

**TROUT FLIES OF DEVON
AND
CORNWALL, AND WHEN
AND HOW TO USE THEM**

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Trout Flies of Devon and Cornwall, and When and How to Use Them by G. W. Soltau

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WHEN AND HOW TO USE THEM.

BY G. W. SOLTAU, Esq.
" "
LITTLE EFFORD, DEVON.

" And thus our life exempt from public haunts,
" Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brook,
" Sermons in stones, and good in every thing."

LONGMAN & Co. PATERNOSTER ROW;
WALLIS AND HOLDEN, EXETER; BRIGHTWELL, BARNSTAPLE; LIDDELL,
BODMIN; HEARD AND SONS, TRURO; AND
EDWARD NETTLETON, WHIMPLE STREET,
PLYMOUTH,
PRINTER TO HER MAJESTY.

1847.



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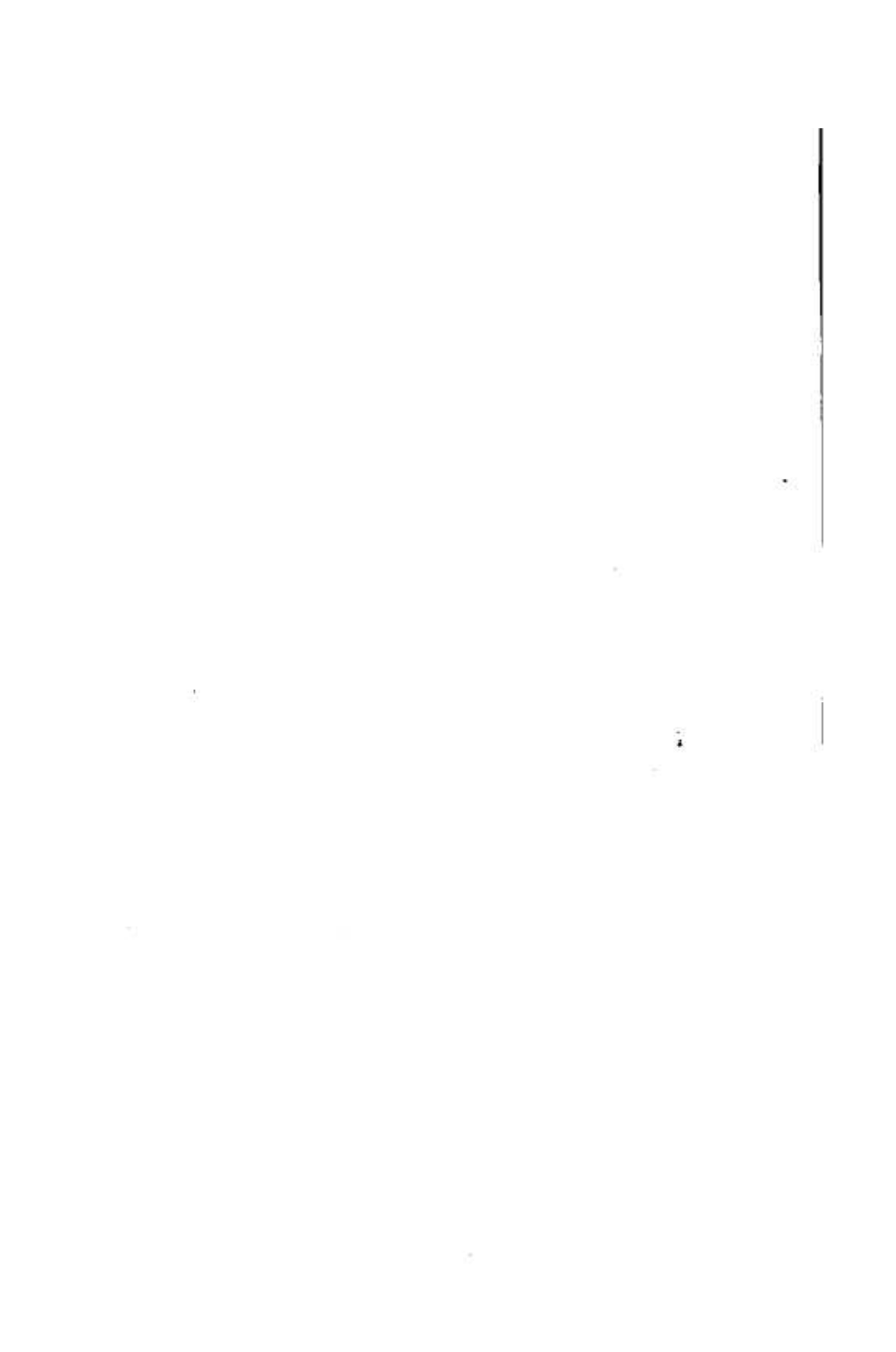
NOTE.

It will be remarked that the Flies furnished by the makers, do not, in all cases, exhibit the same tints as those shown in the drawings; this arises from the difficulty of colouring exactly from the original Flies. I have examined the patterns manufactured by the parties referred to in p. 40, and find they correspond precisely with my own. I would therefore recommend those persons, who are in the habit of making their own flies, to procure patterns from the makers and imitate them, rather than take those in the lithographed sketch for their guide.

ERRATA.

- Page 9, line 16, for *to apt*, read *too apt*.
Page 15, line 7, for *variest*, read *veriest*.
Page 20, line 10, for *aught*, read *naught*.
Page 35, line 8, for *lace*, read *laced*.
Page 99, line 8, for *falshood*, read *falsehood*.

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TREATISE
ON
FLY-FISHING.

I AM induced to offer the following pages to the youthful aspirant after piscatory fame, from the belief, that the various treatises, which have appeared from time to time on Fly-Fishing, do not contain those minute details, which are so essential to the ready acquirement of the art, and which are generally learnt by slow degrees; either from some experienced angler, or by the accidental discovery of the novice.

My chief object however, is to furnish the sportsman, who for the first time is about to wet his line in the west, with a list of flies; which, for a period of twenty years, I have found the most effective, in the Rivers of Devon and Cornwall. I have no doubt, they would be equally successful in Somerset, in the smaller Rivers of Wales, and in some of the Irish Lakes; but, as I cannot vouch from personal experience, I must leave to others the task of testing their more general application.

My remarks are restricted to Fly-Fishing; partly, because I hold this to be the most skilful and pleasing of the various ways by which man secures the wily fish; and also, from the length to which this paper would extend, if I were to enlarge on the numerous other devices adopted to entrap the finny tribe.

Worms, killdevils, salmon-roe, minnows, cock-chafers, &c. &c. &c., are to be met with in the catalogue of the fisherman's stock in trade; and,

if we extend our researches to distant climes, we find even birds are classed among the fishing implements.

The Cormorant, an aquatic bird of China, and other countries, is an excellent swimmer and diver, and also flies well. It is very voracious, and as soon as it perceives a fish in the water, it darts down with great rapidity, and clings its prey firmly, by means of saw like indentations on its feet. The fish is brought up with one foot; the other foot enables the bird to rise to the surface, and by an adroit movement, the fish is loosened from the foot and grasped in the bird's mouth.

Le Comte, a French writer, describes the mode in which the Chinese avail themselves of this angling propensity on the part of the cormorants: "to this end," says he, "cormorants are educated as men rear up spaniels or hawks, and one man can easily manage one hundred. The fisher carries them out into the lake, perched on the