



The Drawing Guide: A Manual of Instruction in Industrial Drawing, Designed to Accompany the Industrial Drawing Series with an Introductory Article on the Principles and Practice of Ornamental Art

Marcus Willson

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From the PREFACE.

IN presenting to the public the first four numbers of The Industrial Drawing Series, a few words of explanation are needed. More than thirty years ago the undersigned prepared a work on Perspective, Architectural, and Landscape Drawing, for the use of an Institution with which he was then connected; but, as the work was designed for a local purpose only, it has long been out of print. It is not, therefore, to the writer, a new subject which he has now taken in hand, but the elaboration of an art which, from boyhood, he has indulged in as a pastime, with constantly enlarging views of its importance in the business of both a practically useful and disciplinary education.

A few years ago our attention was specially called to the subject of Isometrical drawing, which had been brought forward in England, and there highly recommended for the use of mechanics, architects, etc., and for all purposes in which working drawings are desirable. But the strict mathematical accuracy required in the guiding slope lines, which must be drawn to a particular angle, and for the drawing of which no means were suggested beyond ordinary pencil ruling, placed this valuable method of representing objects beyond the reach of all except the most accurate draughtsmen, and thus rendered it almost wholly useless for all practical purposes, and especially for school uses.

This difficulty in the ruling, however, we were enabled to overcome by the preparation of "Isometrical Drawing-Paper," printed from stone in fine tinted lines accurately drawn to the required angle. We then proceeded to prepare a somewhat elaborate work on Isometrical Drawing, in which, we have the assurance to believe, we were able to extend and simplify the principles of the art; but when the drawings were all made, and the book was ready for the press, it occurred to us that a still more easy system of industrial drawing, more nearly approaching linear perspective in appearance, and equally practical with isometrical drawing, might be invented; and the result has been the system of Cabinet Perspective, which is now offered to the public in the Second, Third, and Fourth Numbers of the "Industrial Drawing Series." If we are not greatly mistaken, this system of Cabinet Perspective, which is so very simple in plan, and so easy of execution as to render its more valuable portions capable of being understood and practiced by the children in our primary schools, will give to the subject of industrial drawing, in its application to the representation of solids of every variety of form, a value hitherto unknown.

While we regard it, however, as better for most industrial drawings, especially for school purposes, than Isometrical Perspective, yet the latter has some very valuable adaptations; and, as it can be easily applied by those who understand Cabinet Perspective, we have given an exposition of its principles in the Appendix to the present volume

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