

vouch for the practical value of the honey bee as a mascot to a cherry man. Other orchardists are watching their experience with great interest, and may conclude that, to succeed in cherry culture, a beehive and a cherry orchard must be planted side by side.

THE WEATHER

so far, has been favorable to the fall flow of honey. The bees are working right along up to date (Aug. 22nd) on buckwheat, second crop of clover, corn, golden rod, catnip, and other odds and ends, with the prospect of at least a week or ten days more of good work.

ALLEN PRINGLE.

Selby, Ont.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Foul Brood Combs Made Safe Without Melting Down.

DEAR SIR:—At different times I have read your remarks that you have never been able to find any plan by which foul brood combs could be made safe for use without melting down, but that you did not despair of being able to do so yet.

I know that one can hardly exercise too much care in dealing with the disease, yet it seems to me that at least in slight cases where there are only a few cells affected in the hive, the combs, after having the cells uncapped and honey extracted, might be disinfected so as to be perfectly safe, by carefully immersing them in water containing a certain per centage (say 1 in 500) of pure carbolic acid, till all the pollen and everything else of a soakable nature was saturated thoroughly, then using the extractor to throw all out that would come. Of course every cell would have to be uncapped, and care would have to be taken that the water was not excluded from any by air remaining in them. Dipping the comb perpendicularly would possibly accomplish this best.

Preshire has shown that the bees can clear out the disease by carrying in the disinfectant with feed given them, and it has been shown by Muth that by spraying every cell the disease can be eradicated for the time being, but the weak point with the systems seems to be that latent germs may remain concealed under pollen or elsewhere, where the disinfectant cannot get at them, and so they are apt to start the trouble afresh; but it seems to me that by immersion, every cell being uncapped, the saturation would be perfect, and every possible germ be reached. If not troubling you too much and the question is of sufficient general interest, I would be glad

to know whether your experiments have embraced this line of treatment, and, if so, on what account you concluded it to be a failure, or unreliable.

I am yours respectfully,

R. W. McDONNELL.

We have soaked combs for hours and days, in various solutions—salsalic acid, carabolic acid, and absolute phenol; In one instance we soaked them three days. We have sprayed cells that were effected with foul brood, thoroughly, and after all, had the disease start again, when the combs were used. We have never been able to cure the disease by spraying combs, or soaking them in any solution. We have in very slight cases, where we only found half a dozen or less cells affected, extracted the honey, cut these cells right out, burned them, and sprayed the combs thoroughly several times. We then extracted the honey again, sprayed the combs again, and just kept this up for from one to two months, cutting out and burning every cell that appeared from time to time, and yet occasionally a cell of foul brood would appear. After exercising all the care and diligence possible, we became disgusted with that kind of tinkering, and adopted our old methods again. Probably if we had continued it for two years, we might have succeeded in curing the disease, but the trouble, danger and time was too great. Life is too short for us to waste it all curing a few colonies of foul brood. Stamp it out at once. You will see by the back numbers of Gleanings, where A. J. Root brought all the skill and patience to bear, that he could muster, and yet had to fall back on the fasting system, and has almost come to the conclusion, that there is no use trying any other.

Punic Bees.

I WAS much amused with the satirical remarks of "Veritas" which you copy from the American Bee Journal in yours of June 15th respecting the perfection of Punic Bees.

In the British Bee Journal of July 30th, page 343, the following is a reply to R. L. G. W. California:

"No such race of bees as you name is known to entomologists, nor do we know any one who has cultivated them. Until we have some trustworthy information, the account you allude