

CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

NEW SERIES
VOL. VI, No. 12.

BRANTFORD, ONT., JUNE, 1899.

WHOLE No.
412

Herr L. Hoffman in an article in the Munchener Bienen Zeitung says that foul brood germs are kept under control by

the formic acid a colony secretes and throws off. He speaks of the foul brood floating in the atmosphere. Referring to Herr Alphonsus' investigations and writings, he quotes the latter gentleman as saying: "On a cool day, by opening the hive, one can readily see how the bees disinfect the atmosphere which rushes in. They lift the posterior ends of the abdomen, thrust forward the sting, upon which the poison drop—the means of disinfection—hangs." Herr Alphonsus argues that foul brood may be developed and caused from chilled brood, the latter developing spontaneously, but Herr Hoffman says not. He, however, admits that in colonies where a large proportion of brood is chilled the condition of the combs and the diminished amount of formic acid generated in the hive renders it liable to the attack of foul brood germs floating in the atmosphere. Whatever the direct cause may be, the editor of the Canadian Bee Journal has always pursued the safe policy—to remove combs having chilled brood and either render them, securing the beeswax, or burning the comb as it left the hive. The editor of this journal does not believe in the spontaneous generation of germs but he does believe that formic acid in a strong colony may hinder the development of germs which might otherwise prove harmful. We do not believe

that it pays to give the bees the task of cleaning out any considerable quantity of dead brood in a comb.

Imports and Exports of Honey and Wax.

According to the last report of the Department of Trade and Commerce there was 43,232 lbs. of honey imported into Canada for the year ending June 30th, 1898, valued at \$3,020, and 29,500 lbs of beeswax, value, \$8,015, and bees to the value of \$430. Wax and manufacturers of wax from British Empire, \$5,298; the balance from other countries. The previous year ending June 30, 1897, there was exported 26,596 lbs. of honey, value, \$2,811.

Honey exported for the year ending June 30, 1898, 5,213 lbs, value, \$507. Of this the British Empire took 2,093 lbs, value, \$193, Great Britain taking 2000 lbs., Newfoundland 93 lbs., and the United States, 3,121 lbs. Ontario exported 3,003, Quebec 2,182, Nova Scotia 8, and Prince Edward Island 21 lbs. Of the bees imported Ontario took \$306, Quebec \$34, and British Columbia \$90.

In the same book we find about paraffine: The United States sent to Canada 103,041 lbs., costing 5 1/10 cts. per lb. What Great Britain sent averaged 5 1/5 cts. per lb. and that from Germany 6 cts. per lb. The latter pretty well bears out the statement made some time ago as to the value of paraffine.

I am happily disappointed in the way my bees have come through. They had a good fly yesterday and the day before. Only five dead out of 144.

JACOB ALPAUGH.

Waterloo, Apr. 14th, '99.