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EDITORIAL.

Before this issue goes into the hands of subscribers, most of the bees will be taken from winter quarters and placed on their summer stands. Those wintered outside will probably be allowed to remain with their outer cases still in place. It is a good plan to afford them this protection till the weather becomes settled and warm, unless indeed they show signs of diarrhoea, mildew, or other untoward conditions, in which case they should be carefully overhauled and cleaned, after which the outer cases may be replaced and the packing returned. Where supers were used over the brood chamber during the winter, they ought now to be removed and the bees tucked comfortably in the chamber below. The packing should be allowed to remain around them but not on top. Stocks in good condition ought to be left severely alone for a time: but those foul or weak should be attended to.

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April is a good time to perfect preparations for the honey season, if such are not already completed. A pretty correct estimate may now be made of the supplies needed for the year, and what is wanting ought to be procured as soon as possible. It is short sighted policy to leave these to be ordered when needed. Old experienced beekeepers understand this, but beginners need to be reminded that such neglect frequently causes the loss of half the crop. See the bees sufficiently provisioned to carry them through till fruit bloom, which is about all the attention they will need in the meantime.

We are in receipt of circular and price list of Italian queens from W. H. Laws of Lavaca, Ark.

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We are requested to state that in a letter addressed to President Gemmell, Mr. J. S. Larke, acting Commissioner, suggests that it would be well to have some good photos of Canadian apiarists to place with the Canadian honey exhibit at the Chicago Exhibition. Mr. Gemmell thinks the acting Commissioner would undertake to get the photos enlarged. If those having good photos of their apiaries will send them to Mr. S. Corneil, Lindsay, he will forward them to Mr. Larke. In order to have them ready for the opening of the exhibition no time should be lost.

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Referring to Mr. Kirby's letter on the inutility of exhibitions for stimulating trade, with very much of which we agree, especially with that part of it which refers to the hopelessness of any value from the Columbian Exhibition in presence of the McKinley tariff, we have nevertheless to take exception to like inferences as the result of the late London Exhibition, held in a country where our products may be marketed freely and without hindrance of any kind. Mr. Kirby has no doubt read the explanation of Mr. Cowan, of the *British Beekeeper*, in regard to the difficulty. If so, he will find that the lack of profitable result to our honey gatherers from that exhibition was mainly due to the fact that the exploits of certain exhibitors of adulterated honey, who were not Canadians, had the effect of creating a strong feeling against American honey, the result of which was the expulsion of one exhibitor from the building, and the prejudicing our own honey as well as that of the United States in the "natural market" of both.