

drain leave a proper opening through the cement, communicating with the broken stone or gravel beneath, so that any water which through soakage or otherwise might get beneath the cementing will immediately run off into the drain, and not remain underneath the cement to gradually soak up into it and thus keep the cellar floor damp.

When putting the bees into the cellar the first hive should be placed about six or eight inches from the cellar floor, and on the top of this the others may be piled three, four or five high, and this continued until all are properly housed. The entrance of all the hives should be left entirely open, the cellar carefully closed and darkened, and a thermometer placed where it can be easily consulted. All that is necessary to be done throughout the winter is to occasionally sweep up the accumulation of dead bees from the cellar floor, and with the changes in the temperature outside to adjust the ventilators, so as to keep the temperature uniform, about forty-two or forty-five degrees.

For carrying the bees from the yard to the cellar a light hand barrow for two persons to handle is much more convenient than carrying each hive individually by hand.

### The "Weed" Foundation in England.

#### Important Experiments.

The fact that bees will work on some foundation more rapidly than others is well known to most bee-keepers. So pronounced was this in my own apiary in the season of 1898 that I determined to experiment with several makes of comb foundation. After a somewhat lengthy trial with five different makes I came to the conclusion that British-made "Weed" foundation is as near perfection as it is possible to get; in fact, until some

inventive genius gives us a ready drawn-out comb, I think we may be quite contented with "Weed." My experiments were spread over a whole season, in both brood-chambers and supers, and carried out with worker and drone-base foundation. In one case I put "Weed" in the two outer rows of a "section rack" of twenty-one sections, with the centre row made up of four of one and three of another make. The fourteen outer sections were stored and sealed perfectly before the centre were drawn out. As this hive was very strong, and fearing the bees might swarm, I raised the rack in the orthodox way, and inserted another under it filled with "Weed." These sections were drawn out, stored and capped in twenty days, while the seven in centre of top rack were still incomplete. Seeing, therefore, that there was little or no hope of getting these finished above, I took the top rack off and put "the unfortunates" in the centre row of another rack, filling up with sections having full sheets of "Weed," then slipped this between the remaining rack and brood nest, and left the hive until the end of the season. When they were taken off the outer sections were all stored, but only about three parts capped, and the seven in the centre were imperfectly capped, after having been in the warmest part of the hive the whole season.

In another case I put a rack of sections filled with ordinary foundation on a very strong colony. Here the bees absolutely refused to work in them at all, in spite of extra quilts and a bait of honey splashed about the foundation. I may here add this was the only time I failed to get bees to work in supers. A few days after the bees swarmed. I cut out the queen cells and returned swarm in the evening, removed the section rack and put on another filled with "Weed."

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