

move the supers with ease and rapidity, and avoid any danger of killing the queen because she is not there.

Before adopting this hive, from what I had read and heard, I expected to be able, after quieting the bees with smoke, to dislodge them from the extracting cases in front of the hive by shaking. Of this idea my mind was soon disabused. These cases, when filled with honey weigh about thirty pounds, and to continue to rid them of bees by shaking, required a little more of the physical than my poor tenement of clay could well spare. Under these circumstances I at once began to cast about for something different, and soon struck upon the following. Loosen the case to be taken off, which is always the top one if properly managed, from the one below it; now, with smoker in hand, and going well, remove the cover in the usual manner, and pour a volume of smoke over the tops of the frames; and just as the greatest number, practically, of bees have gone below, upend the case with its top to the wind, if any, and its bottom over the tops of the frames in the case below, and with brush in hand quickly remove the bees which still adhere to the bottom bars of the frames. For practical purposes this will generally rid the case sufficiently of bees: should it not, some smoke applied to the tops of the frames which are turned to the wind will soon drive every bee to the leeward side of the case, when they may be brushed off as before, and the case removed to the screen house for the few remaining ones to leave. For the same reason as the above another small difficulty sometimes presents itself, that of finding unprolific queens. If at this time of the year the brood chamber of a hive is not kept full of brood by the queen, as in the case of an unprolific one, the bees will fill it with honey. This renders it heavy, followed by the consequent difficulty of shaking out the queen in front of the hive to find her, should you be in a position to replace her. This operation, however, but seldom becomes necessary. I find that a queen which occupies but one section of the brood chamber as an unprolific one does, can generally be found by pouring a volume of smoke over the tops of the brood case frames then remove it quickly from the bottom board, when the queen will be found thereon. Should this not reveal her, a repetition at some other time likely will; but with an ordinary queen and brood chamber normally filled with brood, I know of no better, nor easier way of finding her, if not found upon the bottom board, than by shaking her out of the case upon the ground in front of the hive, and picking her up from among the bees. In

this even, sometimes I fail, but by placing a queen-excluding honey-board between the hive and its bottom before the bees pass in, I surely have her every time. Another matter, especially in the fall, in connection with this shake out function I might mention is that in shaking the bees from the cases in front of the hives, I find that I often shake out a little sprinkling of honey, should the combs contain some that is thin. This, if continued, will collect about one a small army of robbers, which will make operations quite unpleasant. So in this respect I say, be careful would you avoid it.

Another feature in the summer management of this hive I wish to note is found in the hiving of swarms. To make the most out of the honey flow in my locality, I find it absolutely necessary to practice the contraction system of hiving them. This, with the above hive, is accomplished by using one section of the brood chamber with the queen excluding honey board above it, the surplus receptacle on top of this, and the brood frames filled with starters or wired foundation. This, I find, makes a most excellent arrangement for securing the most honey, either comb or extracted, provided the bees will accept it and remain; but in my own case, I find that four out of every five swarms hived in this way will leave the hive the day following, despite shade, ventilation, or any other such means as I could devise, the only remedy being to give a full sized brood chamber. This, for my locality, practically condemned the hive, and of course had to be overcome, or the hive discarded. From the fact that they would remain with a full sized brood chamber, I, in three or four days evolved the following simple method to satisfy their notions, and cause them to remain, it was as follows: Hive them in a full sized brood chamber the lower section being empty, the upper one filled in the usual manner with frames of wired foundation, or starters. This makes of the lower section nothing but an empty box. Forty-eight hours after, or in the forenoon of the second day drive a little smoke into the entrance of the hive, the cluster of bees in this lower section will at once pass to the upper part of the hive, break off the little piece of comb, less in size than one's hand, from the lower part of the upper section, and remove the lower empty one. This, with me so far has been without an exception a success, and is performed in about as little time as it takes to describe it. Aside from these points which I have mentioned, I have experienced so far no other difficulty in the adoption of this hive into my apiary, except it be that of first cost.

As against these I have found, that owing to its peculiar construction, I am enabled to manipulate the brood chamber throughout the year,