



FIG. 1. PORTION OF COMB INFECTED WITH FOUL-BROOD. NATURAL SIZE.

Foul-brood is usually brought into the hive in the honey obtained from a previously infected source. The spore or bacillus finds its way into the alimentary canal of the larvæ along with the food or chyle, and at once begins to increase at an enormous rate until all the available nutriment for its development is used up. The larva in the early stages of the disease assumes an unnatural position. The colour also changes from a pearly-white to a dirty-yellow, and eventually to a dark-brown, sticky, putrid mass. During these stages the smell is usually of an objectionable character, resembling very closely the odour given off by hot glue. In cases where the larva has died after being capped over, the cappings are an indication of the disease contained in the cell. They will be found to be sunken or concave, dark in colour, greasy in appearance, and in some instances perforated. This, however, is not always the case. The cappings over the cells containing healthy brood are usually convex. A good queen lays her eggs in circles, and the fact of a single cell remaining unhatched is suspicious. If allowed to take its course the disease spreads rapidly to surrounding cells and combs, till finally no brood can hatch and the colony succumbs. On opening some of the cells a thin glue-like