

priests by the imposition of a mightier hand."

These qualities of style, supported by a marvellous fund of historical and literary learning, which a phenomenal memory placed always at his command, could not fail to make their possessor a popular writer. Popular he has always been, and with good reason. He

was the first to make authentic history attractive and readable, and indeed has clothed history and biography with all the charm of fiction. Defects and limitations he has; but, in the dazzling brightness of his genius, these are spots on the sun, not to be seen by the naked eye.

J. B. REYNOLDS.

### Some General Aspects on Forestry.

Until quite recently the question of Forestry on this side of the Atlantic, has been but little discussed, and a very small amount of interest had been manifested by those not directly affected by the destruction of the forests. Agitation commenced, first south of the line, with the result that the government established a Division of Forestry at Washington some nine or ten years ago. Since that time nearly every state in the union has organized a Forestry Association, and many now have permanent forest officers whose duty it is to formulate and carry out a forest policy in their several states.

The United States Government has also set aside several tracts of land, usually situated so as to command some important water shed, to be maintained as permanent forest reserves. These reserves are from time to time being added to as the government gradually acquires title to the land in suitable localities.

In Canada the first work in Forestry was taken up by the Ontario Legislature and consisted in the formation of a Forestry office for the purpose of protecting the crown timber lands from fire, this office has been in existence now since 1885. Quite recently, three years ago, the Dominion Government established a

Forestry Branch to look after the timber on Dominion lands and promote the general Forestry interests of the country. Shortly after the establishment of this branch the Canadian Forestry Association was organized, having for members all those in any way interested in the work of the preservation and perpetuation of existing forests and other branches of the forestry question.

The importance which is now being attached to the question of the protection of the forests on the other side of the line may easily be gathered from the prominence which this subject received in President Roosevelt's recent message to congress, in which particular mention was made of the work of the Forestry Bureau and its importance to the future welfare of the country.

The general conception of the meaning of the term "Forestry" is somewhat hazy, the most common idea being that it is somehow connected with the planting of trees. Many also think that the chief aim of the forester should be to keep people from cutting down trees, thus preventing the destruction of the forests. A very comprehensive definition of the term is one given by Dr. Schenck, a noted forester in America, and is this, "Forestry is the proper handling of forest invest-