

MR. R. F. HOLTERMANN, THE APIARIST.



WE have the pleasure of introducing to our readers this month the face of an enthusiast in bee-keeping; Mr. R. F. Holtermann, of Brantford, who has been contributing to these pages so much valuable matter in the apiary department. He first appeared before our Association at our meeting in Brantford, in December, 1892, and read a very interesting paper on "Bee-keeping and Fruit-growing as a United Industry," which appears in our last report on page 34. In it he shows that bee-keeping, if intelligently conducted, is profitable; but even if not directly profitable to the fruit-grower, it is indirectly so, by reason of the work done by the bees in the fertilization of the blossoms.

Richard Ferdinand Holtermann was born in Hamburg, Germany, in 1860. His boyhood was spent in the County of Renfrew, and his education was acquired at the Ottawa Collegiate Institute, Upper Canada College, Day's Commercial College, and the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. His knowledge of practical bee-keeping was gained by two years with Mr. D. A. Jones at Beeton, who is the Bee King of Canada.

In 1882, Mr. Holtermann was made Secretary of the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association, and in his representative capacity is a frequent attendant upon the meetings of the various Convention of bee-keepers in the neighboring Republic. He has also held various other offices as Secretary of the Ontario Experimental Union, President of the same, President of the Brant Bee-Keepers' Association, Lecturer at the Farmers' Institute, besides being an active member of various other educational societies.

Mr. Holtermann is not without experience in fruit growing, having been one of the first to attempt growing apples and pears in the County of Renfrew. His venture was not very successful, owing to the selection of unsuitable varieties. Since that time, thanks to our Association, certain varieties have been proved hardy enough to be planted in that district. He is a warm friend of the fruit grower, as is evidenced by the tone of his recent



FIG. 577.—R. F. HOLTERMANN.