

## The Indian antiquities (Montreal)

There has been lately discovered by accident in Montreal remains of a extinct species of indians. The <sup>indians</sup> were first discovered by Cartier 3 hundred years ago and the present antiquities are supposed to be of about that date. Some of the principle things found I will now mention. There were five or six skeletons found the bowl of a pipe two stones for grinding their corn with some very pretty pieces of pottery of very pretty pattern several loam implements such as knives, pieces and things to mark their pottery, the remains of a broken stone ax a bone needle worn smooth by use. The principle animals we find remains of

are the Deer, Dog, Beaver, Martin, several kinds  
of fish, Bear & Muskuash.

George Henry Dawson



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# Fishes.

Fishes are those animals which inhabit the Oceans, Rivers, and Lakes, they vary ~~in~~ vastly in size, shape & form ~~in~~ habits; indeed they vary so much in size that some, at their full growth are not an inch in length, while the vast whale is sometimes seventy feet in length. fishes in general have seven fins <sup>with</sup> which they move themselves in the manner of ~~oars~~ <sup>oars</sup> that <sup>of man,</sup> are used ~~in a boat~~ through their native depths. <sup>These fins</sup> they are composed of small bones radiating from a center with a thin membrane or skin stretched between them. Very few fishes feed on vegetable food most subsist on smaller animals of their own kind or other soft animals which live in the sea. Fishes spawn at a certain time every year which <sup>varies</sup>

according to their kinds. Fishes in general conceal their  
spawn; some <sup>conceal theirs</sup> in the sand and <sup>others</sup> ~~some~~ among the weeds  
many fishes whose home is in the salt water of the sea  
ascend rivers to spawn. There are laws <sup>made</sup> to protect  
fishes at the time of their spawning. I will now  
mention the names and properties of a few of the  
most usefull kinds to man. I will first mention  
the Cod - it is caught in large quantities in spring  
and fisherman now by experience certain places  
where they abound. Next the Herring, it is caught  
in nets a large quantity at a time they are gener-  
ally salted before used. Next the salmon it is  
<sup>one</sup> ~~another~~ of these fishes which go up rivers to  
spawn.

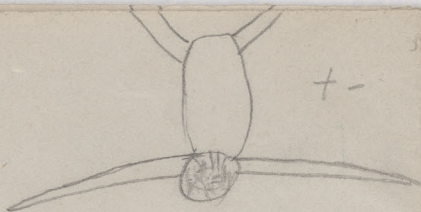
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George Mercer Dawson.



March 26<sup>th</sup><sub>4</sub>

1861  
Fishes

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George M. Dawson



Winter is that season Winter

Winter is that season of the year, when the sun is farthest from the earth this of course makes it colder than in summer when the sun is nearest to the earth.

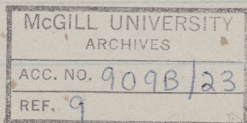
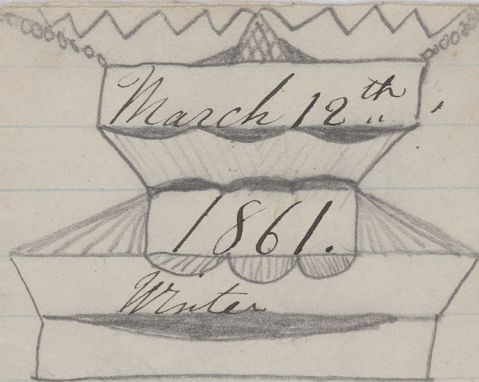
It is proportionally colder in winter as you approach the north or south pole; when you are in the temperate that is to say the zone <sup>which</sup> lies between the torrid and the arctic zone it is not extremely cold (especially, in the northern parts) <sup>though</sup> it is some times very severe. The zone which lies inside <sup>and antarctic</sup> the arctic circle is the coldest in the world; the torrid zone is the hottest and instead of snow which falls in the colder climates, in winter rain falls in such large quantities and so continuously as often to swell rivers so that they flood whole districts of Countries. I will now proceed to describe the progress of a winter in the temperate zone: The season which precedes winter is autumn which is a sort of intermediate season between summer and Winter: in the latter

