



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

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D. A. JONES

EDITOR.

EDITORIAL.

Bacillus Alvei.

On page 744 Mr. Corneil replies to Mr. Doolittle and myself on the foul brood controversy, right here let me say that you will notice ere Mr. Cornell closes he makes use of the quotation "whether scientists have discovered the germs of foul brood or not, is a question." Although these words appeared in our article, and we as editor of the Bee Journal, should be responsible for them, they are not my words but the assistant who has read considerable on foul brood, thought that we might have improved the article by putting in those words which he added, and as we have been in the habit of just dictating to one of our stenographers, then frequently not seeing the article until after they appear in the JOURNAL, those who are acquainted with such work will not be surprised that errors creep in. In fact, in years gone by, my former assistant editor frequently attempted to improve what we had said as he supposed, when it not unfrequently conveyed a different meaning. This is sure to be the case with novices who are not thoroughly trained

in practical bee-keeping,—he who does not and dare not look inside of a bee hive, cannot be expected to understand it thoroughly. Nothing short of a practical training in the bee yard will enable any one to edit or be a good assistant editor of a Bee Journal.

One might infer from Mr. Corneil's article that he would rather disprove fixed facts than admit them by quoting what he imagines to be proof from scientists, and right here let me say that we feel very grateful to scientists for the valuable information received from them from time to time, but we, like Mr. Doolittle, must say that those scientific facts must not be run in direct opposition to facts learned from years of practical experience. For instance, he says: "As a matter of fact 'Schoenfeld has proved that the food which is given to the young larvae contains, in a foul-broody hive a large quantity of these microbes.' Thus we see that whether the honey taken into the honey sac contains the infection or not, the brood-food prepared from it, by diseased nurse-bees will almost certainly contain germs which will give the disease to the larvae. To the ordinary observer, the disease would seem to come from the honey. This shows how mistakes may be made, when 'we go by practical experience,' instead of being guided by experience gained by observation with the microscope."

Now, what is the use of Mr. Corneil or any other scientist stating for a fact