

The Month's Work

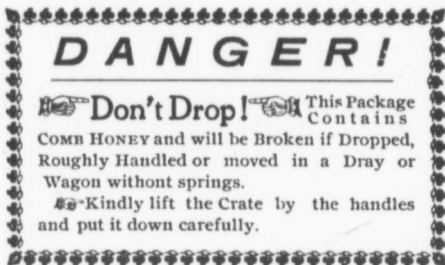
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If the work of requeening, uniting for winter, etc., has been done in its proper season in July, there will be but little to be done in August, except to see that each colony has an extracting surplus case and leave them alone. Whatever honey the bees gather after the first of this month should be left with them for winter stores. The extracting cases are put on so that they may not be crowded during the hot weather. However, should the bee-keeper be favored with a fall flow of honey from buckwheat or fall flowers more than sufficient to supply the bees with winter stores, they will, after first filling their brood chambers for winter, proceed to fill these extracting surplus cases also.

The honey crop should now be got ready at once for the market. Having a good article, small packages, cleanliness, neatness and taste, are the cardinal points to be observed in putting it up for the retail trade.

For comb honey I know of no better package than the common shipping case holding one dozen sections with glass front, sliding cover and heavy paper tray and cleats in the bottom to prevent leaking and daubing the sections. If these have to be shipped then a dozen of them should be crated together. For this purpose a crate $27\frac{3}{4}$ inches by $14\frac{3}{4}$ in. wide, and 15 in. deep inside, with two handles on each end to lift it by, and lined with paper to prevent its contents from dust and dirt should be used. Comb honey is easily broken, and it is therefore necessary that it should be carefully handled in shipping.

To draw the attention of those who handle it in transit to this fact, I know of nothing better than the following large red "danger" label, 12 in. long by 6 in. wide, pasted on top of the crate.



Every one who handles a package with this on cannot help seeing "danger signal" and unless wilfully negligent and careless ought to carry out its instructions.

For extracted honey I have found, that a self sealing pail holding 3lbs. gross, nicely labelled and with directions for liquefying stamped on the cover to be best in demand and sell best. If to be shipped, they can be put into slatted crates, made of bright new lath lined with paper to protect from dust and dirt and will carry safely anywhere. The writer has yet to have one of them broken.

Be extremely careful that there are no leaky packages or daubs of honey on the outside of them. It will catch dirt and attract flies and other insects, and there is nothing more annoying to those who handle honey, or repulsive to those who buy it than mussy, sticky packages. Self sealing packages should always be used for extracted honey, and the "no drip" shipping case for comb honey where any one else beside the bee-keeper has to handle it before reaching the consumer.

The above methods of putting up honey are intended for the retail gro-