards will do), are wanted to lay the combs on as they are taken from the hive. Next cut the sides of the combs in the box loose with the long-bladed knife.

Lean the division boards or shingles up against the combs and tip the combs over on to the boards, cutting the combs loose at the bottom. Lift the boards up and put them on the transferring table; keep on at this until all the combs are taken out. Commence at once to fit the combs in the frames. In fact, if the bees were coming back from the fields pretty early, it would be advisable to fit up the first or second comb cut from the old box. Then, when the bees enter their new home they will find combs ready for them, and it will not appear so strange as if they were ushered into a home having only the bare walls, and they will be more apt to stay. There will also be a place for them to store up the honey or pollen which they have been gathering.

#### HOW TO PUT THE COMBS INTO THE FRAMES.

Fit the piece of comb into the frames to the best advantage, and fasten the split cedars on both sides with the pieces of wire which have been previously prepared. When the pieces of comb are fitted in the frame, lay over the top as many pieces of cedar as will be required to hold them in position till the bees can fasten them. On top of these pieces of cedar, lay another shingle or division board and "whop" the whole over. Remove the board which now forms the top and lay cedar sticks on the top side, opposite to those put on previously; then fasten the ends, make the sticks fast at the top of frame first, and the bottom pieces can then be drawn together more tightly, holding the combs more solidly.

Be careful to transfer only worker comb—remove all drone comb and melt it up. Keep the brood nest as perfect as possible. When all the combs are fitted and put into the new hive and a quilt is laid over the frames, put a cloth

down in front of the entrance and shake all the bees out of the box and they will run in the same as a new swarm.

In two or three days the bees will have all the combs cemented together and fastened neatly into the frame, when the transferring sticks may be removed.

Should there be too much honey in the combs, it may be extracted before being put in the hives, by placing the pieces in a wire comb basket. Then if the honey flow becomes irregular it may be fed back afterwards.

Any articles which have become smeared with honey may be placed in the back of hive behind the division board or over the frames by removing the cotton quilt. Or if honey was coming in pretty rapidly from the fields and there was no danger of robbing, they might be left near the entrance.

It makes no difference how the pieces of comb are put into the frame. They may be turned upside down or sidewise as best suits the circumstances of the case.

If there is lots of drone comb, instead of melting it up, save it and fit up frames composed of that kind only. It will come in well when the honey flow comes along, for store combs.

#### ROBBING PREVENTED.

If the transferring is done at a season when robbing is prevalent the whole work may be done under a tent.

There may be those who prefer to use full sheets of foundation in preference to bothering with the combs from the box hive—melting the latter into wax, first extracting the honey from the pieces of comb. What is known as

#### MODERN TRANSFERRING.

is practiced by many professionals. The principles are substantially the same as are set forth in what I have written, but to make it, if possible even plainer, I extract the following method from Gleanings, as given by Mr. James Heddon. He thus writes:

About swarming time I take one of my Langstroth hives, containing eight Given pressed wired frames of foundation, and with smoker in hand, I approach the hive to be transferred. First, I drive the old queen and a majority of the bees into my hiving-box. I then remove the old hive a few feet backward, reversing the entrance, placing the