

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Foul Brood.

MR. EDITOR. What does Mr. John F. Gates mean when he says on page 36 "C. B. J." of May 1st inst, that "lack of larvae food causes foul brood." This is a new idea to me, and one that is hardly tenable. There is no question that lack of food will cause starvation, but there is as great a difference between, foul brood and starvation as can possibly be imagined; that is to say in my opinion. Mr. Gates may be correct; in my judgement he is not, and before I can accept the idea he offers he must furnish proofs, and not rest on mere assertion.

Foul brood, is a matter of importance, and one on which we want all the light there is; but don't give us an "ignis fatuus."

I never flatter, and I do not think you will look on it as flattery for me to say that the C. B. J. is one of the best Bee Journals published. It is eminently practical, and not only that, but you have writers who are scientific, and who give articles of great value to the student as well as to the ordinary bee man. While the Bee journals are supposed to keep up with the times generally you go further and your arrangements with such writers as Pringle, Corneil, McKnight, etc., are such that he who wishes to know something of entomology as well as analysis, gets it from them, their articles making your journal in that respect the best of all.

I must not write further, else you will say "rats."

Yours truly,

J. E. POND.

You are no doubt correct that starved brood is very far from being similar to foul brood and some who have not had quite as much experience in foul brood as others, are quite conscientious in their imaginations as to the cause of foul brood. It is beyond all question an important disease and while I am not prepared to say just where it originated, I am quite sanguine in regard to not being able to start it unless we have the germs of foul brood. We are very sorry that you will not be able to give us more articles on account of your very large practice as a lawyer, as we find very many important facts brought to light from your pen when you do find time to write.

We thank you very much for your kind expressions in reference to the

CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL and we are only sorry that ill health has prevented us from giving it the attention that we would like to have given it.

Bee-Keeping in Western Ontario.

WHEN MR. HOLTERMANN lived in Western Ontario we quite frequently saw articles from his pen, but since his return to Brantford no one has written an article from this section. Can it be that there is not a bee-keeper in this Western portion of Ontario who is sufficiently interested in the pursuit to occasionally give you an item. For myself, I have not the ability to write an article that would do justice to this as a honey country. Lambton, Essex and Kent lie alongside the St. Clair river so that they are the most westerly counties in Ontario. Until late years the greater part of these counties has been a dense wilderness with deep swamps. The government having constructed large drains at short intervals through the country, have caused it to become fertile. Now some farmers go as far as to say that this will, in a few years, be the garden of Canada. As for bee-keeping we do not have to wait; Dame Nature causes flowers to bloom which were planted here by an all-wise Creator long before it was inhabited by man. My bees generally bring in pollen about the 10th of April. In the spring of '89 pollen was gathered on the 23rd of March, after which they were again at work on the soft maple buds with about three inches of snow on the ground. The snow that day gave way to the heat of old Sol and bees were then all right for the remainder of the season. During the previous year pollen was not gathered until April 26th, the latest I have known during my experience as an apiarist. Our honey harvest does not begin until clover yields nectar, which is between the 10th and 15th of June, then we have four months of almost a steady honey flow. Previous to clover bloom, bees gather sparingly from maple and raspberries, there being no orchards here yet, so when clover comes they are mostly in good condition to go to work. After it, comes the Basswood bloom between the 1st and 15th July. In some places where buckwheat is sown, it comes next; then follows Bonaset Golden Rod, Heart-ease, Spanish Needle, and lastly, the Astar, which is visited by bees even after the first frosts. Fireweed is a fall plant which yields an abundance of honey, but it only springs up the summer following a fire, therefore we cannot count on it every year. During the year '88 (which every person will remember) our honey