THE WONDERFUL TROUT

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The Wonderful Trout by J. A. Harvie-Brown

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J. A. HARVIE-BROWN

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By T. and A. CONSTABLE,

FOR

DAVID DOUGLAS.

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THE

WONDERFUL TROUT

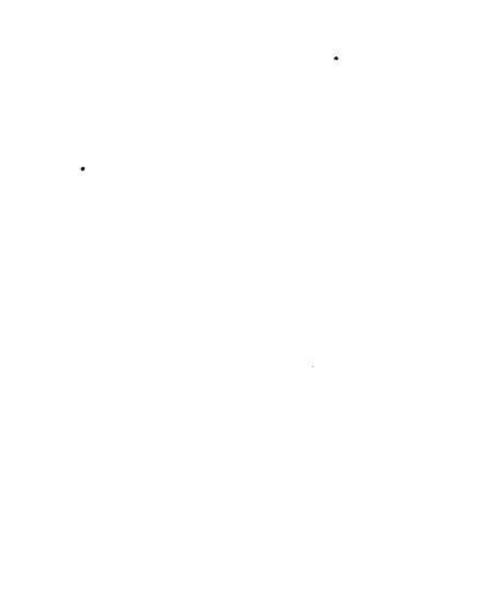
BY

J: Ă. HARVIE-BROWN



'Thus does the salmon pault.' DRYDEN.

EDINBURGH : DAVID DOUGLAS 10 CASTLE STREET 1898





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PREFACE

In all scientific endeavour and elaboration, those who strain after perfection, and put off that hour when they hope to get beyond criticism, only stand in their own light and in the light of real discovery.

By the time they decide (*i.e.* if they ever do) to publish the results of many years' experience, it may be then they only do so and find there is 'nothing new under the sun.' Such delay is more likely to end in disappointment and chagrin than if they published prematurely. It is the *embryo of a new idea* which adds to future knowledge, because it sets many a-thinking years before the thought-wave would be otherwise started. If Darwin had more elaborated before publishing, Wallace might have outstripped him.

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And if he had, would scientia have been better forwarded than it is now? This straining after perfection is a great loss to science, though we do not advocate the other extreme of *unripe*, unthought-out data. The happy medium, of course, is hard to hit.

This may seem a pretentious Preface to a *'littel worke*,' but we hope there may appear in it at least a germ of sensibility.

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DUNIPACE, LARBERT, 28th Sept. 1898.

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