LECTURES TO SABBATH SCHOOL TEACHERS ON MENTAL CULTIVATION

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Lectures to Sabbath School Teachers on Mental Cultivation by Hubbard Winslow

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HUBBARD WINSLOW

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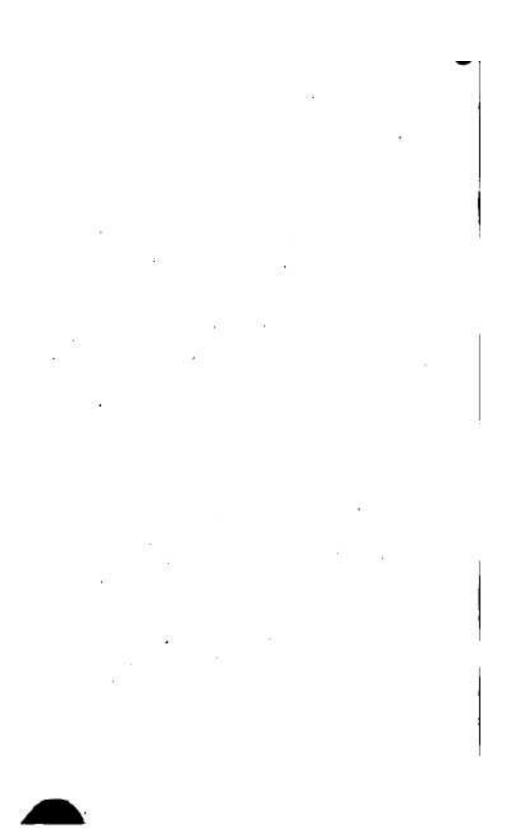
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INTRODUCTORY NOTICE.

In the early part of the last summer, a paper, of which the following is a copy, was handed to several of the Sabbath School Superintendents in this city, and received their entire approbation:—

"Among the Sabbath School Teachers and Members of Bible Classes connected with the evangelical denominations of Christians in this city, there are many who have received but an imperfect intellectual education. Some of these individuals are comparatively unaware of the importance of the cultivation of their intellectual powers, and are consequently doing little or nothing to accomplish this desirable end. Others are somewhat impressed with the importance of such improvement, but do not make any adequate effort to attain it. And others, still, are fully awake to the desirableness of

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the object, but they know not how to use their little time and feeble capacity to the best advantage.

"With a knowledge of the fact that thousands of children are training up for eternity under the guidance of our Sabbath School Teachers, and believing that the cause of Christ would be greatly promoted by the increased intelligence and wisdom of these individuals, we are desirous that a short course of practical lectures should be delivered to them on the following subjects, viz.

a. The influence of the Bible on the intellectual powers.

"II. The duty incumbent upon all young persons, and especially upon all Sabbath School Teachers, to improve their intellectual faculties.

"III. The best method of accomplishing the object, taking into view the limited time and means which the majority of our teachers can command.

"IV. The encouragements of Sabbath School Teachers.

"It is proposed to have four lectures at the Odeon, from chergymen of different denominations, viz., Methodist, Baptist, Episcopalian, and Congregational."

At a meeting of Superintendents, called for the consideration of the above object, after some deliberation, it was voted, that it is expedient to have such a course of lectures; and a committee was chosen to make the necessary arrangements.

In accordance with this plan, lectures were delivered to crowded audiences at the Odeon, by the following gentlemen:—

Rev. John S. Stone, D. D., of the Episcopal Church.

Rev. Joshua W. Downing, of the Methodist Church.

Rev. Hubbard Winslow, of the Congregational Church.

Rev. BARON STOW, of the Baptist Church.

After the course was completed, there was a universal expression of desire that the Lectures should be published, for more extensive usefulness to the cause; and at the urgent solicitation of the committee, in behalf of the Sabbath School Teachers of this city, many of whom were prevented from hearing them, the Lectures which follow were submitted for publication.*

^{*} Rev. Messrs. Stow and Downing declined.