

add two pounds of sulphate of zinc, and one of common salt. These will cause the wash to harden, and prevent its cracking, which gives an unseemly appearance to the work. If desirable, a beautiful cream colour may be communicated to the above wash, by adding three pounds of yellow ochre; or a good pearl or lead colour, by the addition of lamp, vine or ivory black. For lawn colour, add four pounds umber—Turkish or American, the latter is the cheapest—one pound Indian red, and one pound common lampblack. For common stone color, add four pounds raw umber and two pounds lampblack. This wash may be applied with a common white-wash brush, and will be found much superior, both for appearance and durability, to common white-wash.—Country Gentlemen.

**The Apiary.**

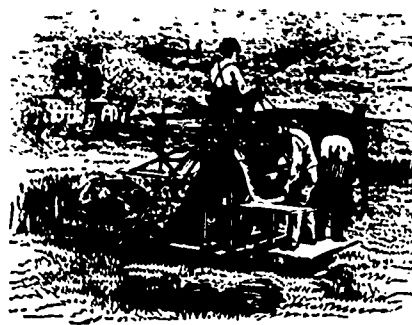
**Surplus Honey.**

As most bee-keepers keep bees for the sake of the honey they gather, it is well to understand how to obtain all the honey a stock will gather, more than is required for its own use, and to do so with the least annoyance to the bees. Various methods have been practised; but the most successful, up to the present time, has been by the use of surplus boxes. Time was, when the bees were destroyed to obtain their honey; but now, such instances are rare—that method being practised by those only who are ignorant of the science of bee-culture. Surplus boxes are as various in their construction as are the hives to which they are applied. Many are almost or quite worthless, the bees seldom depositing honey in them, on account of their construction or mode of application to the hive. If we consider for a moment the nature and habits of the bee, the proper method of securing a large amount of honey, and in the most convenient manner, will readily suggest itself to our minds. It should be remembered that it is the nature of bees to work in a mass, or closely connected together. It is also their nature to store the honey as near the brood as possible, and to make use of all empty combs available, in the height of the honey season. It will then be readily seen that honey boxes should be so constructed, and applied to the hive, as to allow bees an easy access, and so that the bees when in the box are still connected with the bees in the hive; and as they are always in the habit of storing the honey close to the brood, a deep or tall honey-box is objectionable. Many will have observed that when they removed a deep honey-box, and placed upon the hive shallow ones, the bees have readily gone to work. Suppose we were to place a surplus box, three feet deep, on a hive, would the bees be likely to commence work therein? Not at all; for it is their nature to commence at the top of the box, which would separate them in such a box some three feet from the main body of the bees.

It will be found, then, that the more shallow the boxes for surplus honey, the more likely the bees are to work in them. Surplus boxes should be made of thin stuff, especially the bottom board, and a free and easy entrance given. With frame hives, boxes are sometimes used without any bottoms, and placed upon the frames. Though the bees will readily enter such boxes, if shallow, still they are not tidy, nor convenient for marketing. Boxes should therefore be made of thin stuff, and the board on top of the hive, on which the boxes are placed, should be thin also, and a free entrance should be provided. The bees will then enter readily to deposit honey, and when the boxes are removed, the honey will be in fine shape for marketing. When the bees have nearly filled one tier of boxes, it is well to have other boxes made of the same size, with a like entrance through the top and bottom, and raise up the first tier, which is nearly filled, and put the empty boxes under them. The bees will then continue work down from the top tier, and fill the second tier. Boxes should also have a piece of comb put into them, when possible, as it will induce the bees to go to work.

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v5-7-1f

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