#### FORESTRY.

Sir. - Perhaps you will allow me the use of your widely circulated journal on a topic ed a certain amount on condition that he not uninteresting to many who view with concern the too complete disforesting of

while a great number have but few acres. ment had reserved some timber land more than 10 acres of bush to the 100, and while of course other sections have much the axe is ever at work, and the small average first monttoned will probably soon be that of a very large portion of cur country indeed. One farmer is apt to think his bush will last his time, another thinks with the section of the country indeed. One farmer is apt to think this bush will last his time, another thinks with the section of their timber (for how they could replace their barns, many people write to me, they do not know), the bencecountry indeed. One tarmer is apt to think his bush will last his time, another thinks he will clear his and buy wood of his neighbor, a third that he will cut his and use coat. Very many admit that it is a pity the woods are going so fast, but think that tunless some general effort were being made unless some general effort were being made prolife of timber, and of great climatic to reverse them their own individual asunless some general effort were being made to perserve them their own individual assistance can effect little, so that they themselves might as well chop down nearly their last ten acres which is in wood and might grow wheat.

A letter writer in your columns lately was kind enough to desire an article on political economy from my "ready and facile pen," instead of a long dissertation on trees, which he thought of lesser consequence. I must decline his request and disagree with ways wish then, longer and more of him. Let me here take this apportunity of his ke-

letters it might be well to re-echo. Some farmers who, out of wood, are using coal, matter. find the annual bill greater and the comfort less than they anticipated. Some or mplain that aver-clearing now - xposes then consumptive of forder, blowing the snowy covering of the winter wheat from the centre to the sides of the field, freezing out some portions of the crop and drowning others, rendering all human life less comportable, and that of the drift-impeded traveller neculiarly so. traveller peculiarly so. Many, too, state that in consequence of the same operation the living springs on the farms-once their greatest comfort and satisfaction-are fast

The Ontario Tree-planting Act of lact The Ontario Tree-planting Act of last session is being adopted in many rections, and the resultant lines of trees will do much to provide wind-breaks, but they will not provide timber. The roadside wind-break grows well, indeed—densely branching of head, and excellent of shade—but the forest timber services of the forest timber and the forest timber of timber est is the genial birth-place of the forest tree, which drawn upward by the forcing process of its own attempts to reach the light above the high, over-shadowing foliage, rises rapidly, tall, straight, and al-must branchless, till you will often see healthy and beautiful young trees sixty or seventy feet in height, while but five or six inches through at the ground. These tall columns, then, in a few years enlarge into your barn-timber, your cord-wood, your mil-cuts, your anything that the forest will give you. But the tree of the road-aids would never have done this.

There are yet small patches of timber dotted over the whole of Ontario, and every one of these, or a portion of them would form an exce'lent nursery for forest re-production. It is but a small matter, it is but, if it could be done, to induce farmers to fence in and utterly exclude cattle from a portton of their woodlands, and a young growth will presently cover the soil. Though every leaflet be now bitten to the ground, in four years you will have a mini-ature forest, perhaps a couple of yards in grey, white oaks, now rods of mottled whalebone, elm. hickory, maple, and many another one, all crowding together. whalebone, elm. hickory, maple, and many another one, all crowding together, emulously rising to the light above. These also preserve the older forest, for at the edge these trees will be like those of the road. side, grown in the sun, immovable by the vind and acting as wind-breaks to the

wind and acting as wind-breaks to the inner trees.

For the continuance of the forest in a strong continuance of the forest in a strong continuance of the forest in a strong continuance of this uncase of disability. J. H. Sauderson. Select Councillor. dergrowth is absolutely necessary. Without it, grass gets in, overspreads the earth, injures the larger trees and prevents the growth of any smaller ones. The drying winds sweep through the bush, the houst respect to the soil growth of any smaller ones. The drying winds sweep through the bush, the houst respect to the soil growth of any smaller ones. The drying winds sweep through the soil growth of the soil dergrowth is absolutely necessary. Withroots are loosened, the soil appears to shrink from them, and many trees fall. There is no more vivid contrast than that of a piece of forest left unfenced, and another better protected. I had opportuni-Ma lately of seeing many such as they stuck side by side. On one side of the fence all was in the bright strength of fervid life, everywhere the small buds of infant sardings just rising from the earth, the neverthen men, a partificant tree

bughte i g verdule. On the other sid of the fe cu the reaf-strewn soil was baof vegetation, every earth-springing leafle had been destroyed, the wind whistled shally over the de aded ground and amonthe moss-covered trunks of the old trees for there was nothing but old trees; young ones had grown to replace them, and they, themselves, the earth bir we them deprived of its natural covering, seemed sickly and many of them tottering to their

