hold, so that the wind may not injure them by shaking. We think that nothing pays better than care in digging and planting. It is not the number that are planted, but the way in which the work is done. It would be better to plant ten trees, and they would be of more service in ten years than one hundred managed the way they usually are. We have trees on our streets which were planted not more than six or seven years ago that are over ten inches through at the ground, and the tops cover diameters of from 20 to 30 feet. If we are as successful as we anticipate, we expect to have enough basswood trees in a few years to supply from 100 to 200 colonies of bees, so that they may be kept busy during their blooming and honey producing season. Basswood as well as being a good tree for honey gathering purposes, is also good for shade trees. Maples, both hard and soft, do not grow very firmly around the trunk, and when heavy on the top they bend over and injure the shape of the tree, frequently destroying their appearance almost entirely; soft maples are best adapted to damp soil, while hard maples are not adapted to either too damp or too dry a soil. Basswood, on the contrary, will grow in any soil. The bottoms of creeks are covered with basswood in many places where maples will not live, and they like sandy soil. Often on the sides of mountains, where you can scarcely find any soil, they seem to cling to the sides of the hills, growing in the crevices of the rock, and they seem to thrive well. They will stand more abuse from stock than any other kind of tree we know of. Even when they are broken off they will sprout up and grow again. It should not take much persuasion to induce some of our farmers to plant them for shade trees around their farms. This would increase the value of their farms very much and also increase their crops. In villages and towns a little effort should only be necessary to induce the councils to take the matter up and plant some every year.

According to the last returns in the *British Bee Journal*, we find the amount of honey imported into the United Kingdom during the month of April, 1888, amounted to 2,580 pounds.

STATISTICS FOR ONTARIO.

THE Secretary of the Bureau of Industries in his Bulletin on "Crops and Live Stock in Ontario" issued May 15th says of

BEES AND HONEY.

It was evident when the bees were placed in winter quarters that the season would be very trying to them. The flow of honey had ceased unusually early in the summer, and so had breeding, and as a consequence stores were light in the hives and the occupants were chiefly old ones lacking the vitality to stand a long period of winter seclusion. Losses are reported as general, ranging from 5 to 75 per cent., and it may be assumed that about one-fourth of the colonies entering the winter died before the time came for their spring flight. The counties of Huron, Bruce and Simcoe seemed to have suffered most heavily in the matter of winter losses. In many instances the bees died of actual starvation owing to the scant supply of summer honey, and poorly ventilated cellars are also ascribed as a cause of loss, although several experienced apiarists express themselves as puzzled to account for the mortality in certain cases. Many of the surviving colonies were weak from long confinement in the winter repositories, and the cold and backward spring thinned them out in several districts. Complaints were also made of losses from dysentery and spring dwindling. Where specially well fed and cared for during the winter, the honey-makers came out as a rule very lively, and are busily engaged now carrying early pollen. No mention is made of foul brood from any quarter. An effort was made during the past winter, at the suggestion of the Bee-keepers' Association, to procure statistics of the industry, and three thousand schedules were sent out to apiarists in the province. Returns were received from 651 persons sufficiently complete for tabulation, the aggregates of which showed that 19,015 hives were put into winter quarters in 1886, and 23,828 in 1887. The season of 1887 opened with 14,613, showing a decrease of 4,402 during the winter; but as sales were not reported it is not likely that the whole decrease was due to mortality. The increase by colonies last year was 10,863, making an aggregate of 25,476 hives for the season. These gave a product of 112,477 lbs. comb honey, 499,093 lbs. extracted honey, and 6,686 lbs. wax, valued at $67,237, or an average of $103.28 for each proprietor. Full returns for the province would doubtless show that the industry is one of very considerable importance, but a practical diffi-