

PICTURESQUE ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES.



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AND

PRACTICAL DESIGNS

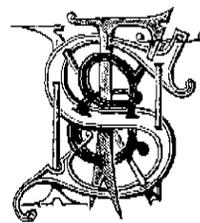
FOR

GATE LODGES, COTTAGES, COTTAGE HOSPITALS, VILLAS, VICARAGES,
COUNTRY RESIDENCES, SCHOOLS, VILLAGE CHURCHES, ETC., ETC.

BY

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P R E F A C E.

AN erroneous idea has been promulgated that a picturesque building is irreconcilable with a good plan, and our modern improvements in construction; that to obtain picturesqueness, in a house for instance, it is necessary to sacrifice convenience and comfortableness in the internal arrangements, to the esthetic character of the exterior, and, that the maximum of comfort and convenience must be enclosed with the maximum of ugliness in the form of stuccoed walls. One of the objects of this work is to show that the antithesis of this is the true statement, that the picturesque is of a pliant nature which is readily adapted to the ever-varying forms of plans designed for convenience and comfort, and that a building may possess the beauty of our old national architectural works, combined with our modern arrangements and appliances of plan and construction.

It has been endeavoured to realize picturesque design combined with good practical planning and construction, and to accomplish this object more by careful study of proportion and distribution of parts, than by undue elaboration of detail; in fact, to get the most picturesque effect in design in the simplest, most common sense, and least expensive manner—for it is not expense, and elaborate detail, but *design*, which produces beauty. Indeed the same materials and labour which are bestowed upon the erection of an ugly building will, if guided by good design, produce a beautiful building.

It has not been my aim to give fine engravings, being of opinion that fac-similes of an architect's own sketches, such as he submits to a client, would better express the ideas meant to be conveyed, and be more useful and accurate, even although rougher, than the same sketches after passing through the hands of an engraver. But I must confess that sometimes these reproductions (especially after the first four or five hundred) are rather disheartening to an author.

The work aims more at being of a suggestive nature; but I am inclined to hope that the sketches in some instances are drawn in such a manner and to a scale that

will render them something more than suggestive. In practice I have several times found the proof sheets of these sketches useful in assisting clients in determining and explaining the character of the building they proposed to erect, and in some instances they have saved the labour of preparing special sketches. I hope that others may find them useful in the same way.

Although it has not always been stated on the Plates where and for whom the buildings have been erected, yet let it be understood that the majority of the designs have been executed.

EXETER HALL, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
AUGUST, 1872.
