

**THE BRITISH WINTER GARDEN: BEING A
PRACTICAL TREATISE ON EVERGREENS;
SHOWING THEIR GENERAL UTILITY IN
THE FORMATION OF GARDEN AND
LANDSCAPE SCENERY**

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The British Winter Garden: Being a Practical Treatise on Evergreens; Showing Their General Utility in the Formation of Garden and Landscape Scenery by William Barron

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WILLIAM BARRON

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THE BRITISH WINTER GARDEN.

THE
BRITISH WINTER GARDEN:

BEING A PRACTICAL TREATISE ON

EVERGREENS;

SHOWING

THEIR GENERAL UTILITY IN THE FORMATION OF GARDEN
AND LANDSCAPE SCENERY,

AND

THEIR MODE OF PROPAGATING, PLANTING, AND REMOVAL
FROM ONE TO *FIFTY* FEET IN HEIGHT,

AS

PRACTISED AT ELVASTON CASTLE.

BY WILLIAM BARRON,

HEAD GARDENER.



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ADDRESS TO THE READER.

In these days of book and money-making enterprise, time is, as it ever has been, a most valuable commodity; and no one has a right to make a demand on the time of another, without assigning a sufficient reason for so doing.

Believing this to be the case, I conceive that I have no right to make a claim on public attention, without a suitable apology.

Book-making has hitherto been no part of my profession, and it may be questionable whether I possess the necessary qualifications. Having through life been a book-worm myself, this much I have learned; that already there are many more works before the public than are read, or have any justifiable claim to be so. Food for the mind in these luxurious days, like food for the body, is extremely varied; more I

suppose to pamper the fastidious palate, than to give health and vigour to the stomach and system generally.

Highly garnished and seasoned dishes I leave to others, of different tastes; plain, simple, solid food I find best, and therefore keep to it. Having been nourished somewhat in this way, I have grown up a plain, matter of fact man; and as such, I profess only to lay a few plain, but I trust valuable truths, before that class of readers interested in the subject, and it is pleasing to think that they are on the increase.

Planting, useful and ornamental, has been, is, and will become more every day, an object of deep interest: much has been accomplished, and much more remains to be done, which will manifestly appear, the more the attention of a discerning public is drawn to the subject.

I have had upwards of twenty years' application to the removal of large trees; the planting and replanting of nearly all the kinds of the most valuable and ornamental which are now the pride of British gardens, and that under advantages which few have had; having been fully encouraged therein by the *most noble and liberal-minded employer*, possessing in himself

a passionate fondness for artistic gardening, united with *unwearied diligence*, ardent zeal, and distinguished taste, prompting him at all times to take the deepest interest in my operations and experiments, and producing in me, at the same time, a powerful incentive to application. I trust I am not saying too much when I state that such advantages have enabled me to make observations and fully test what can be accomplished in a given time, and to offer suggestions, which, if carried out, will in a short time materially alter the value and aspect of our country. Such an attempt, more especially as it has been frequently urged upon me by those who take an interest in the subject, will, I hope, justify my obtrusion on public notice.

EVYASTON CASTLE,
May 22, 1852.

ADVERTISEMENT.

It was my original intention when writing this work, to have made it answer a twofold purpose (*viz.*) besides containing all that it now does as a practical volume, I had a desire that it should be embellished with views of the grounds at Elvaston Castle, which the present Earl has graciously permitted me to lay before the public. But in going fully into it, I found that I could not do justice to Elvaston without making the work too expensive for a certain class of readers, who might be anxious to peruse it in its present form; and being desirous, as far as practicable, to place it in the hands of everyone who might wish to profit by it, I found it imperative upon me to abandon my first scheme, and publish it as it now appears.

Knowing at the same time that many are anxious to see the grounds at Elvaston illustrated, and to