



"THE GREATEST POSSIBLE GOOD TO THE GREATEST POSSIBLE NUMBER."

VOL. II. No. 9. BEETON, ONTARIO, MAY 26, 1886. WHOLE No. 61

OUR OWN APIARY.

A FEW weeks ago we had occasion to go about 300 miles east of Toronto. In passing along, although snow lay on the ground, in many places we could see from the timber and the locality that there were many fine bee-ranges unoccupied. At intervals we found localities that appeared to have few of our favorite honey-producing trees, but in many places we found them in such abundance that it looked like "a bee-keeper's paradise." Returning by way of Kingston, we called on a friend there who started to keep bees last year, purchasing 10 colonies to commence with. These he increased to 19. One of the best swarms left for the woods. In the neighborhood of Kingston there is scarcely any linden, in fact there is very little to depend on, except clover. She secured, however, over 50 lbs. of honey to a colony. A hurried examination showed that they had been in fine condition when put in winter quarters except two which were apparently short of stores. It has seldom been our pleasure to see finer colonies, or bees come out in better condition. The manner of wintering was as follows: Two, or three were placed in each clamp, packed around with straw and chaff, with good cushions of saw-dust on top. The outside cases were then filled tightly with straw, over the cushions. These cases were banked up with earth all around, (except the entrance) nearly to the top.

This banking of earth is certainly a great protection from cold, and this is only one of a number of instances where the plan has been successfully tried. This was all achieved by a lady who had but a few weeks' experience here two years ago.

FRENCH WINTERING.

We have just paid our fourth annual visit to Mr. Bray's bee-yard, and pronounce his system of wintering a perfect success. He did not lose a single colony. We gave a description of his method of procedure in the CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL, Vol. 1, page 531. The only improvements he has made upon the system there described are that he places small boards between hives at intervals to project about a foot in front and rise about 8 in. above the entrance. Then he has driven stakes in the ground and set a board against them. Another board is laid upon these projecting ends forming an air chamber all along the fronts of the hives, and at the same time darkening the entrance. Few dead bees were found in any of the hives.

A YEAR AMONG THE BEES.

WE have received Dr. C. C. Miller's new book bearing the above title, and have read it with much pleasure. It is not a dissertation on the bee, or a treatise on bee-keeping, but a plain "familiar chat,"—a free and easy talk, on practical apiculture. The author begins with the