

**EASY LESSONS IN
VEGETABLE BIOLOGY, OR,
OUTLINES OF PLANT LIFE**

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Easy Lessons in Vegetable Biology, Or, Outlines of Plant Life by J. H. Wythe

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J. H. WYTHE

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OUTLINES OF PLANT LIFE.

BY
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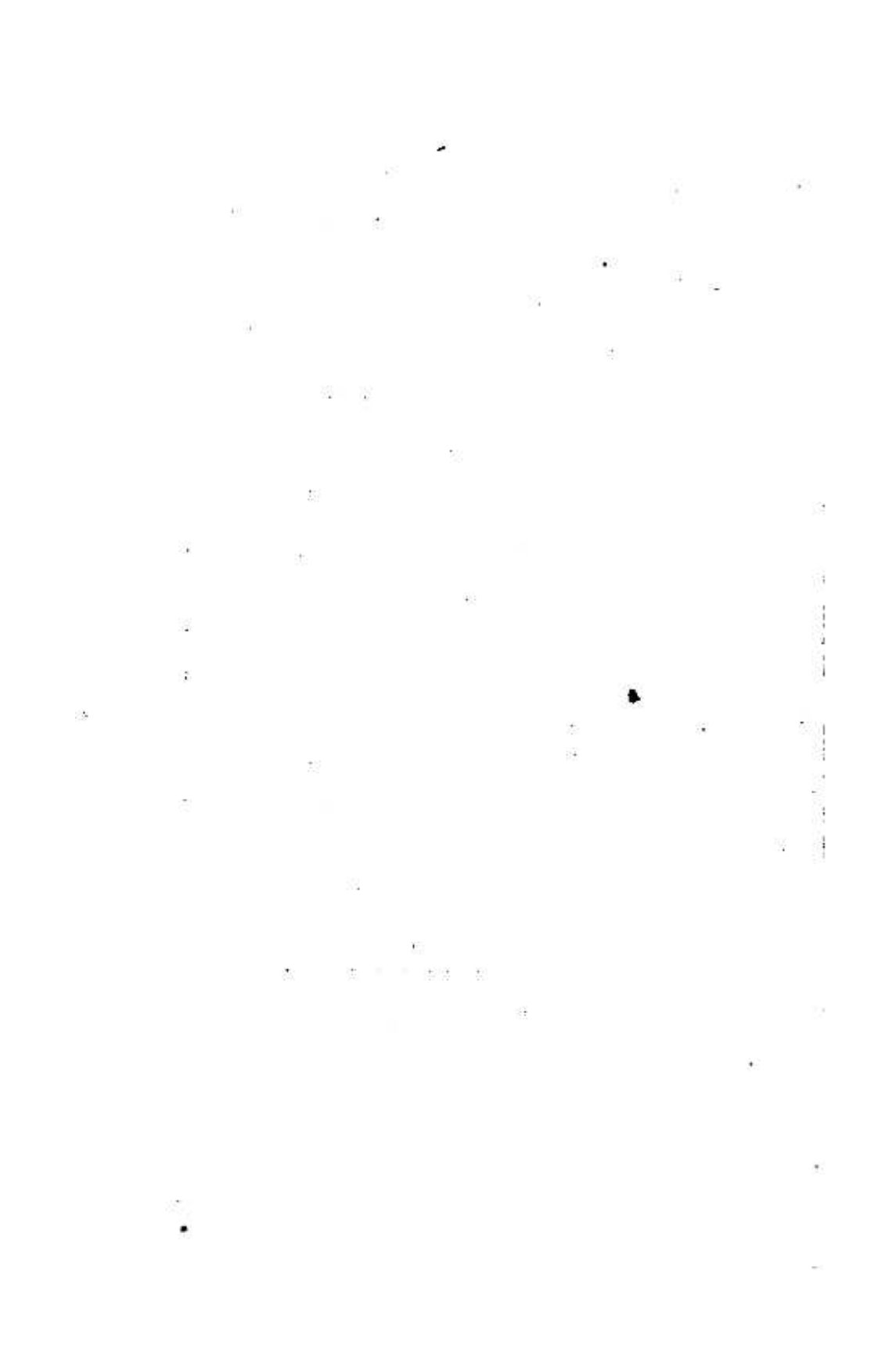
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PREFACE.

THIS work has been prepared for the students of the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle. It is also adapted to use in schools.

It begins with the simplest and most elementary facts of Biology, and progresses gradually to things more intricate. It uses no unnecessary technicalities, is condensed into the smallest possible compass, and but few words are spent upon theories. The Christian philosophy of life, which the author believes to be the only true philosophy, is clearly stated; but he aims to present only facts, and the plain inferences from facts, to the attention of the inquirer.



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EASY LESSONS
III
VEGETABLE BIOLOGY.

CHAPTER I.

WHAT BIOLOGY TEACHES.

1. THE word *Biology* is made up of two Greek words—*bios*, life, and *logos*, a discourse. It means the study of living things.

A few years ago all the living and non-living objects in the earth—minerals, plants, and animals—were embraced in one department of knowledge, called *Natural History*, but it is now usual to study living and non-living objects in different departments. A knowledge of *Biology* involves much more than the ability to distinguish the different kinds of living beings so as to be able to label dead specimens in a cabinet. This science uses the terms of *Botany* and *Zoology* only as the builder uses a scaffolding for the erection of an edifice, or as a postmaster the boxes of his office for a more convenient classification.

2. *Biology* includes in its survey both animals and vegetables, and considers their forms and peculiarities,