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THE PHILOSOPHY OF ORNAMENT:

EIGHT LECTURES ON THE

HISTORY OF DECORATIVE ART,

GIVEN AT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LIVERPOOL.

BY

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SUNNYSIDE, ORPINGTON, KENT.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

THE following pages are nothing more than rewritten notes of popular lectures delivered to a mixed audience. Being such, they are not offered as in any measure supplying the place of exhaustive and authoritative cyclopædias of ornament; but as suggesting more comprehensive views and more philosophic principles than are ordinarily obtained in this department of study.

It was hardly necessary, therefore, to refer by the way to the source of each scrap of information or illustration introduced. The South Kensington Handbooks have been freely used; especially those of Sir G. Birdwood, Professor Worsaae, and Mr. Pollen; together with such standard works as Owen Jones' "Grammar of Ornament," Racinet's "Poly-

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chromatic Ornament," Dr. Birch's "Ancient Pottery," the writings of the Messrs. Audsley, and others; supplemented by original research both in and out of Museums; especially in the Liverpool Mayer Collection, to which, and to the kindness of its able and learned curator, Mr. Charles T. Gatty, F.S.A., I am greatly indebted.

The illustrations (except Plate II.) have been engraved by Mr. W. H. Hooper; whom I have to thank for the great care and skill with which he has imitated my slight pen-drawings. The Reindeer (Plate I.) is an astonishingly accurate *facsimile* of a rough sketch from an illustration in one of Professor Geikie's books.

But beyond all I am grateful for the teaching and encouragement of my best friend and kindest patron, Professor Ruskin; though the reader will not hold him responsible for the sayings and doings of his self-willed scholar.

W. G. C.

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