part of autumn the snow begins to fall & as it advances into winter falls more and more frequently until the ground is entirely covered sometimes to the depth of several feet: sometimes there are thaws or warm seasons which melt part of the snow they are generally caused by south winds which bring the warm air from the south. When it comes <sup>again</sup> it makes the snow quite <sup>hard</sup> after two, three, or four months off (according to the situation of the country) of Hard frost it again begins to melt and finally melts all away and finally turns spring. I will now mention some of the favourite amusement of winter, they are skating, snowshoes<sup>ing</sup>, cutting and when the snow is soft enough snowballing.

In Egypt which is one of the tropical countries: in winter which is represented there by the rainy season the Nile overflows its banks and leaves a coating of mud which fertilizes the ground and gives the Cultivator of it an abundant return for his labour.

George Mercer Dawson.

McGill College Montreal.



## Rivers ~~and~~ Flow

Rivers are those ~~large~~ masses bodies of water which flow from the land to the sea, the cause of rivers is the drainage of the water of the land, which water is caused from rain which is evaporated from the sea up into the clouds and which again falls to fertilize the ground.

The names of some of the principal rivers are these the Amazon the largest which was so named from companies of armed women on its banks the Mississippi one of the principal tributaries <sup>of it</sup> is the Missouri, the St. Lawrence with its tributary the Ottawa, <sup>the</sup> Neiper, Dwina, Don, Volga, Danube, Indes, Ganges, Lena, Oli, Nile, <sup>and the</sup> Niger, the beginning of the Nile has not been yet

explored. Fish and many other water animals inhabit rivers though not of the same kind that live in salt water: in many tropical rivers Crocodiles and Alligators, shellfish also inhabit rivers but not of <sup>such</sup> beautiful colours as those which live in the sea though some especially in tropical rivers are very pretty. Salt water fish such as the Salmon and Herring come up rivers to spawn. There are many waterfalls and rapids and some rivers are so obstructed with them that they are not navigable but most rivers of sufficient depth are navigable. The kind of steamboats which sail on large rivers are not suited for the <sup>3</sup>boisterous

navigation of the sea: many rivers are  
obstructed with shifting sandbanks, which  
make their navigation very difficult.

George Mercer Dawson.

Feb 27th  
1861

Rivers.

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George M. Dawson

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## Mountains.

Mountains are these large projections on the earth's surface, one of the highest if not the highest is ~~Mount Blank~~ <sup>is one of the peaks of the Himalayas</sup>, the ~~the~~ greatest ranges in the world are these the Rocky, Aligianies, Ural, Pyriess, Andes, Alps, Appinines, Carpathian, Ca<sup>u</sup>casus, Scandanavian, Armenian, Yablonnoi, Atlas, and the mountains of the Moon.

The principal volcanic mountains are Hecla in Iceland, Vesubius in Italy, and Etna in Cisily.

The <sup>usefull</sup> products of ~~the~~ volcanic mountains, sulfur and the chief sulphur bearing mountain is Vesubius, sulphur is of a yellow colour and its chief use is for making gunpowder it is also administered

in small quantities as a medicine: volcanic mountains also yield ashes, lava, and other substances, but they are not of use.

Other mountains yield other metals and ~~such~~ <sup>other</sup> things but nothing different from common: all high mountains have snow on the top. The ural mountains are especially rich in precious metals.

George Mercer Dawson.

Montreal.

Feb 19<sup>th</sup>.

1861,

Mountains

George M. Dawson.

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# The Ocean.

The Ocean is a vast collection of ~~of~~ water not <sup>fresh</sup> like a lake or river but very salt; the ocean is inhabited by a vast variety of fishes animals and various other creatures which are part of both the largest animal is ~~the~~ whale and I don't think I could tell the smallest the far most important oceans are the Pacific & Atlantic <sup>and</sup> the Arctic the Antarctic there are many more but these are the principal ones.

The Ocean is not always still, no indeed it is seldom that it is so it is generally in motion. There are also many weads in the sea of every form and pattern imaginable.