If every farmer could be induced to preserve rigidly in forest but ten acres of hundred, besides what bush (it need not be much) he wishes for his cattle, the good resulting to himself and to the country would be incalculable; for a few acres of dense forest thickly undergrown holds and distributes much moisture, and is of more climatic benefit, especially to the surrounding farms, than a far greater surince of woodland dried up and impoverished by the destruction of its undergrowth. For his own benefit, too, and that of his successors, especially in the too probably coming scarcity of timber, it should be remembered that this patch will yield a valuable amount yearly of timber of many descriptions which may be taken from it, tree by tree, as needed and yet the remaining bush be all the bet-

Yet, in the face of this knowledge, we find many farmers, instead of preserving, destroying their last patch. In this state of affairs it is probable that legislative aid could do much it is indeed the farmer's own interest to preserve a portion of the Torest, but he is api to think that the principal benefits to be obtained can only be secured by the co-operation of many individuals- a co-operation which legislation. even

if only permissive, would give him.

Let us think of the manner in which this might be secured. A suggestion has been made that a Government enactment might permit any failure to say to the assessor. "I intend to fence and keep cattle from this piece of bush, five, ten, fitteen acres or so, as he might choose." Let it then be the duty of the assessor to look at this portion every year. As long as it is properly tenced and cattle excluded, let that portion be free of taxes; but if the farmer choose to cease preserving it, or to chop it down, let it be understood that he is to pay the back taxes which were remitted to him. As years passed on each owner of such a portion would find himself bound, under panelty of

a considerable sum, to preserve this portion properly, and yet he could by no means! grumble, for he would actually have received the money. Be would in fact have acceptshould do himself good with it.

This would, of course, slightly reduce the older settled Ontario.

At present, according to much corresship, but nobody would, at this day, object; pondence I receive on the subject, very in fact everyone who understands the matt-many of our farms have no forest left, er would be well pleased if the Govern-In many neighbourhoods the average is not each township for this very purpose, which more than 10 acres of bush to the 100, and reserved land would not have been assessebenefit to the country at large.

These reservations would answer another purpose, which would please many who re-member former Ontario, who like life in a landscape, and do not care to see the country becoming destitute of every unficial to the farmer would live there, a thing which, in the absence of undergrowth, but few of them can do.

I would be much obliged if any persons his estimate. I get half-a-dezen such long throughout the country would write me dissectations by post every morning, and their views concerning the suggestion, or ways wish then longer and more of them, any changes they think might profitably be made in it, and I would be much gratified to see the subject discussed at the various touble they take

There are notes of warning in these take the liberty of asking the various county authorities their opinions in the

> R. W. PHIPPS, 233 Richmond-st., West. Toronto, Jan. 3,'84.

CRUELTY. - Lately at Montreal a dry goods merchant caused the household effects of a poor honest man to be sold out by the builiff for a debt of about \$13, the man at the time being on his death bed, dying from the effects of amputation of one of his legs. The bailiff begged his principal to allow him to put over the sale on 'the plea that the case was one of peculiar hardship, deserving the kindest consideration. The goods were bought in by a kind hearted citizen, and nothing was removed. The shylock of a merchant, it is said, is urging his own creditors to give an extension of time for the payment of his debts.

## Village Directory

CHURCHES

ROMAN CATHOLIC--Services: Thornhill at 9 a m and Richmond Hill at 10 30 a m; the following Sunday at Richmond Hill at 9 am, and Thornhill at 10 30 a m. Rev Father Egan, Pastor.

PRESEYTERIAN—Services at 11 a m, and 6 30 p m Prayer meeting on Wednesday evening at 7 30 Rev I Campbell, pastor ST Many's (Episcopal.)—Services at 3 p m, except the third Sunday of every month, when the service and sacrament are held at 11 a m Sunday School at 1.30 p m Rev W Bates, Rector

METHODIST—Services at 10.30 a m, and 6.30 p m Sunday School at 2.30 p m Prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7.30 p m. Rev. J. B. sta, Pas-tor. Rev J. E. Starr, Assistant.

SOCIETIES RICHMOND LODGE, A. F & A.M., No 23, G.R.C.—Meets in the Lodge Foom, Masonic Hall, on the Monday on or before full moon, at 8 o'clock, p.m. A. J. Rupert, W.M.; H. A. Nicholls, Sec.

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