



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

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WHOLE No. 225

EDITORIAL

WE are now mailing the premium queens to all who are entitled to them in the order in which they are entered in our books. All who should receive them will, therefore, be on the lookout for them.

OUR OWN APIARY.

THE attendants at two of our outside yards report a steady honey flow from various sources. But they are disappointed at the scarcity of the yield from alsike. By one of the yards is a 25-acre field, and very little honey has been gathered from this source. Why is it? We hope that the reports for Aug. 1st will specially mention the yield from alsike, and note whether the flow has been scarce or not.

Basswood is just coming into bloom and is exceedingly promising, while Canada thistles too are just coming out. Within a half-mile of our home yard is a field of ten or twelve acres, almost solid with Canada thistles, and we expect great results from it. You will wonder if our authorities allow this troublesome thistle to grow right in our midst. Well, no! They have just had a man engaged cutting all down along the streets of the village, but as this field is our own property they cannot go on and clear it themselves, and they are willing to give us the benefit of the

yield, providing we cut them down before they go to seed, which of course we will.

SWARM BALLING QUEEN.

On the 9th inst., about 5 p.m. a first swarm came out, and flew to a distance of about 200 yards, settling on a grape vine.

The foreman immediately proceeded to hive them, while doing so he noticed that the bees were balling the queen right in the cluster. He freed her and placed her at the entrance of the hive with her head pointing inward. Before she had travelled more than two or three inches she was again being balled. He then began to think that there must be two queens in the cluster and he caged this one in another hive. The swarm went right into the hive prepared for them and were all right until the next morning.

As soon as the foreman went into the yard he at once went to this swarm to see if it was all right, and whether or not they had a second queen, and found that they had not, and that moreover they were making every preparation to swarm out. He then took the queen which they were balling the evening before and placed her at the entrance when she ran in and they accepted her without further trouble.

We mention this case for two purposes: 1st. to ascertain from some of our brethren, if possible, what their opinions are as to why the swarm should ball its own and the only queen,