

**ELEMENTARY LESSONS IN THE
PRINCIPLES OF AGRICULTURE.
SPECIALLY ADAPTED TO THE
REQUIREMENTS OF THE NEW
CODE OF 1882**

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Elementary Lessons in the Principles of Agriculture. Specially Adapted to the Requirements of the New Code of 1882 by W. Jerome Harrison

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W. JEROME HARRISON

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The Royal School Series.

ELEMENTARY LESSONS
IN THE
PRINCIPLES OF AGRICULTURE.

*SPECIALLY ADAPTED TO THE REQUIREMENTS
OF THE NEW CODE OF 1882.*

BY

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PREFACE.

THE motto of the Royal Agricultural Society—"Practice with Science"—must be the motto of every teacher of Agriculture. The teacher must introduce as many simple chemical experiments as possible. Small collections of rocks, soils, plants, etc., should be made—a task in which the children of a day-school will render most efficient aid. After the reading of each chapter, it should be illustrated, if possible, by references to the immediate neighbourhood.

Young students dearly love "practical work;" and by inspecting the fields in walks along country lanes, the truths which form the leading facts of the science of Agriculture can be taught with a directness and vividness which will make the subsequent study of a text-book a very pleasant task.

W. J. H.

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PRINCIPLES OF AGRICULTURE.

INTRODUCTION.

I.—THE SCIENCE OF AGRICULTURE.

1. Introduction—2. Definition of Agriculture—3. Agriculture by "Rule of Thumb"—4. Scientific Agriculture—5. The Art of Experimenting—6. The Aims of Scientific Agriculture.

1. **Introduction.**—Man's reasoning powers clearly show him the necessity of making provision for the future. Other animals may be said to live "from hand to mouth," not knowing from whence their next meal is to come; but man has the foresight to prepare and store up provisions, on which to live when he cannot obtain food from other sources. It is true that a few animals act in a somewhat similar manner. The bee stores honey, and the squirrel collects nuts; but even their efforts are limited to the collection of what already exists in a wild state. The bee does not sow flower-seeds, nor does the squirrel plant nuts.

Yet there are some races of men—as the savages of Tierra del Fuego and the aborigines of Australia—who seem but little superior to the wild animals