



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

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WHOLE NO. 113

EDITORIAL.

DR. O. M. Blanton, Greenville, Miss., sends us a late copy of the *Times Democrat*, published at New Orleans, in which is contained a history of Greenville and a statement of its vast importance as the centre of the greatest cotton district in the world. It has also many factories, oil mills, saw mills, etc., while one of the other chief attractions is the splendid apiary possessed by our friend, the Dr. They have also an artificial ice factory. This would be a curiosity to the natives of Canada, but in Florida and the Southern States it is one of the big enterprises and much money has been made out of it.

We have never been able to succeed in wintering colonies without ventilation. Perhaps it is our stupidity, but we have tried the matter frequently and more or less loss was always the result. It is true that bees can be wintered with very little ventilation, but we prefer to give them sufficient to prevent loss. According to the *Michigan Farmer*, Mr. C. W. Dayton, of Iowa, made a disastrous experiment with his apiary last winter. He had 112 colonies, 72 of which he prepared for wintering by covering them with forest leaves and then with eight inches of earth, leaving a passage from the entrance of each hive to the outer air, and a small space of the leaves uncovered at the top to allow upward ventilation and the escape

of moisture. Of the colonies thus prepared, 69 were alive in the spring. Forty colonies were prepared in the same way, except that no provision was made for upward ventilation, and every one of these were dead, and seemed to have died early, as but little honey had been consumed.

We have received some questions and other matter to which replies are requested in the *JOURNAL*. The letter is signed by a subscriber, but has no name accompanying it. We must follow out the rule of all newspaper offices, and cannot insert the questions until we have the name. If this should meet the eye of the writer, and he will kindly send his name, the questions will have our attention.

OUR OWN APIARY.

THE weather continues to be all that could be desired and brooding and honey gathering are carried on even in the weakest colonies. We do not ever recollect of seeing such a favorable time or the bees prospering as they have done since they were set out, there not being one case of spring dwindling. There are over twenty acres of fruit bloom within reach of our home apiary and the quantity of honey that has been gathered is larger than ever before. Many of the colonies could be extracted with profit to them just now, but we fear a