

be the lowest, that the melted wax will run to the front, so that the sheet of foundation will sweep this hot wax that has been melted from the preceding slip ahead of it as the hot plate is withdrawn. The metal plate should slide backward and forward in a groove, or on a small rocking shaft; a spring carries it back away from the section and a foot treadle brings it forward again after an empty section has been put into place. The front point of the plate should come through the section about a half-inch past the center of the section.

The block that supports the section is similar to the Daisy foundation fastener, except that the block is hinged about an inch above the section, so that the foundation is supported while the section is being turned into an upright position. One lamp is all that is required to heat the metal plate, as the plate is a little less than 4 inches square. A piece of an old saw blade makes a very good plate.

A similar machine to the above is used for fastening foundation in brood frames except that it is made long enough to take a brood frame; also a metal plate 17 inches long will require three lamps to heat it.

ST. THOMAS, Ont., March 12, 1897.

Notes for Beginners.

During this month you must not forget to shade and ventilate the hives according to weather and do not crowd your hives too much. This is the month during which many bee-keepers should provide their bee- with winter stores. A beginner must avoid "tinkering" with his bees, and what may be a good plan for the advanced bee-keeper may be all wrong for the beginner. Leave at least two full combs in the extracting super of every hive and hold this in reserve until in the Fall of year you find your bees have enough honey for winter. This will save you much work and trouble. If you are in a district where there is almost sure to be a good buckwheat flow, the latter may be depended on.

Keep your bees together as much as possible, avoid after swarms by putting the new swarm on the old stand, and in tight second swarms try and find the young queen or queens and return the remaining bees. See that every colony has a queen and you will lay the foundation to successful bee keeping.

R. F. HOLTERMANN.

Canadian Thistles (?)

—BY ERIN-GO-BRAUGH.

I have just finished perusing the Canadian Bee Journal for June. I fear the editor has come to the conclusion that because my name is associated with thistles, that I am a porridge devouring Scotchman. Now any sensible person looking at my autograph would suppose that I was a Spaniard or an Italian. Judging however, from the manner in which it appeared under the above head, in your last issue, I have about made up my mind, that your readers will take me for a Commanche Indian or a Bee Journal editor. At any rate, I have for the present decided, that if it were not for the thistles I could not be sure where to find myself, and will therefore change my signature in the hope that the practical joke played on me by the Combination at Brantford, will not make me appear next as Gemmilachus Cabbachus or something even worse than a Saur Kraut Eating Dutchman.

FOUL BROOD.

Some time in the near future I hope to give your subscribers some information why a few Canadian Apiarists in and around Woodstock and Stratford, myself among the rest, pressed so hard to secure legislation on the above disease. My reason for so doing is because there is evidently considerable misunderstanding regarding the matter, and honor has in some instances been credited to wrong sources, while others entitled to some consideration for their efforts have not received due appreciation for the active part they took in assisting to secure such. Fair play is bonnie play—more anon.

POISONOUS PROPOLIS.

Is there such a thing as a persons hands becoming poisoned through scraping supers, money boards, &c. The reason why I mentioned this, is because I observed in some of the bee periodicals that such poisoning had actually taken place.

Now my Epidermis is naturally very tender, in fact to such an extent, that even strong or cheap soap has to be avoided, and it may be that I have been punished unawares from the use of the latter. But to explain. While engaged scraping propolis as stated, the fine particles adhered to my hands, and they had frequently to be cleansed with water and some beautifully perfumed cheap toilet soap, secured at