

fall. I must at the same time be consistent and add, that about one-third are in fair shape, another third middling, and the balance from weak to very weak. But all things considered, although not as good as last season at this time, I have no reason to complain under the circumstances, and am thankful that so far as I can at present see all are sound and healthy. After all, should everything always be to our liking, we might lose our equilibrium and run too many risks. This you know, Mr. Editor, has been done in the past, and therefore it behooves us to be on the alert in future, and if we don't all do as Mr. Pringle has advised Mr. McKnight to do, we can at least hope and prepare for an average crop, as we may yet secure more honey than the prospects now indicate; for has not some one already stated, that late springs generally give good seasons, provided, of course, we only have the laborers on hand at the proper time.

As the weather has so far eclipsed itself in quality, it is possible the coming eclipse of the moon on the 11th inst., may yet cause such an eclipse of the honey flow in quantity as we have not seen for many years past.

F. A. GEMMILL,

Stratford, May 9th, 1892.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Foul Brood.

CANADIAN BEE JOURNALS for April 1st and 15th are just to hand. I am much interested in S. Cornell's article on Foul Brood, and most strongly commend his advocacy of Cheshire's method of cure. I know Mr. Cheshire personally, and I heard him read his first paper on Foul Brood before the British Bee-Keepers' Association; in fact, my acquaintance with him began by my suggesting to him that the most virulent form of the disease was caused by the queen being diseased, and at his request I mailed him three queens, in one of which he found foul brood bacilli. If I am not mistaken, the queen is still preserved in the museum of the B.B.K.A.

My attention was first directed to the probability of the queen being diseased by a case brought under my notice in which a purchased queen was given to a swarm hived on clean sheets of foundation, which shortly developed the disease in its worst type, nearly the whole of the brood dying before it was sealed, the odor being very bad. I had before that, cases under treatment where the greater proportion of dead brood were in sealed cells, and having a slight knowledge of the history of the silk worm disease—Pebrine—and Pasteur's discovery of its cause and cure, I argued that like it, there

might be two types, one hereditary, as from a diseased silk worm moth, so from a diseased queen; the other transmitted by infection, the same as a healthy silk worm eating food fouled by a diseased worm, contracted Pebrine; so young bees or larvae might be infected in the same way, and I was very gratified when Mr. Cheshire wrote me that he had found bacteria in one queen, and sent me bacilli mounted on a slide out of her.

Since I came to this country some seven years ago, I have had no chance to study the subject on these lines, but anyone can be sure that by following Mr. Cheshire's method of feeding medicated syrup, using the best antiseptic at command in proper proportions, (I have cured bad cases nearly as well with Salicylic acid as with phenol), they need never lose a single stock—provided only that if very young brood is found putrid, the queen being instantly killed and a healthy queen substituted.

Dr. Lortet's article is the more interesting in that whilst he suggests another antiseptic, he confirms Mr. Cheshire almost entirely, and I especially wish to call attention to the first paragraph on page 28 regarding the fastidiousness of the foul brood bacteria. "I have known mild cases in England vanish without treatment when the meadow sweet (spirea) came into bloom: this was, I believe, from the antiseptic properties contained in the flowers." Research in this direction might prove to be of vast help, and the planting of flowers with antiseptic properties greatly aid the stamping out of the disease.

H. FITZ HART,

Avery, La., U. S. A.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Worthy Exponent of Bee Larvæ.

ON page 567 in A. B. J. we find this statement as a caution, of course, to bee-keepers; "Whenever you find any one advertising to sell articles below their value (unless damaged or out of date) it is very evident that the article is an inferior one. First-class goods always command their full value in any line."

Now, I suppose they mean to include queens as well as other things, and as a queen breeder, I take exception to the statement. In my method of obtaining queen cells with a Carniolan colony to build the cells, which will build more cells than the Italians on account of their known breeding qualities, I can breed Carniolan or Italians cheaper than those who follow the old methods of former days, and I send you my method of getting queen cells, for publication, so that any one can the better