

eyes were opened to the fact that the quietness of the bees had been but the calm before the fury of the oncoming storm. An instant later one bee flew up and began to investigate my nose, and was immediately followed by what seemed to me to be pretty close on to a thousand of her companions. Now was the moment to show the stuff that was in me, and I showed it in circus style. I ran, and I jumped, and I scratched and tore, till I guess any one not knowing what was wrong would have thought I was crazy; but you must remember, when a fellow gets two or three bees inside his shirt collar, and about half a dozen more or less in his hair, and about the same number trying their best to increase the size of his nose and eyes, and then have a few more running between your fingers, that he is under the proper influence to dance without music. Well, to proceed. Of course I got the hive covered up again all right, and, to my credit, I do not think I was away from that hive for more than five minutes when I returned smoker in hand and veil on, and if I didn't make those bees hunt their holes in reality, then it's very strange. But, next morning, as I had received about ten or a dozen stings, I imagine my face probably looked as though I had been in a prize fight. Whew! such eyes!

Well, of course I was expecting about 1,000 lbs. of honey, and to increase to twenty colonies during the season; but alas! for me, it was said to be the poorest that was ever known. But, just the same, if I did not get any honey I increased to twenty colonies and wintered them successfully. The following spring, thinking I could attend to thirty or forty colonies as easily as twenty, I went up near Guelph and purchased ten colonies for \$40, thinking to do better than to buy of my cousin at double the money; but I might better have given him \$10 per colony than to have purchased where I did, for I got more than I bargained for, namely foul brood—that scourge of the apiarist. Of course I didn't know I was getting foul brood or I should never have bought. During that season I saw considerable of what I termed dead and chilled brood. Some colonies becoming weak from this, I changed frames with stronger ones, and thus spread the disease through the yard. Still, not being conscious of its presence, though my suspicions were at times aroused, I would quiet them with the assurance that there was not such a thing in the country as foul brood. For it was not generally known at that time that foul brood was at all prevalent in the Dominion. During this season I secured some hundreds of pounds of honey in the place of thousands, which was attributable to the disease. During the

following winter I lost rather heavily, and in the spring I got some more bees and built up during the season to ninety and some odd colonies. During July I had one colony from which I had extracted a couple of times or more, and, on looking at the combs about three or four days after last extracting, I noticed that they seemed to be at a standstill. Allow me to say just here that the foul brood act had been passed during the previous winter, and bee-keepers were waking generally to the fact that foul brood was quite prevalent in Ontario. On examining this hive to which I have referred a few days later, I found that they had still made no progress, so I resolved on an examination, when I found them in what appeared to me to be an advanced stage of foul brood. After closing up the hive, I consulted my books in reference to the disease, and found that the condition of the hive was just in accordance with what the books termed foul brood. Upon ascertaining for a certainty that it was foul brood, I immediately sent for the Inspector, who did not, however, arrive until after the honey flow had pretty well ceased. When Mr. McEvoy entered my yard he looked around, and then said, "You have one of the finest apiaries here I ever saw," and he could scarcely think that in a yard, where everything is laid down by rule, that one could find much foul brood; but in this he was mistaken, for it was in nearly every hive in the yard. He next gave me his directions for curing, but before I could get my foundation so as to proceed, the honey flow had ceased, and, of course, after extracting all the honey, had to feed sugar and, like a good many others, I failed to give sufficient stores, consequently when the following spring arrived I found I only had about fifty per cent. of the number of colonies which I had the previous fall. By the following June I had less than forty per cent. of what I had the previous fall, and with these I moved, according to the advice of Mr. McEvoy, to the county of Wellington, as a better location than the one which I then occupied. I spent the whole of this season in endeavoring to eradicate the last trace of foul brood, but was only partially successful. Again I had to feed for winter, and on account of there being still some trace of the disease I did not feel inclined to spend much money on them, and, as might be expected, the following spring found me with scarcely a colony left, which I concluded to destroy, and then thoroughly disinfect everything in connection with the apiary and get in a fresh lot of bees, which I did. I now have an apiary consisting of 44 colonies, which are in good shape for winter and free from foul brood. In