



"The Greatest Possible Good to the Greatest Possible Number."

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**GENERAL.**

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

**Well Ripened Honey.**

If we, as contributors to the press, or as members of an organization and of society, will be truly useful, we must not hesitate to point out what we consider to be wrong and injurious. It may often be an unpleasant task; but it is nevertheless our duty to do this. We should be careful first, however, to be right, and next that we do it in a spirit of kindness and for the general good. Self-interest, our own peculiar views and training may blind us, but we shall still deserve the respect of our fellow-men by so doing. I would like to point out kindly to Mr. W. F. Clarke that in the article on extracted honey written by him for the *Montreal Witness*, and republished in the *CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL*, he has done the producers of extracted honey and bee-keepers generally an injury. Any one who has been about the country and at exhibitions as much as I have, cannot have failed to observe that the idea is far too prevalent that extracted honey is largely adulterated. I am speaking of Canada now, not because I do not like my United States brethren, and not because I consider the bee-keepers of that country less honest; but because I wish to speak of our own country, the country in which I am in a position, as the result of my experience, to speak with some authority. I state, after quiet reflection, that I have yet to find a clear case of honey adulteration either on the part of bee-keepers or of those marketing honey. People who are not bee-keepers, and who are

ignorant of the subject, have for years taken it for granted that much honey is adulterated. For any one to state in the press that the pure extracted honey covers honey adulterated with glucose, and that "extracted honey largely consisting of glucose, a cheap and inferior sweet, is also an imposition on the public," and to speak of it in terms of disgust as a "conglomeration of old comb, dead brood and miscellaneous refuse from the hive," etc., is unjust, and, even if it were true, injudicious. It might, perhaps, be excusable, if true, in a bee journal, but not in such a paper as the *Montreal Witness*, a publication not read by bee-keepers alone, but by thousands upon thousands of consumers of honey. But the statement is not correct; it is misleading. The bulk of the circulation of the *Montreal Witness* is in Canada; and here we have no reason to fear that when we purchase honey it is likely to be impure or unclean. That it is too often unripe I admit; but even the discussion of this question would be best confined to bee-journals. We can in our articles to beginners in other periodicals point out the necessity of having honey well ripened, and leave it at that. I hope Mr. Clarke will kindly correct this matter in the *Witness*, and at least point out that there are some who take exception to the statement.

R. F. HOLTERMANN.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

**Hints on Wintering Bees.**

**W**INTERING bees, in common parlance, means I suppose the bringing of them through alive from one working season to the commencement of another—say, from 15th November to 15th April.