

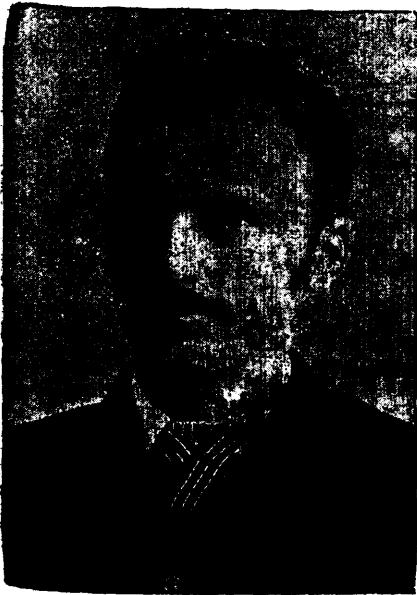
BIOGRAPHICAL.

R. F. HOLTERMANN.

WE present the readers of the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL this issue, with a very good likeness of Mr. R. F. Holtermann, who now resides at Romney, and who in addition to other duties keeps about 100 colonies of bees. Though we have not at all times agreed on many of the subjects before the apicultural world, and though Mr. Holtermann was for some time, in fact during the whole of its existence, editor of the *Canadian Honey Producer*, which paper enroached on the field peculiar to the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, yet that does not prevent us from recognizing the fact that he has endeavored in his own way to extend apiculture in every way possible.

The following is a condensed biography of Mr. H.:

Richard Ferdinand Holtermann was born in the city of Hamburg, Germany, on June



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14, 1860. Two years later, the parents, with their son and two daughters, emigrated to Canada, settling in the county of Renfrew, Ont. There, at the age of 12 or 13, young Holtermann received a portion of his education from a governess. Later, he was sent to a private school, and shortly afterwards he attended the Ottawa Collegiate Institute, at Ottawa. There his mind wandered, he says, in the direction of

boating, cricketing, swimming, etc., rather than toward study.

When about 14, his father moved to Toronto, and then sent his son to the Upper Canada College, where he received the "1 A. diploma." He then decided to go on the farm. Shortly afterwards he attended the Ontario Agricultural College, where he graduated with honors, being only 70 marks out of 4,000 behind the first medalist. It was in this school, in the capacity of librarian, that the subject of apiculture was opened up to him through the medium of several bee-books.

The next season was spent as a student with Mr. D. A. Jones, in the apiary. He next made the great mistake, he says, of embarking in apiculture a little too soon. The result was, he learned many severe lessons. With his apiary of 79 colonies he underwent the trying ordeal of a bad season, to begin with. However, he secured enough Alsike clover honey to enable him to secure the second premium at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition.

Later, he entered into some speculations, and came out nearly \$1,000 in debt; but, unlike a good many young men, he was not discouraged, but went to work again, and paid 100 cents on the dollar, instead of trying to get out as he could have done, by paying a few cents on the dollar. He entered the employ of E. L. Goold & Co., of Brantford, commencing at 85 cents a day, and left as manager of the supply business, and editor of the *Canadian Honey Producer*!

He married on May 17, 1887, Lois, daughter of S. T. Pettit, of Belmont, Ont., whom he met at the last meeting of the North American Beekeepers' Convention, held at Rochester, N. Y. They have one son and a daughter; and in their home they seek to have God's will their own. As might be expected, Mr. H. uses neither tobacco nor liquor.

Mr. Holtermann has made beekeeping pay, and he has averaged, he says, latterly, \$8.00 per colony, income. He thinks that any body can do as well in a fair locality, providing they start with one or two colonies.

Mr. Holtermann has been active in bee associations, in which he has held various offices. At the meeting held in Columbus, O., his name was proposed several times for the presidency of the association; but he very modestly declined the honor in favor of another member. His name was next proposed for secretary, and was carried by the unanimous consent of the association.

He has held various presidencies, and a large number of secretaryships; and, at one time, the bee-departments in three agricultural periodicals.