

subjects of 'Ovid's Metamorphoses' were represented, the work of Giulio Romano, had been *whitewashed over*! This whitewash was all carefully removed, and the original painting brought again to light, displaying the sumptuous manner in which it was usual to decorate the houses of the wealthy in Italy in the sixteenth century, and thus restoring from oblivion, if not actual extinction, a beautiful object of art. The fine old coffered ceilings were thoroughly repaired, or, where they were too much decayed, were reconstructed in accordance with the original designs, and the interior of the villa restored in all its former beauty of detail.

*Native Trees of Britain and Introduced Trees.*—There are only about twelve *genera* and thirty species of the native trees of Britain which attain the size of timber-trees, or trees which range above thirty feet in height; and only three out of these are evergreens, viz. the Scotch-fir, the holly, and the yew—if even the latter may be looked upon as a native of Britain.

It was during the sixteenth century that plantations began to be extensively formed in England, both for the sake of the timber as well as for embellishment; but long before that epoch many varieties of timber-trees had been introduced into these islands, of which, as no definite account has been given, it is commonly supposed that we are indebted to the Romans for them, as well as to the monks of the Middle Ages, who were skilful botanists, and to whom