There are other motions in the sea besides waves there are curreants or thin bodies of water like rivers flowing continually in

the same direction and there is yet another motion in the sea that is tides which are regular recedings and returnings of the of the water: there is a great deal more sea than there is land on our globe and there are invented, many kinds of boats and ships to sail upon the sea some are very large and comodious while others are very small

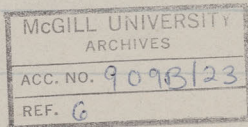
George M. Dawson.

Montreal.

Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>

1861

Ocean





# Paper

Paper is a very usefull article and tends much to the advancement of civilization and science.

Many ancient nations had invented a rude kind of paper or some substitute for it.

Egyptian paper for example; it was composed of the papyrus a kind of rush, but none are equal to the paper we have now in use.

Without paper what would be the use of that important <sup>great</sup> modern (comparitively speaking) invention printing, why it would have been no use or at least very little if they had nothing perhaps but boards

or such like.

Paper has to go through a very long process before it is made: first the rags of which it is composed have to be reduced to a fine pulp which has to be dried, pressed, glazed and afterwards cut into pieces fit for use. <sup>and</sup> this of course requires a great deal of machinery there are also a great many kinds of paper, brown, white, grey &c. there is also a new kind of paper made of straw it is of course and not fit for anything but wrapping paper.

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George Mercer Dawson

Montreal 1861

Jan 8<sup>th</sup>

1861

Paper

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REF. 3

# Flowers

Flowers are the most beautiful form of vegetable life the cultivated ones adorn our gardens and the uncultivated the woods. Some flowers are prized for their scent others for their beauty and others for both: the double varieties are prod used by pampering but when ~~but~~ when they are produced they hardly ever perfect seed: the reason of this is that ~~when they~~ require both stamens and petals to perfect a seed and when pampered in the way they either loose stamens or petals and it is only now and then that seeds of the double varieties are perfected.

There are thousands of species of flowers some lasting for many years, some for one and some

for two.

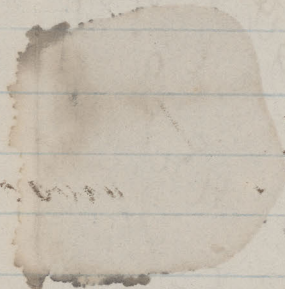
But here I think I must bring this to a close  
as my time is expired.

George M. Dawson

1871

1871

1871



1871

1871





## Vegetation.

Vegetation is that part of life which does not feel or move the nearest approach to animal life is made in the sensitive and and pitcher plant. whenever you touch the sensitive plant it all curls up and the pitcher plant it has at its extremity a pitche like cavity which is filled with water every morning and there is a little lid which shuts every night.

Trees are the largest ~~a~~ form of vegetable life the highest trees are the palms and the most spreading the banyan the smallest form

~~at~~ ~~at~~ is ~~the~~ mould there are many intermediate between the largest and the smallest.

