

Agriculture.

From First Lessons in SCIENTIFIC AGRICULTURE
By J. W. Dawson, L.L.D., F.R.S., HONORARY PROFESSOR OF
MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY. JOHN LEWIS, MURRAY,

Author of *Land and Soil*, and *Land Economics*; to
which is added, *Notes on the Land Economics*.

CHAPTER VI.—*Leaves.*—Leaves are often
seen in all kinds of plants; and each examination of
the New York *World* of the 21st inst. contains

the following important intelligence:

"We are informed on good authority, that the
proposals for peace which the government will make
to the rebels have been already made known to leading
men in the different rebel states, and that they
will be accepted by the southern people. Government
proposals are to send to Richmond, at an
early date, a commission of five, composed of three
Republicans and two peace Democrats. The Hon.
Thomas Corwin is to be the chief of the Republicans,
and the Hon. Thomas H. Seymour of the peace
Democrats. They will go to Richmond to treat
with the confederate authorities, and if their
proposals are rejected by them, their propositions
will be made directly to each state to come back to
the Union precisely on the same footing as before
the rebellion. Each state shall meet at once their
representatives and senators to Congress, and they
will then meet with all the right and privileges
of those from the loyal states. In regard to slavery,
each state shall be left to use its own discretion
in reference to abolishing it between now and January 1, 1900. Our government will propose the gradual
emancipation of the slaves before January 1, 1900. Free
pardons will be granted to every body in the
rebel states, and if the leaders of the rebellion are
admitted to Congress, the Presidents of the United
States, or any other state in the country, they shall
be eligible for the same, and enjoy all the rights and
privileges of citizens of the loyal states."

"A large portion of the water of the ocean escapes

from the sea by evaporation and perspiration. Water

contained in a vessel, in which the roots of a growing

plant are placed, is gradually drawn up and given out by

the leaves until it disappears; if it remains, it becomes

altogether exhausted; and then the plant droops and

withers, because the leaves are equally exhaling its

fluids, while the roots are receiving no new supplies.

This emission of water is held in

the plant with the greatest rapidity when the plant is exposed to the direct rays of

the sun, and it diminishes very low when the leaves

are covered by the shade of a tree, or when the leaf

comes in contact with the ground.

The Duan or the Corporation.—The Duan, or

the Corporation, is to sit with the Inter-

Colonial Railroads to be built, to be little over \$100,-

000,000, distributed as follows:

Duane of Canada, \$100,000,000

Quebec Social, 100,000,000

New Brunswick, 100,000,000

According to Dr. P. L. Island and Newfoundland, who have

given the sum of \$100,000,000

to adjust difference of debt due him, \$100,000,000

Paid to Newfoundland for its lands and lands, \$100,000,000

to Quebec Social, \$100,000,000

Taking the sum of the Inter-Colonial Railways at

\$100,000,000 sterling, or \$100,000,000

United Provinces, to start with, would be \$100,000,000

paid to the Province of Quebec, the debt when he places it at \$115,000,000.

But this does not provide for the enlargement of

the canals or the opening up of the north west. These im-

provements are to be left a more convenient subject.

They ought to have been something more definite on

this subject in view of the fact that the delegates

are to be called to consider the Inter-Colonial Rail-

ways to full up the Confederation. Canada will pay a

large proportion of the cost that she would have

paid if the previous agreement between the Provinces to

pay the proportion above, especially bear, had been carried out. This is a reason why there should

be no mistake in regarding the subject as definite.

Other improvements would be of great interest

in Upper Canada, especially if it were connected

with the opening up of the great North West.

Toronto Leader.

—The above work contains most useful and interesting

information on the physiological changes which occur in the Reproductive System during the periods of youth, puberty, and manhood; and on the due attainment of those degrees of functional vigour upon which the hopes of posterity depend. It also points out how all the attention of the physician and the public health officer may be directed to the promotion of health during the period of life.

If these are lost, then how they can be recovered.

—The leaves absorb and decompose various acids,

a gaseous substance which, as leaves decay, exerts a

marked influence on the growth of the plant.

—It is a well-known fact that leaves of plants

contain a gaseous compound which, when dissolved in

water, gives rise to a marked power of

soaking and softening wood.

—The decomposition of carbonic acid by the leaves

of plants is most important to their growth, because upon

the carbon that lies in their structures, and retaining

the carbon at the same time expelling its oxygen.

—The leaves absorb and decompose various acids,

and decompose them slowly in the shade, and in

darkness give place to one of a contrary nature.

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