

THE WONDERFUL TROUT

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649527892

The Wonderful Trout by J. A. Harvie-Brown

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J. A. HARVIE-BROWN

**THE WONDERFUL
TROUT**

Printed at the Edinburgh University Press

By T. and A. CONSTABLE,

FOR

DAVID DOUGLAS.

LONDON . . . SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, HAMILTON, KENT
AND CO., LTD.

CAMBRIDGE . . . MACMILLAN AND BOWEN.

GLASGOW . . . JAMES MACLEHOSE AND SONS.

THE
WONDERFUL TROUT

BY

J. A. HARVIE-BROWN
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'Thus does the salmon quit.'

DRYDEN.

EDINBURGH : DAVID DOUGLAS
10 CASTLE STREET
1898

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P R E F A C E

IN all scientific endeavour and elaboration, those who strain after perfection, and put off that hour when they hope to get beyond criticism, only stand in their own light and in the light of real discovery.

By the time they decide (*i.e.* if they ever do) to publish the results of many years' experience, it may be then they only do so and find there is 'nothing new under the sun.' Such delay is more likely to end in disappointment and chagrin than if they published prematurely. It is the *embryo of a new idea* which adds to future knowledge, because it sets many a-thinking years before the thought-wave would be otherwise started. If Darwin had more elaborated before publishing, Wallace might have outstripped him.

M842706

And if he had, would *scientia* have been better forwarded than it is now? This straining after perfection is a great loss to science, though we do not advocate the other extreme of *unripe*, unthought-out data. The happy medium, of course, is hard to hit.

This may seem a pretentious Preface to a '*littell worke*,' but we hope there may appear in it at least a germ of sensibility.

DUNIFACE, LAMBERT,
28th Sept. 1898.

CONTENTS

I

INTRODUCTORY

	PAGE
Up-stream fishing—Scientific and unscientific anglers —'Flailling down-stream'—Attractions of angling,	1-5

II

DEPRECATORY

'Record baskets'—Bad weather conditions—Temperatures of air and water—Hatch-off of fly-food—March browns and Early duns—The rising of trout dependent upon the comparative temperatures of air and water—'Flailling'—Length of season for brown trout—The 'down-streamer,'	6-13
--	------

III

SIZE AND AGE OF TROUT

The Spey as a type of a Highland stream—Small and large rivers compared as to their trout productiveness—The age of trout,	14-18
--	-------

IV

ANGLING REQUISITES

	PAGE
Catalogues of tackle-makers—Choice of a rod— Different woods used in rod-making—Gut— Flies,	19-21

V

DEFENCE OF UP-STREAM FISHING

Fly fishing—'When shall we go a-fishing?'—Worm- fishing—Down-stream fishing compared with up- stream—The 'down-streamer'—Fishing up not suitable for salmon—Advantage of fishing down when the river is high—Against precedent to persist too long over one spot—An example to the contrary—'Tailing' and 'bulging,' . . .	22-38
--	-------

VI

FLIES

Odd notions respecting flies—Trout's appreciation of colour—'Greenwell's Glory'—Method of dressing a 'Wee Jock Scottie'—Nomenclature of flies— Light and colour effects—The 'Yellow Sally'— Coloured flies and condition of the water and sky—Table for deductions—Notes kept upon hatching of the natural insects on the water, . .	39-57
--	-------

VII

ON TROUTING WITH THE FLY—THE PRACTICE

How to fish streams—Rapid casting necessary— 'Short-rising'—Places where to fish—Down- and up-stream fishing—Effect of wind, . . .	58-66
--	-------