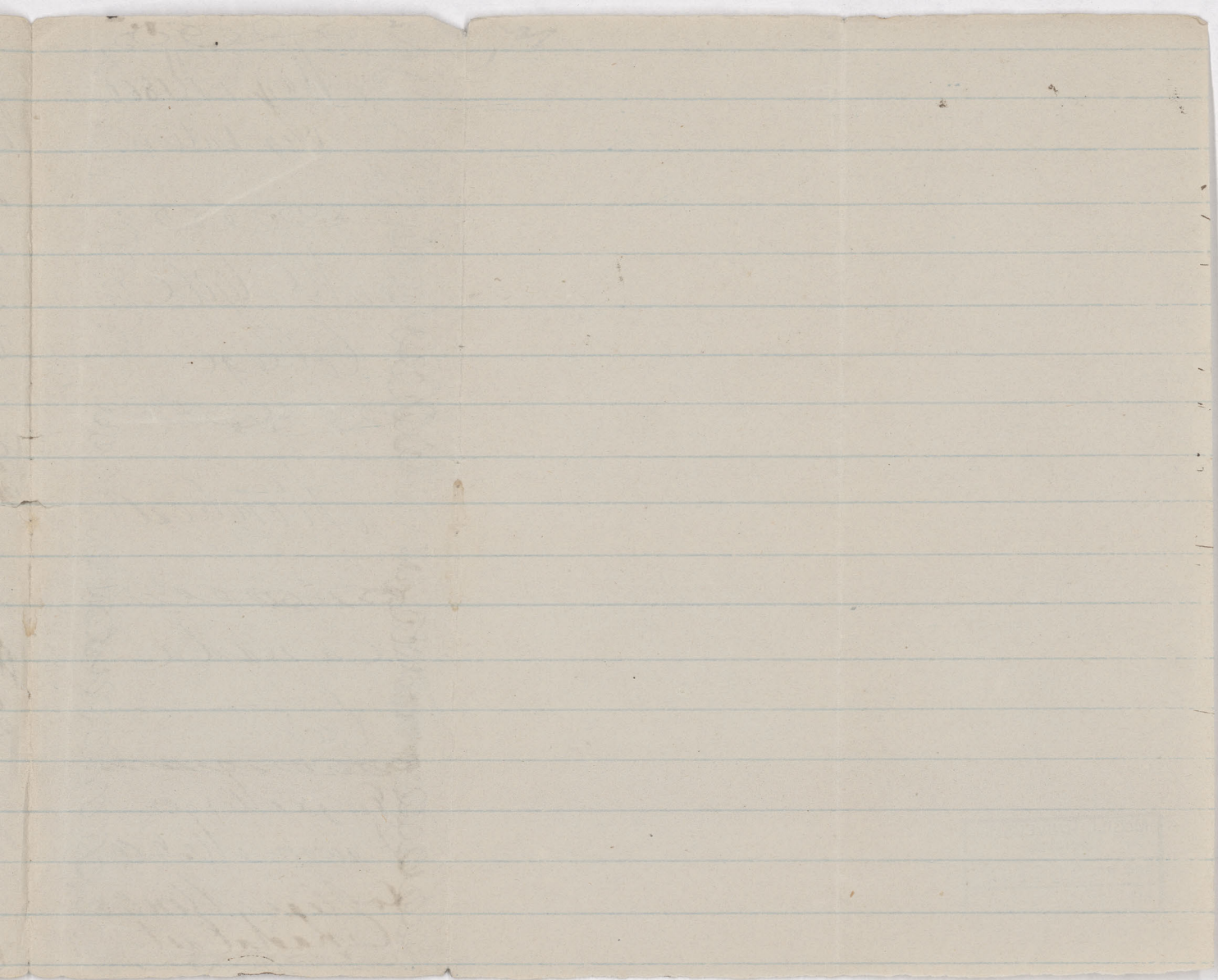
The food of all animals is originally derived from vegetable sources.

Vegetables <sup>make</sup> form a principal part of the food of man.

They also form the principal part in ~~in~~

manufactures.

George M. Dawson



May 1. 1860  
Vegetation

McGill  
College

Montreal

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George Mercer

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## The Wolf

The wolf is one of these animals which herd together in packs and when driven to hunger is very ferocious it is generally in winter that they are in that ferocious state as food is most scarce then.

Wolf hunting is a favourite amusement in Russia in the winter it is carried on so the persons who are going to hunt each take a gun and hire a <sup>slayer</sup> slayer (if they have not got one themselves) and a good horse they next procure a young live pig and tie it to the <sup>slayer</sup> slayer's halter about six feet away by one leg. they take it into the slayer and start when they come to the edge of the wood which they know to be frequented by those

animals they then put the pig out and start  
off at a gallop the pig upon this <sup>begins</sup> loudly to squeak  
as I suppose you would in the same circumstances  
which attracts vast quantities of them at this  
they begin to fire and afterwards come back for  
the dead ones (this is done in the night but  
sometimes they are too many for them as an in-  
stance of this I may mention this incident: a party  
had gone out in the early part of the night  
but the wolves had become too strong for them  
and were following them in a sort of semicircle  
(they were going at full speed) their <sup>ammunition</sup> ammunition  
was nearly exhausted did not know very well  
how to do at last they hit the nail upon the  
head they suddenly turned round and dashed

through them they woked at this were so  
discouraged for about <sup>five</sup> minutes that they got  
a start and got home escaped from them

