

Dictionary," and by London, in his "*Arboretum et Fructicetum Britannicum*." There is one feature, as regards this arrangement, to which the author would call particular attention. It will be perceived that, in various instances, he has reduced the number of species, and even, in some cases, of varieties, which he wishes to be distinctly understood has been done, not only with the object of rendering the classification less complicated, but with an opinion that such analogies do exist; yet he is not by any means desirous to separate assemblages of species, or to alter established names, in any manner whatever. No one, he conceives, should do this who has not attained an eminent rank as a botanist, to which he has no pretensions. Hence, in most of the cases in which he has assumed a species as a variety, he has given the names as adopted by Michaux, Nuttall, London, or some other botanical writer, in order that the reader may know under what heads such varieties are described in the works of these authors.

The author feels called upon to acknowledge that he is particularly indebted to Mr. J. C. London for a large share of his work, taken from the "*Arboretum Britannicum*," and to Dr. Thaddeus W. Harris for many valuable extracts from his "*Report on the Insects of Massachusetts injurious to Vegetation*;" also to Mr. P. J. Selby for extracts from his beautiful work on "*British Forest Trees*," and to "*L'Histoire des Arbres Forestiers de l'Amérique Septentrionale*," par M. F. André-Michaux.

As the preparation of a treatise like the present necessarily requires time to be consumed, and is attended with considerable expense, the author has ventured to issue a volume, by which public opinion may be guided respecting its merits, and a judgment may be formed of the ability or fidelity with which it has been executed. Should the public demand an extension of the work conformably to the plan he has adopted, a supplementary volume will follow, embracing an account of most of the other trees growing in Europe and America, with statements of the sources from which the information will have been derived; copious indexes; a glossary of technical terms employed in the work; and comparative tables of the various kinds of wood, in regard to their strength, durability, value as fuel, and a variety of other useful information respecting timber and trees never before published.

In conclusion, the author requests that his readers will seasonably apprise him of whatever corrections, additions, or suggestions may occur to them, in order that the work may be rendered as complete as possible, and issued without unnecessary delay.

D. J. B.

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