

gathering qualities of bees. Why, we can do a deal better than that. They are developed. Of course, we may do a little something in the way of increasing that, but we perhaps better do it negatively. We ought to let those that are not doing well perish of themselves, as they will. We make a mistake in nursing up those that are not able to survive of their own efforts, and feeding them and trying to get them through the winter, and all this sort of thing; but if we turn our attention to developing bees in the way of right capping of honey, in the way of making white comb honey, in the way of properly filling their sections, making straight combs—for there is quite a difference in that and in some, could we take the time to do it, I tell you we would make a big improvement in bees, for the reason that the bees have not found it necessary to develop in these lines. It didn't make any difference to them whether the comb was white or dark, or what was the matter with it, only that they had honey where they could get it. Now I say, if I had any influence among bee-keepers I would have them turn their attention to doing something that there was some prospect of their being able to accomplish.

Dr. Miller—I want to apologize to Mr. Taylor for agreeing with him. (Laughter). I am very sorry I said a friendly word toward him. Mr. Abbott, I think, switched off entirely from the question, and when Mr. Taylor followed and drove the wild cattle, he went still farther. The question was raised whether it is better to allow the bees to supersede, or for the beekeeper to take the matter in his own hands. Then Mr. Abbott raises a very important question and he did not say too much about that, and I am with Mr. Abbott and dead set against Mr. Taylor, that he can not improve the bees.

But they are both away from the question. The question is not whether we are going to improve our bees, but whether, with the bees we have, it is better for us to take the matter of superseding into our hands or leave it in the hands of the bees. I regret to say I am with Mr. Taylor in thinking it is best to leave it to the bees.—(Laughter).

Mr. Wheeler—I stand for Mr. Taylor.

Dr. Miller—Keep to the question now.

Mr. Wheeler—No, I think for the benefit of the convention, if you will allow us a word about this very important question—

Dr. Miller—Yes, but let us finish this other question first, and then go to that.

Mr. Wheeler—Mr. Taylor and Mr. Abbott have been talking on a question that I think is very vital to beekeepers.

Mr. Whitney—I simply wish to reply to Mr. Wilcox in regard to superseding. Perhaps I made a little strong statement, but when I close up my hives with a clipped queen and in the spring I find a young queen with two good wings, I conclude that the queen has superseded.

Mr. Wilcox—I asked that question for the interest of the published report, not particularly for the beekeepers present, but it will be read by the people all over the world, and I did not want it to appear, unless it was true, that the queen was superseded in October. I did not know it was.

Queen Fertilization Affecting Drone Progeny.

"Does the fertilization of the queen affect her drone progeny?"

Dr. Bohrer—I wrote that question, and the reason I did so was not to make an attack upon any queen-breeder at all, nor upon any author, but