



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

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### EDITORIAL.

#### Crazes.

**D**EW strains and new fangled notions in reference to bees seems to be the order of the day. Mention a way in which bees may be improved, and it will not be long before you will find somebody, advertising something, which they claim possesses wonderful merits.

There seems to be a disposition in the direction of a craze for bees that will winter. If memory serves us correctly, it was not many years ago that a certain gentleman in the states, advertised that he had wonderful hardy bees for sale that would winter in or out doors, in good or bad hives, under any and all circumstances. The following winter proved conclusively however, that such was not the case, and that a person to be convinced, had only to gaze upon his empty hives in the spring. Now we fancy there is a disposition on the part of some one, to make a boom for a season or two with a special kind of bee, and by the time the public learn that this new bee is a hollow mockery, they can jump off that hobby on to a different

one. We would suggest that, as a public safeguard and a guarantee of good faith that any one having bees, which they claim to be superior to all others in any respect, should send a colony or two to Prof. Cook or some of the leading apiculturalists of the N. A. B. K. Association, appoint a committee to test their qualities, and if they are superior in the various points claimed, that they be either awarded a diploma and the right to charge so much a colony, for a certain number of colonies. These to be distributed at the various convenient points throughout North America for breeding purposes, or that the party receive suitable government recompense, and give them to reliable queen breeders at special rates. The breeder in turn, to sell the queens at a price that will be within the reach of every bee keeper. Now, friends, we do not mean to say, that he who has succeeded in securing such a race should not be paid; far from it. Our experience in the breeding of bees, leads us to the the firm conviction that bees cannot be bred properly and carefully, unless they are located in isolated localities. We have spent a great deal of money and time, in trying to raise superior races of bees, and he who can secure a fixed race in one, two or three years is deserving of a high position in bee-keeping circles, and will accomplish what our most experienced bee-keepers have failed in. We shall be pleased to hear from any bee-keeper who claims to have a superior race of