

**FRONDES AGRESTES:  
READINGS IN  
'MODERN PAINTERS'**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649589982

Frondes Agrestes: Readings in 'Modern Painters' by John Ruskin

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](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**JOHN RUSKIN**

**FRONDES AGRESTES:  
READINGS IN  
'MODERN PAINTERS'**



Printed by Watson and Hazell, London and Aylesbury.

# FRONDES AGRESTES.

READINGS IN 'MODERN PAINTERS,'

*CHOSEN AT HER PLEASURE,*

BY THE AUTHOR'S FRIEND,

THE YOUNGER LADY OF THE THWAITE,  
CONISTON.



"Spargit agrætes tibi silva frondes."

GEORGE ALLEN,  
SUNNYSIDE, ORPINGTON, KENT.

1875.

270 . g . 642

•

•

•

•

•

•

•

## PREFACE.

---

I HAVE been often asked to republish the first book of mine which the public noticed, and which, hitherto, remains their favourite, in a more easily attainable form than that of its existing editions. I am, however, resolved never to republish the book as a whole; some parts of it being, by the established fame of Turner, rendered unnecessary; and others having been always useless, in their praise of excellence which the public will never give the labour necessary to discern. But, finding lately that one of my dearest friends, who, in advanced age, retains the cheerfulness and easily delighted temper of bright youth, had written out, for her own pleasure,



A large number of passages from 'Modern Painters,' it seemed to me certain that what such a person felt to be useful to herself, could not but be useful also to a class of readers whom I much desired to please, and who would sometimes enjoy, in my early writings, what I never should myself have offered them. I asked my friend, therefore, to add to her own already chosen series, any other passages she thought likely to be of permanent interest to general readers; and I have printed her selections in absolute submission to her judgment, merely arranging the pieces she sent me in the order which seemed most convenient for the reciprocal bearing of their fragmentary meanings, and adding here and there an explanatory note; or, it may be, a deprecatory one, in cases where my mind had changed. That she did me the grace to write every word with her own hand, adds, in my eyes, and will, I trust, in the readers' also, to the possible claims of

the little book on their sympathy; and although I hope to publish some of the scientific and technical portions of the original volumes in in my own large editions, the selections here made by my friend under her quiet woods at Coniston—the Unter-Walden of England—will, I doubt not, bring within better reach of many readers, for whom I am not now able myself to judge or choose, such service as the book was ever capable of rendering, in the illustration of the powers of nature, and intercession for her now too often despised and broken peace.

HERNE HILL,

*5th December, 1874.*

