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

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D. A. JONES, - - - EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.
 F. H. MACPHERSON, - - - ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

GENERAL.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

Bees—Spring—The "Apl," Etc.

BEES are wintering much better inside this winter than last. This is due chiefly to the fact that the outside temperature has been considerably lower and more uniform. Last winter the bees were generally too warm in bee cellars and other winter repositories, inducing a greater consumption of stores. Unusual brooding and consequent bee-diarrhoea and shortage of stores or starvation. They have been more quiet the past winter, have consumed less stores and have not died off so rapidly, as shown by the condition of the cellar floors. The prospects for coming out in good order are excellent. But there need be no hurry in getting them out of winter quarters. They can remain in safely longer than last spring, for the reasons given above, viz., they are in healthier condition, have more stores and less premature brooding.

Bees wintered in cellars should receive special protection of some kind when put out in the spring. They should be packed with saw-dust, chaff, leaves, straw, or something else to prevent the escape of the heat from the hive and keep

the cold and wind out. This is work and trouble, but it pays. The question is, would it not be better—that is, cheaper and less trouble in the end—to use double-walled, packed hives the year round. I am inclined to think this is what is coming in latitudes necessitating spring and fall protection, and this includes Canada and the Northern States as well, perhaps, as many of the Central. If the double-walled hive can be made lighter and less cumbersome than hitherto, the end will be attained, for the extra expense will be less than that incurred by spring and fall packing and unpacking. Friend Corneil thinks this can be done by using the proper thickness of lumber in the construction, and granulated cork for packing. He uses such hives and considers them a success, I believe, both in point of economy and convenience. The cork packing is the chief obstacle in the way of getting up these hives. Should it turn out, however, that wood ashes may take the place of the cork and answer as well, or nearly as well, this obstacle will be removed. Friend Chalmers is, I believe, testing the ashes as packing, and he will probably give us the results as soon as he comes to a conclusion on the matter.

THE "API" ON THE RAMPAGE.

Mr. Alley, of the *Apl* is greatly exercised over the foul brood question in Canada in his January number, which I have just read. Because I ventured to urge our American cousins to be up and doing on this foul brood question, and all for their own good as well as ours, for we do not care to import the disease afresh from them after we have rid ourselves of it, Mr. Alley gets his "dander up" and