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F. H. MACPHERSON, ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

EDITORIAL.

When To put on Sections.

SEVERAL have written us in reference to putting on and taking off sections. There seems to be a difference of opinion in reference to this. But we prefer, after the bees are sufficiently strong, and the white clover commences to yield, to put on one case of sections first, and as soon as the bees commence to work in them nicely, and get them partially drawn out and a little honey in the most of them to make up the first case of sections, and set another under it next to the brood. The bees continue, if they are strong enough to store in the top sections, while they are drawing out those below. As soon as the second case of sections is drawn out and partially filled with honey, the next above will be about full, and sometimes the bees will just commence to cap a little in the centre rows. This will probably be about six or nine days from the time the first case was put on. We then raise the two up, and put a third case of sections filled with foundation under, next to the brood. In this way we keep

adding some every few days in proportion to the strength of the colony, inducing the colony to store in the top sections, and leaving an empty space, or rather sections only partially filled just above the brood chamber. This keeps down the swarming fever very much better than to have fully filled sections that only require a small corner to be filled and sealed here and there over the frames before they are ready to be taken off. The bees are not so inclined to swarm out when they have what appears to them an empty brood chamber. Then there is another advantage in so placing the sections. If the empty sections are placed on top of those being filled, the partially filled will have to remain on for some days to be filled, and the bees travelling over these capped sections to get to the ones above, soil the sections and mar their appearance. The bees are also less inclined to daub the sections with propolis if they are placed as we suggest, because they are raised a little up in the hive, and they are not nearly so badly daubed as when down next to the brood chamber. According to our method a number of cases may be put on equal to the strength of the colony and the length of the season. If, however, at the latter part of the honey season you find that you have not room enough in the hive, it is not advisable to put in empty sections next the brood chamber, as the bees will not cross over the empty ones to carry honey to the top, but will be more apt to bring down