



Silva Volume 1; Or, a Discourse of Forest-Trees, and the Propagation of Timber in His Majesty's Dominions as It Was Delivered in the Royal Society, on October XV, MDCLXII, Upon Occasion of

By John Evelyn

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memorable siege by the benefit of this mast. And, in some parts of France, they now grind the buck in mills; it affords a sweet oil, which the poor people eat most willingly. But there is yet another benefit which this tree presents us; its very leaves, which make a natural and most agreeable canopy all the summer, being gathered about the fall, and somewhat before they are much frost-bitten, afford the best and easiest mattresses in the world to lay under our quilts instead of straw; because, besides their tenderness and loose lying together, they continue sweet for seven or eight years long, before which time straw becomes musty and hard: They are thus used by divers persons of quality in Dauphiny; and, in Switzerland, I have sometimes lain on them to my great refreshment: So as, of this tree, it may properly be...



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