

matter of five, so in like manner I look for you to do the same with the rest soon. In any event, dear Doctor, rest easy in the matter of the other foxes. "It's the old rats we are singeing now, the others will take warning." Now then, dear Doctor, now then.

JOHN F. GATES,
Ovid, Erie Co., Pa.

April 13th, 1892.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Query.

DEAR SIR,—I see an article in your JOURNAL of April 1st, from Mr. R. F. Holtermann, on "The Taking of Comb Honey." Will he please tell us how he keeps the queens from going in the sections without the perforated metal on. Please answer in JOURNAL soon, and oblige a subscriber.

J. P. ADLIAD.
Strathroy, Ont.

April 14th, 1892.

ANSWER TO J. P. ADLIAD.

If I would take or pretend to take a biased view upon the question of the necessity of queen excluders, it would naturally be in the direction of having them for the production of comb honey. But my own personal experience leads me to believe and hold, that the queen will so rarely lay in the sections, that to go to the expense of having a queen excluder is unnecessary, and to put the bees to the trouble of passing through the metal is also unnecessary. With a hive not shallower than the Langstroth, the queen will very rarely pass into the sections to deposit eggs, providing the sections are not larger than $4\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$. Of course the larger the section, the greater the danger. If the use of separators would have any influence on the queen, it would be in the direction of keeping her out of them. I use $\frac{3}{8}$ in. thick top bar, but even with $\frac{3}{8}$ in. top bar I do not think the queen would pass into the sections often enough to make the use of a queen excluder advisable. I notice that Mr. Gemmell supports me in advocating the use of separators. There are but few use them in the making of comb honey, and to advocate their use, will do much. Last Saturday I had a visit from Jacob Alpaugh, and in conversation we brought up the question of wired foundation. Mr. Alpaugh has tried wired frames, as I have, and the conclusion he has come to is so strong, that although he has a lot of foundation in combs wired, he intends to melt up the foundation and make no more wired combs. I notice in Mr. Gemmell's article that he values Mr. Alpaugh's opinion (and I think

rightly) highly enough to pay \$2 for his secret as to the new method. He has his opinion on wired frames for nothing. I enjoyed Mr. Alpaugh's opinion on the wired frames, it was just what I wanted as evidence. No, I have done with wired frames; they are a trouble and expense for which we have only a slight return. It is hard to kindle into life dead ashes. My fever for wired frames has burned out, never, I believe, to be rekindled.

R. F. HOLTERMANN,
Brantford, Ont.

April 25th, '92.

From Gleanings.

Paint For Bee Hives.

THE BEST PAINT; PRIMING COATS; HOW TO DETECT
ADULTERATION IN PAINT, ETC.

BY ERNEST R. ROOT.

WWE have already given some hints in regard to the most durable paints for bee hives; but during the last few months we have been collecting material from various sources, and are now in position to offer some information that may be valuable to our readers, now that we are about to enter upon spring weather, when the bee-keeper may have time to paint some of his hives that may be sadly in need of it.

It is a well-known fact among painters, that yellow French ochre gives a very permanent covering, especially for priming coats. Ochre would doubtless supersede even white lead were it not that its color is against it. It is also stated that a priming coat of ochre presents such a hard surface that a covering of lead does not adhere so well as it does to a priming coat of lead. A few years ago nearly all the priming was done with yellow ochre; but it was discovered that the later coats of lead would flake off; so generally, now, for house painting, pure lead for a priming coat is preferred, providing it can be obtained. But we shall have occasion to speak of adulterated leads further on. It is generally acknowledged that French ochre combines very readily with lead, and the combination makes a more durable paint than even pure lead; but unfortunately, so-called pure leads are fearfully adulterated. Dealers get to cutting on prices, and manufacturers are tempted to put in barytes, lime, and other cheap ingredients, which, instead of adding to the permanence of the paint, work in an inverse ratio. The result is, that some of these adulterated lead paints show a very poor surface in a couple of years. The paint either flakes off or rubs off like chalk.

Besides pure lead, and genuine yellow French ochre, pure zinc is another good body for paint