George A. Dawson

May 810

1860

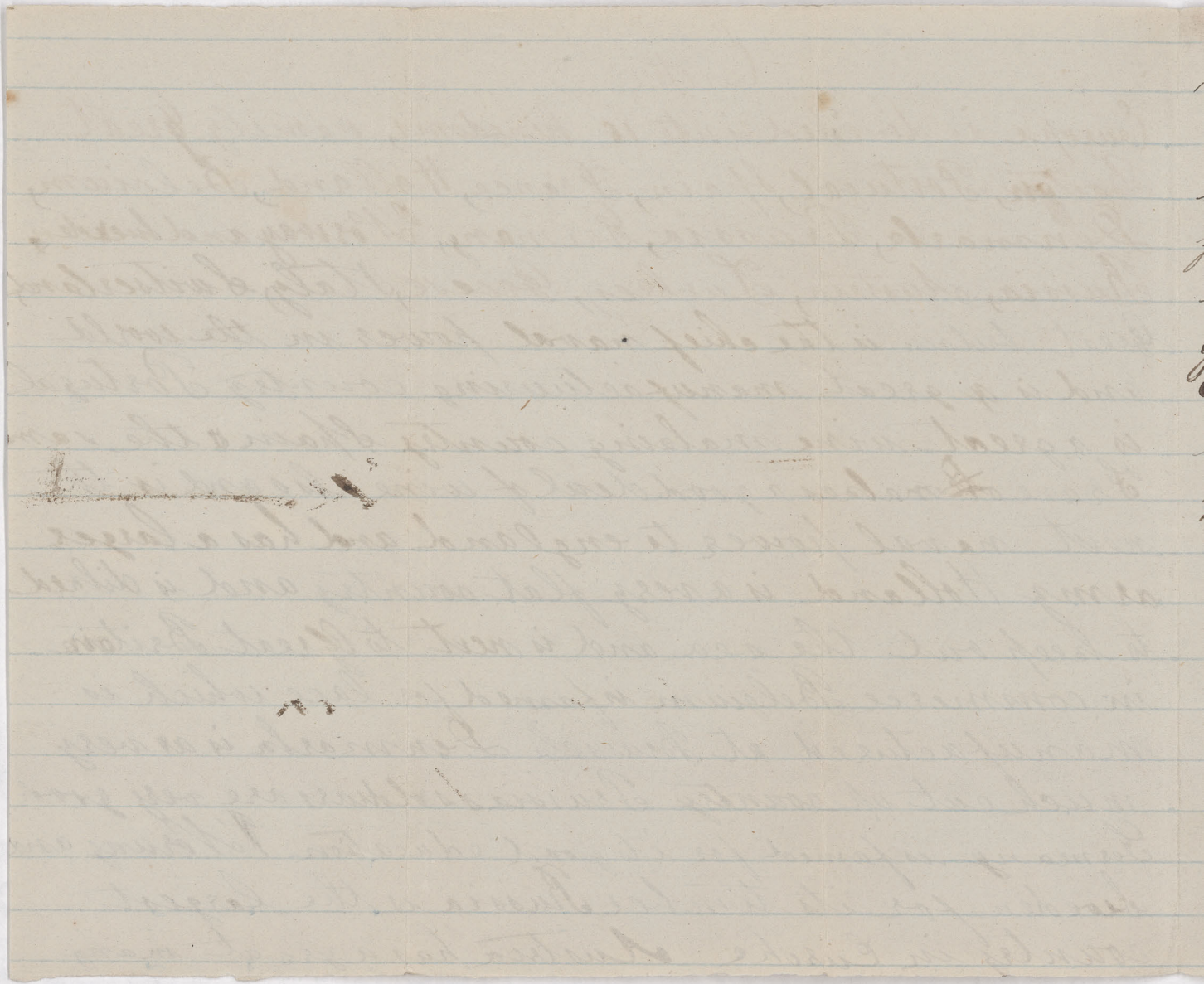
wolf

Early essay of  
G. M. Dawson's -  
on  
hunting wolves  
in Russia  
etc.  
quite amusing.



