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CANADIAN PHOSPHATES
CONSIDERED WITH REFERENCE TO THEIR USE
IN AGRICULTURE.

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Among the numerous sources of wealth included within the vast thickness of the Laurentian system,—those ancient metamorphic rocks developed on such a grand scale in our Canadian geology,—few are invested with a larger amount of scientific interest than the mineral apatite, a substance already ranking among our economics, and probably destined to constitute, in the future, one of the most important of the raw materials of Canada, one of those sinews of the country, upon which her industrial advancement must ever be primarily founded.

It is, therefore, highly desirable that what is at present known of the extent and character of the apatite deposits of Canada should at once be made available; and that the attention of this and other societies in the Dominion should be, to a proper extent, directed to facts relating to a mineral, at once so interesting and so practically useful.

With this in view, we would state, first of all, what are the purposes to which the mineral is adapted; the processes by which it is rendered available; and, as far as can be ascertained, the past and present extent of its usefulness.