

the clover season. Did they swarm later? Well, two or three did, but so also did half a dozen of the natural swarms that came out in May and the early part of June. Even some that were hived on starters are swarming again now.

There are a few things, however, not mentioned by Mr. Alexander, that should be kept in mind. One of these is that the brood, when put up, should be carefully examined and all queen-cells destroyed; otherwise the young queens, hatching before the ten days are up, are liable to squeeze through the zinc and lead off a colony.

Another thing to remember is that, when the brood is put up, queen-cells will usually be started at once in the upper hive, and will be nearly ready to hatch when taken off in ten days. All but one of these must be removed or they will swarm. Better still, destroy all of them and give them a laying queen.

One feature of this plan worth considering is that, if you wish no increase but an exceedingly strong colony, you can destroy the cells in the upper hive and leave it on until ready to extract.

When the brood is put up, the super should be placed on the top, not between the two hives, or the cells will be filled with pollen.

Good for Queen-rearing.

Mr. Alexander's plan offers an excellent opportunity for raising queens. When the brood is put up, take a frame with a cell-bar and wooden cups, and graft larvae from your best breeding queen. Place this frame in the upper hive. In ten days, when you take off the top hive these cells will be all right to put in the Titoff cages to hatch. I find it convenient to keep a nursery frame of these cages in some hive where one can dispose of surplus cells, and where queens can be found when needed.

How to Look for Queen-cells.

Before manipulating bees in swarm-

ing time it is advisable to look through the apiary to ascertain which colonies are preparing to swarm. If modern hives are used, no special contrivance is necessary in examining for queen-cells. Just puff a little smoke in at the entrance, and with the hive-tool (a good 7-8 inch chisel is best) pry up the hive in front. Then pick up the hive, super and all; set it forward on the bottom-board, and tip back until it stands up on end. If movable frames are used they may now be turned like the leaves of a book, and examined all the way up. With the Hoffman frames it is not quite so easy; but it can be done if the division-board is left out. The rim on the bottom-board prevents mashing bees; the hive bridging over, as it stands on end, prevents the bees from getting out at the back and making trouble; and the super, having a firm support, has no tendency to fall off. The only difficulty comes when the hives get too high and too heavy to handle. An assistant is then needed. Shove the hive forward one inch to avoid killing bees, and let one man tip back the hive from behind while the other turns the combs. In the swarming season it is necessary to examine as often as once in five days, or some swarms will be sure to escape.—E. S. Miller, Indiana, in "Gleanings in Bee Culture."

AUTUMN HOPES.

How will it be when the woods turn brown
Their golden and crimson all dropped down,
And crumbled to dust? Oh, then as we lay

Our ears to earth's lips, we shall hear her say,
"In the dark I am seeking new gems for my crown,"

We will dream of green leaves when the woods turn brown.

—Lucy Larcom.