

**A BOOK ABOUT THE
GARDEN AND
THE GARDENER**

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A Book About the Garden and the Gardener by S. Reynolds Hole

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S. REYNOLDS HOLE

**A BOOK ABOUT THE
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THE GARDENER**



A Garden in Suburb. - See page 100 of the First Series.

A
BOOK ABOUT THE GARDEN
AND THE GARDENER.

Samuel
BY
S. REYNOLDS HOLE,
DEAN OF ROCHESTER;
AUTHOR OF "A BOOK ABOUT ROSES," ETC.

LONDON:
EDWARD ARNOLD,
37, BEDFORD STREET, W.C.
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1892.

To
ALL TRUE GARDENERS

WHETHER THEY SERVE OR RULE

This Book

IS OFFERED

WITH A BROTHER'S LOVE.



PREFACE.

THIS book contains, with certain new additions, *The Six of Spades* and other articles, which were written long ago (with the exception of *The Joy of a Garden*, which appeared in the *London Guardian* some twelve months ago), and were received by the public and by the press with much sympathy and kind approbation. They were written, and are republished, from an earnest desire to enlarge that love of a garden, which brings so much pure enjoyment to the gardener, whatever may be his position in life. Whether he reside in a castle or a cottage, it makes his home more dear to him, and helps him, by satisfaction ever new, "therewith to be content." When the author pleads that children at home, boys at school, young men at college, villagers, and citizens, should have every encouragement and opportunity for appreciating the beauty of things pleasant to the eye, and the utility of things good for food, he writes from practical results, and not from theories. For example, it was my custom for many summers to take walks by the

Revised. M. W. 10-27-36

brookside, and in the fields and woods, on Sunday evening, with the children of the school, as I have recorded at page 88. Twenty years after, I had some hours to wait for a train at a great Yorkshire station, and recognized in one of the porters a school-boy, who had often joined in our floral promenades. He invited me to visit his home, and when we reached a long row of houses, exactly alike in size and structure, he stopped and asked: "Now, sir, can you tell me which of these houses is mine?" I looked, and answered as I looked, "Yes, Joe, *that* is your home with the little flower-beds in front, and the climbing plant on the wall." And I remember the smile on his face, (the smile, and something more), as he said, "I have never forgotten those Sunday walks. I have never lost my love of the Flowers."

The same happy experience has come to me from efforts to promote among our poorer brethren the gratification and the benefits of a Garden (see page 177), and no man rejoices more than I do in the present efforts of our statesmen to extend the Allotment System. They will meet with two opponents. Idle men won't have gardens, and ignorant men won't know how to use them. If politicians would send teachers of horticulture into our villages, and would show the men how to grow fruit and vegetables, and the women how to preserve and cook them, I should have some faith in their "Reforms."

S. R. H.

THE DEANERY, ROCHESTER,
March, 1892.



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