years afterwards produced horses with mulish characteristics and of mule-like build.

Mr. Moon said that the drone progeny of an Italian queen, crossed from a black drone, was of a lighter color than the pure Italian drones, but, could not be depended on as pure.

Mr. Langstroth said that there was every reason to believe that the Italian bee was itself a hybrid. Long before the Egyptian bee was introduced into this country, there was evidence of a bee in America with a tuft on the head like the Egyptian bee. It is said, too, that the Italian bee could be produced from a cross with the black bee. He had seen in Italy where it was impossible to introduce black bees, Italian drones resembling the drones of the black bee.

In regard to the fertile workers, he said that Huber thought workers had robbed a little and eaten of the ambrosia with which the queen was fed Then they might be bees produced in imperfect queen cells—*i e.*—cells not quite large enough for a queen, and a little larger than that in which the worker was produced. He said instances have been found in which the head of the bee was a drone and the anterior part a worker, and *vice versa*. This was accounted for upon the theory of a double germ.

Mr. Gullup gave an experience of his in which he discovered a queen, with the fourpart of the body that of a drone.

TO THE TOPIC AGAIN.

Mr. Moon gave his experience as to the honey-producing plants. In dry seasons honey-producing plants failed, while in good seasons they were rich in sweetness.

Mrs. Ellen S. Tupper said that in the region in which she lived there were honey-producing plants all in the season. She had buckwheat sown at various times, early and late every season. The weather made a difference Wild cherry made a great deal of honey, but it was unpalatable, as it had the bitter taste of the tree. The Alaska has been good. She believed in sowing for the bees plants that could be used for something else.

Mr. Peck said he had found a plant in the Southern States that was the best of honey-producing plants, but he never heard the name of it. The honey from it smells like verbenas.

Mr. Van Slyke said he had received the flower of the tree spoken of by Mr. Peck, and had named it, but could not remember the name.

Mr. A. J. Markley, wanted to know if the blackberry was a good bee-plant.

Mr. Van Slyke said as far as his experience went the blackberry was not good.

TENTH TOPIC.

This was the question—"What is the benefit of salt to bees?"

Mr. Zimmerman said the bees were fond of it. When put under the hive it prevented ants from innovating the hive.

A member said that he had learned from an old and successful German bee keeper that he had put salt upon the alighting board, and had never lost a brood of bees.

General Adair said he found salt a good disinfectant among bees during bee cholera.

ELEVENTH TOPIC.

This topic was "the best method of introducing queens." Mrs. Tupper was called upon. She scarcely ever lost a queen in introducing her. She first detached a colony, put the queen with it, then took the bees from the hive away and allow them to return a few at a time. The detached colony she put in a new hive, precisely like the old one. Another way was to put the queen in a wire cage and cover the end of it with a thin coating of wax and put it in the hive. In twenty-four hours afterwards, or thirty-six at most, the bees would liberate her. Then they never hurt her.

Mr. King said he had lost five queens in that way. There was a smell about imported queens that bees hated.

Mr. Wright put the queen in a large cage, and introduced with her thirty or forty of the colony she was to preside over, one at a time. He would allow them to stay with her thirty-six hours, then would liberate her with them in the hive.

Mrs. Tupper had succeeded by taking the queen from a hive, agitating it, and then introducing the new queen.

Mr. Porter had smeared the queen with honey and introduced her.

Mr. Wright had seen queens peformed by having their wings gnawed off by the other bees in the cleaning process when smeared with honey.

Mr. Benedict removed the old queen and introduced the new one at once. He first dipped her in sugared water.

Mr. Muth had done the same way, and had only once failed.

General Adair had had queens stay in the hive two days, and then be killed. In a particular instance a swarm killed eight queens, and obstinately refused a queen afterward. He usually caged a queen for several days in the hive she was to rule.

Mr. Zimmerman had a refractory colony, and by halving it and another colony, and creating out of them two colonies, one-half of each of which was strange to the other, he introduced the queen to the queenless colony, where she was well received.

Mr Markley gave an amusing account of his difficulties in introducing queens, and his experiments in what he termed "bumbleizing" the black bee. In the latter process he introduced a bumble bee into his hive and failed.

Mr. Firman had met and conquered the difficulty complained of by Gen. Adair by removing the bees from the hive, putting the queen in with the comb left in the old hive, then taking to a distance the hive to which the colony has been transferred and allowing the bees to return a few at a time to the original hive. The queen to be supplanted must first be removed.

LETTER FROM K. P. KIDDER.

A letter was read from Mr K. P. Kidder, of Vermont, excusing his absence from the convention, and offering suggestions for that body. He suggested that it would be better for bee keepers to strengthen and increase the size of their stocks than to multiply their number.

Mr. King offered a resolution that the Association tender a vote of thanks to the various roads that had reduced fares to delegates attending it; also a resolution of thanks to the hotel keepers of the city that have entertained delegates.

Both resolutions were adopted unanimously.

On motion of Mr. Peck, the matter of electing honorary members was referred to a committee of three, viz.: Messrs. Peck, Moon and Adair.