

assure him that none was intended. When he has been assailed as much as I have been, his skin will become so toughened that he will not deem every dissent from his views as a direct attack on him.

J. E. POND.

North Attleboro, June, 1888.

For the Canadian Bee Journal.

SECTIONS GROOVED INSIDE.

OBERVE in the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL of this week reference made to cutting a groove in the sections for holding the foundation in its place. This is the first intimation I have had in print of fastening foundation in that way, although I have been putting in mine in that way this season. I cut a groove in each of the sections which I got from you last season before putting them together, and so far the foundation is held in them securely and well. I would have written you at the time, but I thought I would wait until I would see how it would work. Of course I have not appliances such as you have in the factory for cutting the groove. I made a chisel somewhat after the pattern of a carver's chisel, and used a guide to keep the chisel in its place so that it would not cut too deep as I ran it along the inside of the section. The proper way, of course, would be to run the whole section over the saw. I do not claim originally in the cutting of the sections. I saw or heard of it being done before I tried it. I find this is a poor year for bees thus far, but they are doing well since the late rains. I have not had any swarms yet, and it is late for me.

WM. DICKSON.

Milton, June 15th, 1888.

We are glad to hear from you in this matter. You evidently had not noticed the request which we made for reports some time since from all who had tried the plan of cutting grooves for the insertion of foundation. We hardly understand from your letter whether you cut the groove all the way round or not. It is this that is claimed as the invention, not the cutting of a groove in the portion of a section, which, set in a crate, would be uppermost. The latter plan has been in use in the United States for some time. We could not see any great advantage to be derived from simply making the cut in the top of the section. You mention having seen or heard of the plan before you tried it. Can you recollect where or from whom you saw or heard of it. In a letter received a day or two ago from

a prominent English bee-keeper, T. Bonner-Chambers, F.L.S., he says:—"How is it everybody is so slow in recognizing that the groove in all four inner faces is the very best method of fixing foundation." From the reports we have had we believe that this is one of the best things yet invented, and that there will be but very little trouble from sagging combs.

For the Canadian Bee Journal.

My Impressions Regarding Foul Brood.

AT present I have in the yard 53 old stocks, and of these over one third have bad brood in them, in some cases only 3 to 5 cells, and in no case over about one dozen apparent. The appearance is as follows:—The larvæ is just about ready to cap, or has been just capped when overtaken; sometimes it will be flattened out, of milky white, again of a greyish shade, and again in various degrees of brown, from mere ribs of that color becoming apparent in the back to a prominent dark brown all over. It nearly always retains its form, but is filled with a watery substance and skin easily broken when touched with a spear of orchard grass. A fortnight ago some of the dead brood had a black appearance and when the skin was pierced a thin inky substance would come out. In one or two hives I have come across a brown decomposed matter with a very pronounced smell—the smell was so at least in one hive where I had a chance to test it, in another hive the stringy brownness was conclusive enough so I closed it up and went on to another.

The spring has been an unusually trying one, being so cold and backward with little chance of gathering, and my impression is that this brood—for most part at least—is in this state for want of proper care on the part of the bees, not from chilling necessarily, as it is not to be found in any particular part of the comb but scattered in all parts.

In one hive, which has since been destroyed, there was a large quantity of young bees and scarcely any old ones, the quantity of dead larvæ was so great that I commenced to medicate after Cheshire's method of pouring into the combs, but this was starting robbing and I concluded to starve, but the cold in cellar evidently took the life out of the young bees, and in 36 hours they were down in the bottom of the box giving up, when I took them out and shook them into the hive with foundation. The queen with a number of bees succumbed and I gave another queen, which turned up missing after about 14