

**PRACTICAL
BOTANY FOR
BEGINNERS**

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Practical botany for beginners by F. O. Bower

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F. O. BOWER

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FOR

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BY

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PREFACE

THIS little book contains, in an abridged form, the elementary and more essential parts of the text of the larger *Course of Practical Instruction in Botany*. It is believed that beginners will find the directions sufficient to guide their first steps in laboratory work. The abridgment has largely consisted in the excision of supplementary descriptions of forms other than those which have been selected as the main types: in so far as that is the case, the publication of this book may be thought to encourage a narrow style of type-teaching.

Type-teaching in Biological Sciences appears at present to be inevitable in elementary classes; it lies chiefly with the teacher to avoid the evils which are apt to arise from it. In order to use this book with proper effect, his knowledge should extend far beyond the area of the work here specifically described, and the larger edition may help him towards

this end. By grasping every opportunity of comparison of the type selected with allied forms which show differences of detail, he will then be able to guide the pupil to distinguish essentials from secondary details, and to check the dangerous tendency of beginners towards generalisation from too limited an area of fact.

F. O. BOWER.

GLASGOW, *April* 1894.

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