

not both entertaining and instructive but on account of Mr. Pringle's ideas on the supernatural. As I understand the matter Mr. Pringle was asked some two years ago to prepare a paper on "Education," to be read at the Association meeting but that he never consented to do so till this year and then with the understanding that it was to have been read at one of the evening sessions or entertainments. Mr. Pringle's views on religious matters are well known and although I, myself with the great majority, do not think as he does, still he has the courage of his convictions and apart from his religious opinions his wide range of knowledge, his integrity and his honesty have earned for him a wide respect and reputation. Mr. Pringle on rising to read his paper said "Had I known that I was to read this paper in regular session of this association I would never have consented, and if it hurts the feelings of any of you, you must bear with me." While not agreeing with Mr. Pringle's position on the supernatural, I must acknowledge that his essay otherwise was a masterly one and contained subject matter for a great deal of thought, and as Mr. Pringle said if the feelings of any were hurt they should under the circumstances have borne it.

I was pleased to find many men in their right places notably Mr. McEvoy the foul brood inspector who is doing a work of incalculable good. A great deal of praise is due the retiring president, Mr. Pickett, for his services in '94 and '95. In Mr. J. B. Hall, the newly-elected president, the association have a worker and one who has the interests of bee-keepers at heart, but he alone cannot do all and without casting any reflection on the directorate for 1895, I would much like to know why the most able men we have and men who have done the most good should be ignored.

In conclusion I trust it may be my good fortune to attend many such meetings.

Music and the Honey-makers.

The belief that bees can hear, and that they find music in sounds which to human beings are hideous, is at least as old as Virgil, and probably a good deal older. Has not Virgil described—and have we not all heard in our childhood—how anyone can persuade bees to swarm by banging a gong in an intelligent and insinuating manner? Beekeepers, it is true, have of late years abandoned the practice, but the belief in its efficacy still prevails to a considerable extent. At last, however, Sir John Lubbock comes to knock the illusion on the head. He made some experiments with honey and a music box, wishing to know whether the tinkling tunes would have the same effect upon bees as the sound of the dinner bell has upon a hungry terrier. He found that the bees, however hungry, never rose to associating the idea of the music with the idea of meals, and he draws the inference that they cannot hear. The argument certainly sounds conclusive, but Sir John could hardly have surprised us more if he had told us that bees could not sting. —Exchange.

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