

Arrangements were then made that the secretary should grant certificates to delegates attending the National Association Convention at Detroit in December next, and the meeting adjourned *sine die*.

FOR THE CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL

BEES IN INDIA.

BELOW I send a clipping from the papers for which you will probably find room with comments of your own.

Selby, Ont.

ALLEN PRINGLE.

"The *Englishman*, of Calcutta, states that the experiment made by Mr. J. C. Douglas, who has imported a hive of Italian bees, has been crowned with complete success. The bees appear to thrive admirably at Calcutta, and have yielded during the present season 80 pounds of splendid honey. This is considered to be a proof that a lucrative industry may be established in India, and a new dainty placed at the disposal of teeming millions of its land cultivators. We fear that this exultation is premature. The experiment of establishing bees in countries of perpetual summer has been tried before now, and has failed signally. For a time the bees work diligently, and lay up rich stores of honey for their winter's food. But so soon as the bee discovers that there is no winter, and that from year's end to year's end the flowers offer him a daily supply of nectar, he ceases to store up honey. Indeed, did the bee do otherwise he would forfeit much of his title to our respect as an industrious and thrifty creature. Did he labor ceaselessly and earnestly, for no other purpose than to store up honey for which he can never have any use, he would show himself to be but an idiotic kind of insect, and in no way superior in moral status to the human miser."

The above is a fair sample of false impressions that exist in the minds of many in respect to the honey bee. Similar statements have been made frequently, but only to recoil on the head of the originator. It is unfortunate that parties will attempt to deal with a subject with which are so little acquainted. That bees cease to work when they find there is no winter is *not* a fact. The worker bee seldom lives more than 60 to 90 days in the working season, and this should be sufficient proof. Bees work in countries of perpetual summer so long

as there is honey in the flowers. We suppose this is why people imagine they *cease* work at times. There are long periods without any bloom, or, if there is bloom, the weather is unfavorable for the secretion of honey. Sometimes three or four months elapse without a particle of honey being gathered from the flowers, although the weather may be very warm. Any reader of Friend Osburn's letters from Cuba will have learned this already.

North-West Farmer.

BEE-KEEPING IN MANITOBA.

BEE-KEEPERS of this Province do not seem to have fallen into the habit of sending in reports of their successes and reverses in this young and rising industry. The sooner this is the case the better for us all and the *Nor'-West Farmer* is the medium through which we should talk as it is and will be the bee-paper of the North West. Having been unfortunate with my apiary in Ontario the past winter (only three colonies out of forty-five surviving, and they weakly) I was forced to procure a supply of bees elsewhere, after losing a good deal of time. Still, the loss was a grand incentive to move the apiary to a more favorable (?) climate. The first shipment of bees arrived after vexatious delays, on June 8th. They were destitute of stores on arriving, so they set to work with a will gathering pollen and honey. There was an ample supply of both for brood rearing and they very soon had quite a supply. So anxious were the little fellows to get in a stock of honey some would work right on through a thunder shower while I stood and looked on complacently beneath an umbrella, feeling quite comfortable under such damp circumstances at the sight of the rolling in of atoms of wealth. After they got in a good supply they were more particular about getting wet. Sometimes when short of stores, they will work as late as nine o'clock in the evening, when uncomfortably cool, and appear as lively on their return as at any other time. This, in a measure, reduces one of the fears I formerly entertained and a theory persistently urged by others against bee-keeping in this country. It is true, the evenings sometimes turn cool quickly but Italian bees are not so tender that they cannot keep up sufficient circulation, when out on business, to prevent getting helplessly chilled, except in few cases with old bees, whose race is nearly run. But this is not all, these cool evenings, urged as a draw-