

**BOTANY FOR NOVICES: A
SHORT OUTLINE OF THE
NATURAL SYSTEM OF
CLASSIFICATION OF PLANTS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649335466

Botany for novices: A short outline of The Natural System of Classification of plants by L. E. B.

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

L. E. B.

**BOTANY FOR NOVICES: A
SHORT OUTLINE OF THE
NATURAL SYSTEM OF
CLASSIFICATION OF PLANTS**

BOTANY FOR NOVICES:
A SHORT OUTLINE OF
THE NATURAL SYSTEM
OF
CLASSIFICATION OF PLANTS.

By **L. E. B.**

LONDON:
WHITTAKER AND CO., AVE MARIA LANE.
RUGBY: CROSSLEY AND BILLINGTON.

1864.

191. k. 2.

PREFACE.

THE following little book is intended for the use of those persons, who, while wishing to know something of Botany, feel deterred by the long words and apparently formidable difficulties which meet their perplexed gaze on opening an elaborate treatise on the subject; or who entertain the groundless fear that they cannot learn much of the science without burdening the memory with a great many long, hard names of plants, which will leave them, after the trouble

of learning them, little wiser than before. Let such be assured, that without needing to trouble themselves with any other names than the sweet familiar ones they have known from infancy, they may learn the principles of the science, which have reference, not to the names, but to the structure of the plants, and are to be acquired by a careful examination of living specimens, guided by a few simple rules of classification. We know that "a Rose by any other name would smell as sweet," and if we wish to determine the class to which to refer a Honey-suckle, we can examine the flower with equal care and attention, whether we call it "Honey-suckle," or "*Lonicera Periclymenum*." This latter certainly sounds formidable enough to a

beginner, but when the principles of the science are understood, and the reason for the long names becomes apparent, they cease to appear difficult or alarming. In the little book before us, however, we do not proceed so far as the naming of individual plants, it is simply an attempt to explain the principles of the Natural System of Classification, established by Jussieu, De Candolle, and others, and adopted, with more or less modification as to detail, by most modern botanists. Many persons have an impression that the Artificial system of Linnæus, though confessedly grouping together plants of the most incongruous character, yet possesses greater facilities of reference—that it is easier for a beginner to find out the name of a plant by it

than by the Natural system. It is hoped, however, that the readers of this little book will find that it is quite as easy to refer an unknown plant to its appropriate class and sub-class, and thus to know in what part of a manual of plants arranged on the Natural system, to seek for its name and description, as it is to determine the Linnean class and order. And with this great advantage, the Linnean class and order in many cases reveal nothing whatever of the affinities of the plant, whereas to state that a specimen belongs to any one class, or natural order, decides that it must possess a certain definite structure.

The few botanical terms this little book contains are carefully explained as they occur, and as they are seen to possess a meaning, containing

within themselves a short definition of the classes to which they are applied, it will be found that, far from offering difficulties, they afford material assistance to a beginner, as they help to fix the characters of the classes in the memory.

This little book is adapted for the use of those who have no previous acquaintance with botanical science, but it has been written in the hope that it may introduce its readers to a more extended study of the subject.

JANUARY, 1864.

