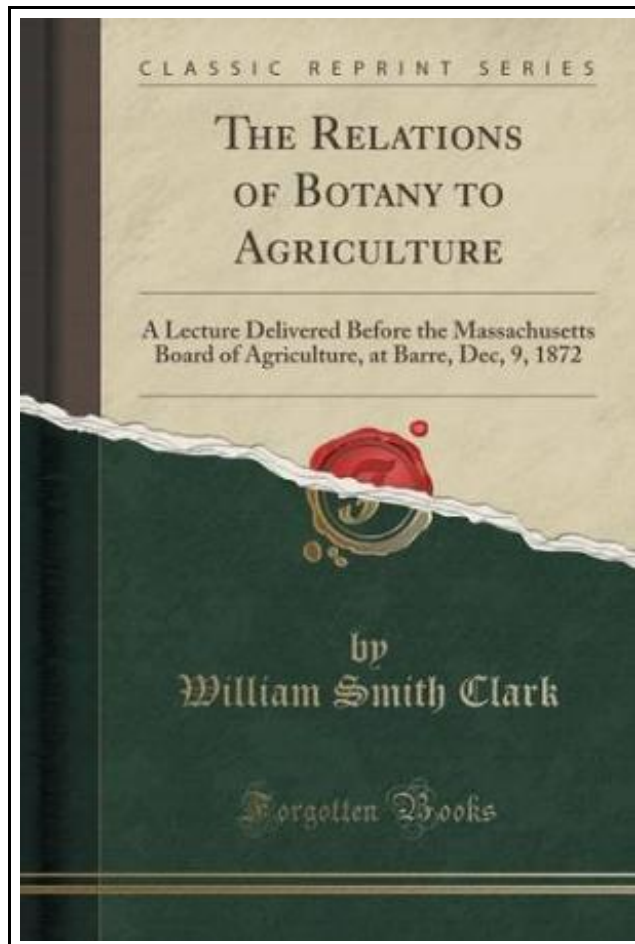


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THE RELATIONS OF BOTANY TO AGRICULTURE: A LECTURE DELIVERED BEFORE THE MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, AT BARRE, DEC, 9, 1872 (CLASSIC REPRINT)



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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from *The Relations of Botany to Agriculture: A Lecture Delivered Before the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, at Barre, Dec, 9, 1872* Mr. Chairman and Ladies and Gentlemen: - There is much reason for gratitude and encouragement in the fact that the general subject of agricultural education need no longer be discussed at the meetings of this Board. That good mental training, some literary culture and familiarity with the laws and phenomena of nature are useful to the farmer, is no longer denied. That chemistry, by revealing the composition of air, water, soils and manures, as well as of plants and animals, has rendered a rational system of agriculture possible, is universally admitted. The chemical force, however, exerts its influence principally upon dead matter, and is subordinate to that other greater mystery which organizes mineral substances into those varied forms of vegetation which clothe the earth with beauty and furnish the indispensable food of animals. Baron von Liebig has said: The scientific basis of agriculture embraces a knowledge of all the conditions of vegetable life, of the origin of the elements of plants, and of the source from which they derive their nourishment. Professor Lindley also asserts that good agriculture and horticulture are founded upon the laws of vegetable physiology; and that no man deserves the name of gardener who is not master of everything known as to the way in which plants feed, breathe, grow, digest, and have their being. How astonishing and humiliating then to every enlightened American must be the fact that while in Europe almost every university and every large city has its botanic garden for the instruction and entertainment of students and...



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