THE ECONOMIC USE OF PHOSPHATE DEPOSITS.¹

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INTRODUCTION.

Probably no other nation in the world has the reputation of being as profligate with its natural resources and as wasteful in the practice of its arts and industries as the United States, and in some ways this distinction has been merited; for like a good-natured, big-hearted, wealthy giant this country has spent, given, and thrown away all too generously. Vast reserve supplies of those raw materials which are essential for the advance of industry and civilization are still available and in many instances it may still be economically correct to select the best and discard the less valuable material, but

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