

**FRENCH FOREST ORDINANCE OF
1669: WITH HISTORICAL SKETCH
OF PREVIOUS TREATMENT OF
FORESTS IN FRANCE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649588428

French Forest Ordinance of 1669: With Historical Sketch of Previous Treatment of Forests in France by John Croumbie Brown

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JOHN CROUMBIE BROWN

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FRENCH FOREST ORDINANCE

OF 1869;

WITH

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF PREVIOUS TREATMENT
OF FORESTS IN FRANCE.

COMPILED AND TRANSLATED BY

JOHN CROUMBIE BROWN, LL.D.,

*Formerly Lecturer on Botany in University and King's College, Aberdeen ;
subsequently Colonial Botanist at Cape of Good Hope, and Professor
of Botany in the South African College, Capetown ; Fellow of the
Linnean Society ; Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society ; and
Honorary Vice-President of the African Institute of Paris.*

EDINBURGH:
OLIVER AND BOYD, TWEEDDALE COURT,
LONDON: SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, & CO.

1883.

ADVERTISEMENT.

"THE CELEBRATED FOREST ORDINANCE OF 1669:" Such is the character and designation generally given at the present day to the Ordinance in question. It is known, by reputation at least, in every country on the Continent of Europe; but, so far as is known to me, it has never before been published in English dress. It may possibly be considered antiquated; but, on its first promulgation, it was welcomed, far beyond the bounds of France, as bringing life to the dead; and I know of no modern system of Forest Exploitation, based on modern Forest Science, in which I cannot trace its influence. In the most advanced of these—that for which we are indebted to Hartig and Cotta of Saxony—I see a development of it like to the development of the butterfly from what may be seen in the structure of the chrysalis; and thus am I encouraged to hope that it may prove suggestive of beneficial arrangements, even where it does not detail what may be deemed desirable to adopt.

In my translation I have followed an edition issued with Royal approval in 1753, with one verbal alteration to bring it into accordance with certain older approved editions, and with another verbal alteration to bring it into accordance with editions issued in 1699, 1723, 1734, and 1747.

A similar volume on the Modern Forest Economy of France is being prepared for the press.

Information in regard to the culture of woods in France, in accordance with advanced science, is supplied in a volume lately published—"Elements of Sylviculture: a

Short Treatise on the Scientific Cultivation of the Oak, and other Hardwood Trees," by the late M. G. Bagneris, Inspector of Forests, and Professor in the Forest School of Nancy; and translated from the French by Messrs E. E. Fernandez and A. Smythies, B.A., Indian Forest Service. Details of the application of that science to the cultivation of Coniferæ may be found in a volume I have published, entitled :

Pine Plantations on Sand-Wastes in France.—In which are detailed the appearances presented by the Landes of the Gironde before and after culture, and by the Landes of La Sologne; the legislation and literature of France in regard to the planting of the Landes with trees; the characteristics of the sand-wastes; the natural history, culture, and exploitation of the Maritime Pine and of the Scotch Fir; and the diseases and injurious influences to which the Maritime Pine is subject.—Edinburgh: Oliver & Boyd. London: Simpkin, Marshall, & Co. 1878.

Details of the application of that science made in the *reboisement* of Mountains, may be found in another volume which I have published :—

Reboisement in France; or, Records of the Re-planting of the Alps, the Cevennes, and the Pyrenees with Trees, Herbage, and Bush, with a view to arresting and preventing the destructive consequences of torrents.—In which are given, a *résumé* of Sorell's study of Alpine torrents, and of the literature of France relative to Alpine torrents, and remedial measures which have been proposed for adoption to prevent the disastrous consequences following from them,—translations of documents and enactments, showing what legislative and executive measures have been taken by the Government of France in connection with *Reboisement* as a remedial application against destructive torrents,—and details in regard to the past, present, and prospective aspects of the work. London: C. Kegan Paul & Co. 1879.

And an illustration of the change for the better which has been introduced into the Forest Management of France, is supplied by a pamphlet entitled :—"Glances at Forestry in France in 1860 and 1880:" a reprint of papers by me, which appeared in the "Journal of Forestry and Estates Management."

JOHN C. BROWN.

HADDINGTON, 10th April, 1883.

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