



SECTION I.

GENERAL REMARKS—EXPLANATION OF THE SYSTEM—OUTLINE DRAWING—THE PENCIL
 TO BE USED—METHOD OF HOLDING THE PENCIL, HAND, ELBOW, AND
 WRIST—PREPARATION BEFORE PROCEEDING TO DRAW—
 DIRECTIONS WHILST OCCUPIED IN DRAWING.—
 LESSONS ON COPIES I. TO IX.

THE pursuit of the Art of Delineation is replete with gratifications and advantages of the highest order. It leads its votaries to an intimate knowledge of the wonderful variety and beauty of form and appearance exhibited in the multifarious productions of Nature, awakening in the mind ennobling emotions, and elevating the thoughts "from Nature up to Nature's God."

It is the province and privilege of the artist to search out and perceive that which, in a physical aspect, is captivating to the eye; to him, therefore, the earth is infinitely richer in objects that charm the sight, and are suggestive of a corresponding admiration, than it is to the generality of his non-professional brethren; for, looking upon everything with a cultivated taste, scarcely anything can present itself to his gaze without manifesting some peculiarity or perfection of form or colour that delights him.

During the exercise of his vocation in seeking for the beautiful, his fancy also is ever being fed with attractive images; and when his pleasing task merges into that of imitation, he is provided with an occupation of the purest and most engaging description, repaying the toil it entails a thousand-fold—affording him invaluable reminiscences of what he has seen—and which is oftentimes, in sickness as in health, available as a means of honourable and lucrative exertion, although not originally pursued for other purposes than those of recreation.

The art may be divided into two branches, definable as outline and finished drawing. The lessons contained in this section of instructions refer principally to the former. The first two, upon the preliminary method of proceeding to be adopted in imitating the ensuing guide-lined drawing copies, should be carefully studied in their order—as should all lessons occurring throughout this work—both by self-instructors and the teachers of others, until they become perfectly acquainted with each lesson, that loss of time in referring back for rules may be avoided.