



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

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### EDITORIAL.

ILLINOIS beekeepers are stirring themselves in the matter of organizing a State Association to be incorporated under State laws, and then they want a grant. They will follow in the footsteps of the Ontario Bee-keeper's Association as it were.

The following comparison by years, will show fairly well the difference between the season of 1889 and 1890. The figures are taken from the reports of the Affiliated Societies of the Ontario Bee-keepers Association, and the area covered by the bee-keepers reporting is about the same in both cases:

	1889.	1890.
Members reporting.....	126	186
Colonies, spring count....	2,661	5,020
"    fall      "      ....	4,482	7,264
Comb honey taken, lbs....	23,475	27,849
Extracted honey taken, lbs.	113,380	120,629
Counting 1 lb. comb honey as equal to 2 lbs. extracted, the average of extracted honey per colony, spring count, lbs...	68½	87½
Average increase per cent. on spring count.....	68½	44½

It will be observed that the average yield of honey is over 20 lbs. per colony less in 1890, than in 1889, with an increase of 24% difference between the two years, and in favor of the latter.

The National bee-keeper's Union is doing a good work in the U. S. The one point of establishing precedents has been of immense value in deterring quick-tempered litigants from rushing into law and giving bee-keepers trouble. In these premises the manager says: "Now, if city councils or town boards are anywhere troubled by a complainant, and asked to pass an ordinance declaring bee-keeping a nuisance, and to prohibit it within the corporation limits, etc., every member, together with the mayor, the city attorney, and the one making the complaint, are all dosed with copies of the Supreme Court decision, that bee-keeping is not a nuisance *per se*, and the matter is at once dropped—killed by the decision of the Supreme Court of Arkansas!" There is no doubt but that this is one of the best ideas ever promulgated for the protection of bee-keepers, and it seems to us that it would perhaps be a wise plan if the Ontario Bee-keepers Association were to establish a "Defence Department." True, we have had but few cases where the necessity for concerted action has arisen, but it would undoubtedly add many members to the Association were it understood that their rights would be protected.