## Europe

Europe is divided into 16 kingdoms, namely Great Britain, Portugal, Spain, France, Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Prussia, Germany, Norway and Sweden, Russia, Austria, Turkey, Greece, Italy, Switzerland. Great Britain is the chief naval power in the world and is a great manufacturing country. Portugal is a great wine making country. Spain is the same. France makes a good deal of wine also and is the next naval power to England and has a larger army. Holland is a very flat country and is dibred to keep out the sea and is next to Great Britain in commerce. Belgium is famed for lace which is manufactured at Brussels. Denmark is a very much cut up country. Prussia's soldiers are very good. Germany is famed for its <sup>excellent system of</sup> good education. Norway and Sweden for its timber. Russia is the largest country in Europe. Austria has a great many



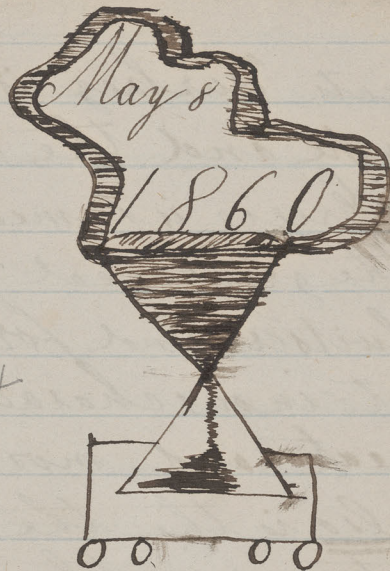
Mohomedan

mineral products Turkey is the only Mohomedan country in Europe and the only one governed by a sultan Greece is famed for its early civilization Italy is the great seat of the Roman Catholic religion and, Switzerland for the Alps and its generally mountainous character.

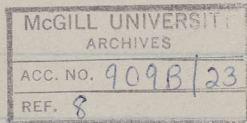
Europe is the great and most ancient seat of civilization and also is the the seat of the most powerfull nations in the world.

George Mercer Dawson

1860



Europe



## The Lion

The lion is called the king of beasts from its superior strength and cunning.

The lion is by some naturalists divided into two species the brown and the black the black lion is by far the fiercest another very dangerous kind is those who have tasted human blood; as they take a liking for it which induces <sup>them not</sup> to seek for any other kind of food.

The lion <sup>has</sup> ~~is~~ a very fierce look with its dark mane <sup>mane</sup> & its glaring eyes and his majestic step.

Lions gain their food by combined strength and cunning as they lie in ambush near some path which they know to be frequented by cattle and when they see any they give a great bound or spring at them which <sup>knocks</sup> them quite over where he devours them at

his leisure if the lion fails in <sup>the length of</sup> his leap and the object of it escapes he tries it over and over again till he attains perfection

As an instance that the lion does not attack unless he requires it for food (he attacks however when he does not need food for revenge) I may mention this incident: A gentleman in Africa going out to hunt alone on his way home came upon a large flat rock. He ~~saw~~ <sup>purposed</sup> to sleep there accordingly lay down: when he awoke he saw a large lion sitting at his feet he <sup>he raised himself up a little and</sup> attempted to reach his gun which was beside his legs upon this the lion uttered savage growls and advanced a few paces he continued in this manner for two days all this time the gentleman was <sup>suffering</sup> intense pain on account of the heat reflected

from the rock till on the second day the lion seeing  
some deer in the distance left ~~to~~ him and went  
after them by this time his feet were so scorched  
by the sun that he could not walk but crept  
along on his knees till some of the <sup>servants</sup> coming  
to seek for him found him and conveyed him home.

I could say much more about the lion but I find  
I have <sup>not much</sup> room left so I think I will stop here.

George Mercer Dawson.

the Lion

1861

April 2 1861

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