

## ARBORICULTURE AND AGRICULTURE.\*

THE subject of this paper is "Arboriculture and Agriculture, or Forestry and Farming in Ontario," and the quotations given are mostly from books published since 1880, on these questions, by the Ontario Government, namely: The Agricultural Commissioners' Evidences and Report; Agricultural and Arts Association, and Agricultural College Reports; Forestry Reports by R. W. Phipps, Toronto; and Report of Delegation to American Forestry Congress. And in preparing this paper I have thought it best to divide it into four heads: 1st, Forestry and Rainfall; 2nd, Forestry and Drainage; 3rd, Forestry and Crops; 4th, Forestry for Protection and Ornament; winding up with some general statements, keeping the "text," which underlies the whole subject, until the last.

### 1ST. FORESTRY AND RAINFALL.

I am of the opinion that forests, more or less, in this part of Ontario—between the lakes, I mean—have not a noticeable effect on the rainfall, and I have been acquainted with some portions of it from a dense forest to ninety per cent. cleared, extending over forty years. Of over fifty answers to this question in Forestry Report for 1884, two or three say the rainfall is less since the forests have been cleared. The others all tell about the same thing as follows: "Though it may not be less on the whole, it does not seem to come as gentle and as often." But the way they harp on the known fact that creeks and rivers are more irregular, and small streams dry up where they used to run the summer through, it would seem that this had more to do with the conclusions come to than the actual facts of the case. Mr. Henry Doupe of Kirton, speaks clear on this point: "I must say there has been a drying up of the creeks since the forests have been cleared away—that is, the water goes away earlier in the spring, and is less in the creeks in the summer than formerly. When rain falls it gets away more quickly, which may be accounted for by open or under drains leading to creeks or small streams, and also from the effects of wind and sun on cleared land. As to the quantity of rain, I would say that I think it very little less than formerly. During the past summer, more rain fell here than in any season for the last thirty or forty years. When rain falls with thunder, I think,

\* This paper, revised, was prepared for and read at a meeting of the Centre Grey Farmers' Institute, held at Thornbury, February 24, 1886.  
June 18, 1886.

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