

had not the writer been engaged in collecting materials of this description for other purposes. The uses intended to be served by the introduction of this department, are the promotion of the love and study of nature, and the excitement of a well directed spirit of inquiry into the natural productions and resources of the Province.

In order to facilitate reference, and to adapt the Work to be used as a Catechism when desired, the matter has been arranged in short paragraphs, and the first few words of each, in most cases stating its subject, have been separated from the remainder by a dash (—). The words thus separated, are intended to supply the place of questions: Thus, in the first paragraph, the Teacher may say “The Province of Nova Scotia is situated,”—and pause till the pupil repeats the remainder of the paragraph; or, if preferred, the above words may easily be converted into the *form* of a question. In this way, any Teacher can use the Work as a Catechism, while the awkwardness of the catechetical form and the waste of space which it occasions, are avoided.

The Writer gratefully acknowledges his obligations to several gentlemen who have furnished him with valuable information; and especially to the author of the Meteorological Table, contained in the appendix, from which many of the facts in the article on Climate have been derived.

W. D.

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