

dark, it may be poisoned or black or foul brood.

For the treatment of it, the bees must be thoroughly cleansed of the old honey that they took from the old hive. There are times when you could shake them on to full sheets of foundation and make a cure but it is too risky for while you might cure nine-tenths of the bee yard, if it worked out in the other one-tenth it would only go on and destroy all you had done.

If it is in the honey season shake the bees down on little starters, taking all the comb out. Shake them into the empty hive and give them half an inch of comb foundation starters and do the work in the evening. If the flow should stop or slacken through rains or unsuitable weather apply the feeders at once and start a flow in that way and they will draw out these little pieces of foundation. If you allow the little they brought from the old comb to be stored in the new that will cause trouble; take away therefore the built out starters and give them sheets of foundation, and when this foundation is worked out it is forever gone in every case; this will cure every hive it is found in.

It is one thing to cure the bees, but you may cure with a great loss, that is, you may destroy all the healthy brood also. Leave about a quarter of the bees, after you shake them down, on one set of combs; take the combs from this, that and the other, enough to make two stories and leave it about ten or twelve days and most of the brood will hatch out; after about ten days in the honey season shake them down and put them through this treatment again and give them a queen or queen cell. In going through the bee yard put a cross upon those hives; if one is very bad

put three crosses, if middling, two, and so on.

Don't do this work in the morning or middle of the day, because if you shake the bees out and do it in the middle of the day they will become restless and some will swarm out and mix in with what you have already treated.

After the honey season is passed and you find a few have got it, even if it is only a few cells, don't think that it will ever cure itself, because as long as a comb lasts it will remain. Those few that are there let alone but take the others that are sound and feed them sugar syrup until you get a lot of nice sealed combs, feed them down till they are sealed solid. In an evening in October go to the diseased colonies, lift the combs out, shake the bees back and give them five or six combs of these sealed stores. The honey they took out of the infected combs they have got to keep, as they have no place to put it; the queen has stopped laying, the cold weather is coming on and it will be digested and taken out of the way. Just as good a cure as in June or July.

Never attempt to cure any in fruit bloom, it is too risky, because the weather might change suddenly and the flow stop coming in and you will meet with quite a lot of starving larvæ; they will consume the unsealed stores and they won't uncap the stores they have quick enough to feed the amount of brood. It is not proper to do it then, wait until June.

In these weak colonies you have two or three crosses on, take two or three or whatever it may require to make a good swarm, cleanse that and cure it. These others that have plenty of fine brood, tier the brood up from the others and you will make up what you lost, you will gain it in the new.