

been found, it has been my custom to sulphur the honey, which is done by setting an old iron kettle having ashes and live coals in it in the room, when one-fourth pound of sulphur is poured on for every two hundred cubic feet contained in the room. Care must be used for it is quite a nice point to get enough sulphur to kill the moth larvæ, and at the same time not to burn so much as to color the combs; for if too much is burned the combs will take on a greenish hue, which will injure its sale in the market.

Having the honey thoroughly ripened,—and sulphured if necessary—the next thing is to crate it. The propolis should be carefully scraped from each section, so that none of the slovenly look shall be upon it which we sometimes see in honey where no attention has been paid to this propolis matter. Before commencing to scrape the propolis off, three sections should be selected which will fairly represent the pile of honey, when, as each section is finished, it is to be held up near these so as to tell into which grade it shall go. It may be necessary to make more than three grades in some parts of the country; but with me three grades are sufficient for each source of honey. And it is best never to mix honey from different sources together; so we will put the clover, basswood and buckwheat honey each into three grades. I use x's to distinguish these grades, xxx being the very best, xx good, and x the poorest. Then I have three crates setting within easy reach of me and as soon as a comparison with the sampled three tells me where the section last scraped should go, it is set in the proper crate, and so on, till the crate is full. If you wish to have the honey take the name of "gilt edge" put on the cover to the crate with bright round-headed screws.

This gives the crate a nice appearance, does not tend to break the honey by driving nails when the honey is in the crate; keeps the bottom of another crate from coming in contact with the nice, white cover to the first, where two or more are piled on top of each other, and the cost is but a trifle above the nails. Now sandpaper off the sharp corners or any rough or dirty-looking places, and you, yourself, will have to admit that this little extra work has made an attractiveness to your package which will more than compensate you for all of your trouble. And what looks attractive to you will be the thing that will catch the eye of the customer. Having all thus crated, pack nicely away for shipment, when a sale is made, or to show to purchasers or any company who may chance to call in.

Bear in mind, comb honey sells from its looks very largely, and the nicer the appearance the better price it will bring.—American Beekeeper

The Honey Bee in Natal

II.

The lot of the bee-keeper in tropical countries is often looked upon by those in northern latitudes with envy on account of the "perpetual summer" that is supposed to be particularly favorable for the pursuit and the absence of the long winter confinement, and no doubt as far as the bees are concerned there should be less losses. There are, however, periods of scarcity during which the bees rest and very little breeding is carried on, these occur between seasons and if the rains are not late stocks become very weak and dwindle to so low an ebb that they cannot recover without help.

The flowers though very numerous are spread over a long period and rarely give the rush