



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

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## EDITORIAL.

### Introducing Queens.

IN our August 1st issue we suggested a plan of direct introduction of queens in the evening, which we have found quite successful, but in order to bring out fuller points on the matter we wrote to Mr. Bray, who was in charge of the experimenting when we first tested it, asking his views on the question, thinking, perhaps, a few pointers from him might give us facts, by which we would be able to guard our friends against loss. This is what Mr. Bray says:—

"Dear Mr. Jones,—Your request that I write you in reference to experiments in connection with the introducing of queens, to hand, and in reply would say that what you state in reference to them is quite correct. We have introduced from twenty-five to fifty young, unfertile queens in from fifteen to thirty minutes. I could introduce fifty in fifteen minutes if I had the queens all ready, and the hives marked so that I had nothing to do but go along and introduce them. Great care is necessary in order not to jar the hive in taking off the cover. It

is very important that the cover should be removed if possible without the bees knowing it, and if a hive is jarred or excited by the removal of the cover, it should be left alone for some time until the bees have become thoroughly quiet, and have quite forgotten the annoyance. After removing the combs, and raising a corner of the quilt, puff in a very little smoke, let the queen run in, and close quickly and silently. It must be done at dusk, when the sentinels have relaxed their vigilance not expecting to be molested at that late hour. The less honey there is coming in the more care is required. We have introduced a great many laying queens in this way. The loss by this method is less than by any other, and it is the simplest quickest, and best method we have ever tried. The old queens should be removed from the hive when you want to put in the strangers say about the middle of the afternoon, that the first excitement of the bees on finding their loss may be quieted down. If the bees have been queenless for some time remove the cells (if any) in the afternoon, then after all are done flying, open the hive, and pour a little honey between the frames, and never mind if bees are daubed. About twenty minutes afterwards let the queen run in on top of the frame, same as above. This pouring in of honey is important, when no honey is coming in. Now there is one thing to be understood, and that is, that all hives should have at least a little larvæ, which can be explained in