

by those travelling along the roads is very slight, and very few seem to want to take that which does not belong to them. Where there are a few forest trees scattered along with the fruit trees they help to break the wind and are very beneficial. Basswood is one of the handsomest forest trees we can grow. It is the most hardy, either alone as a shade or thickly planted in the forest. It is so hardy that when the tree is cut down shoots will spring up from the stump, and in a few years become large trees. Now, besides this tree being a valuable honey tree, there is no timber we believe yet found that takes its place for piano or organ keys, also for sections, and it will not be long before the price of this timber will be very high. There are so many uses that it can be put to that no one need be afraid to plant them for the timber alone. The plan of allowing cattle to roam on our road sides and through our little patches of unfenced forests is a very expensive system and one which should not be tolerated. They destroy all the undergrowth of our forests and prevent us getting a supply of young forest trees to plant about our farms and road sides that would only cost us the mere trifle of taking them up and planting them. Take the township of Tecumseth where we now reside. It has about 120,000 rods of fencing along the road sides. Its fences cost the farmers of this township alone nearly \$100,000, thus our township (counting a fair interest on the money) is paying over \$6,000 a year to accommodate a few bad farmers and others who allow their stock to run at large. This saving and the profits from tree planting would add much wealth to our country every year. The indirect benefit that beekeepers would receive from this source is well worth an effort on their part to popularize lindens and fruit trees on our roadsides and on waste lands.

#### HEATHER IN CANADA.

**B**ROTHER Raitt, one of the editors of the *Record* wrote us on page of the *JOURNAL*, and in the last number of his own excellent publication, he says of our comments: Friend Jones, in the *CANADIAN BEE JOURNAL*, is commenting on a communication of ours, and gives us the result of his attempt to carry the

heather plants we gave him last winter to Canada. We are sorry to learn that between salt water and other adversities only a single plant remains alive. Friend Jones gives, however, such a good account of our heather honey and its popularity that there is every likelihood of our being deluged with requests for heather-seed. He even advises all his friends to secure seed and have it scattered far and wide. Now, we wish to say we have no idea how or where seed can be secured. We cannot say we have ever seen it for sale. Still, as we find many small birds living upon it during severe snow storms we do not doubt but small quantities may be had even at this season. We have great doubts, however, whether any human effort could succeed in raising a pound of heather honey in America or any country where the various heaths are not indigenous. At least one glance of Nature's work in our own Highland fills us with despair at ever being able to imitate her on even a small scale. No, we fear our heather is not one of those bee-plants that can be readily acclimatised anywhere.—W. R.

Imagine the despair that fills our mind, when we read the above. We supposed that heather-seed could be purchased over in Scotland just as readily as we can buy alsike clover seed here, but friend Raitt sets us right, and who should know better than he. When friend Baptie wrote us about that New Brunswicker who had the hundreds of acres we felt "in clover" over the near prospect of a genuine "heather grove" right here in our own home.

#### CAN BEES HEAR.

**I**N the December number of the *Record* we find an article under the above caption, on which the editor makes some very reasonable comments. The letter by Dr. Wilson which we give below was forwarded to the press for publication, and on Mr. Carr's attention being called to it, he sets both the doctor and Sir John Lubbock right, in many of their inaccuracies and misstatements. As our readers have heard a good deal at various times on this same subject, this will be very interesting to them.

DEAR SIR JOHN LUBBOCK,—I have just read in the *Cheshire Observer* a report of your address, delivered in the Music Hall, Chester, Oct. 22 1887, on "The intelligence of the lower animals" and I observe from your remarks (as reported) that you much doubt whether bees have any