A treatise on the theory and practice of landscape gardening, adapted to North America..

Downing A J
A TREATISE
ON THE
THEORY AND PRACTICE
OF
LANDSCAPE GARDENING,
ADAPTED TO
North America;
WITH A VIEW TO THE
IMPROVEMENT OF COUNTRY RESIDENCES.
COMPRESSING
HISTORICAL NOTICES AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF THE ART,
DIRECTIONS FOR LAYING OUT GROUNDS AND ARRANGING PLANTATIONS, THE
DESCRIPTION AND CULTIVATION OF HARDY TREES, DECORATIVE
ACCOMPANIMENTS OF THE HOUSE AND GROUNDS,
THE FORMATION OF
PIECES OF ARTIFICIAL WATER, FLOWER GARDENS, ETC.
WITH
REMARKS ON RURAL ARCHITECTURE.
BY THE LATE A. J. DOWNING, ESQ.
SIXTH EDITION,
ENLARGED, REVISED, AND NEWLY ILLUSTRATED.
WITH A SUPPLEMENT,
CONTAINING SOME REMARKS ABOUT COUNTRY PLACES, AND THE BEST METHODS OF
MAKING THEM; ALSO, AN ACCOUNT OF THE NEWER DECIDUOUS AND EVER-
GREEN PLANTS, LATELY INTRODUCED INTO CULTIVATION, BOTH HARDY
AND HALF-HARDY.
BY
HENRY WINTHROP SARGENT.

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TO

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, LL.D.,

EX-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES;

THE LOVER OF RURAL PURSUITS,

AS WELL AS

THE DISTINGUISHED PATRIOT, STATESMAN,

AND SAGE;

THIS VOLUME

BY PERMISSION,

IS RESPECTFULLY AND AFFECTIONATELY

DEDICATED,

BY HIS FRIEND,

THE AUTHOR.
PREFACE

TO THE FOURTH EDITION.

It is even more gratifying to the author of this work to know, from actual observation, that the public taste in Rural Embellishment has, within a few years past, made the most rapid progress in this country, than to feel assured by the call for a fourth edition, that his own imperfect labors for the accomplishment of that end have been most kindly appreciated.

In the present edition considerable alterations and amendments have been made in some portions—especially in that section relating to the nature of the Beautiful and the Picturesque. The difference among critics regarding natural expression and its reproduction in Landscape Gardening, has led him more carefully to examine this part of the subject, in order, if possible, to present it in the clearest and most definite manner.

The whole work has also been revised, and more copiously illustrated, and is now offered in a more complete form than in any previous edition.

A. J. D.

Newburgh, New York, Jan. 1849.