



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

VOL. VII, No. 23. BEETON, ONT., MARCH 1, 1892. WHOLE No. 307

## GENERAL.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL.

### The Punic Bee Eclipsed.

IN SHORT WE BELIEVE THAT THEIR SALE WILL ENTIRELY CEASE BOTH IN EUROPE AND AMERICA AFTER THE NEW RACE BECOMES KNOWN.

A NEIGHBOR of mine has been reading the C.B.J. very earnestly for years, and he has come to the conclusion that it is high time for Americans to put their wits to work to produce *Apis Americana*.

This new race of bees that Mr. Smith is producing has many advantages over any other honey bee in America. In the first place, they are much longer lived, and can do double the work of the ordinary bee, from the fact that they work night and day. This may seem a little strange, yet why has not this difficulty been overcome before? When our honey seasons are so short in some localities the bee that can gather honey at night as well as in day time must certainly possess wonderful advantages.

The way this is brought about is a cross between one of our best honey gatherers that was secured from the Bay State apiary, a daughter of that wonderful \$100 queen. In fact they were the only bees he could get that would cross readily with the pure American lightning bug; and being in the habit of making such rapid and extraordinary changes—turning from a jet black to a golden yellow in a short time. It will be readily understood that there would be but little difficulty in making a satisfactory cross of this bee and the lightning bug.

Now, Mr. Smith does not claim that the lightning bug does any more than add two su-

perior qualities to the bee; one to furnish light at night to gather honey, and the other to add to its longevity. He claims that this bee is capable of gathering just two crops of honey in one season. He says the honey gathered at night is slightly thinner than that gathered in the day time, which he attributes to heavy dews and moist atmosphere. He is determined not to sell any of the queens of this new race until he gets them patented, for fear some of these wonderful queen-producers overstock the market, and bring down the price before he has an opportunity of realizing on his production.

One of the claims in his patent is, the plan of crossing the queens with the American lightning bugs or fire-flies. The second will be the patenting of a race of bees that will gather honey all night and furnish their own light. He claims the whole system is so simple and so easy that a novice can work it perfectly when it has been thoroughly explained. Some may doubt this, but he claims it is just as simple and as easily done as it is to produce pure golden Carniolans in one season from the pure Carniolans from their native country.

He does not intend to sell any queens until he has sufficient on hand to supply all customers at the same time. This he thinks will prevent the trade getting into one or two hands and injuring his business. Surely this rivalry in superior races will bring about something satisfactory, but we would strongly urge that they be tested one season by himself, so he will be able to speak more fully of their qualities.

ANNANIAS JAMES.

The door leading to success ought to be labelled "PUSH"—Beekeepers Review.