

**ON SOME DEFECTS IN PUBLIC
SCHOOL EDUCATION. A
LECTURE DELIVERED AT THE
ROYAL INSTITUTION, ON
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH, 1867**

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On Some Defects in Public School Education. A Lecture Delivered at the Royal Institution, on Friday, February 8th, 1867 by F. W. Farrar

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F. W. FARRAR

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*ON SOME DEFECTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL
EDUCATION.*

A LECTURE

DELIVERED AT THE ROYAL INSTITUTION,

ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH, 1867.

WITH NOTES AND APPENDICES.

BY THE

REV. F. W. FARRAR, M.A. F.R.S.

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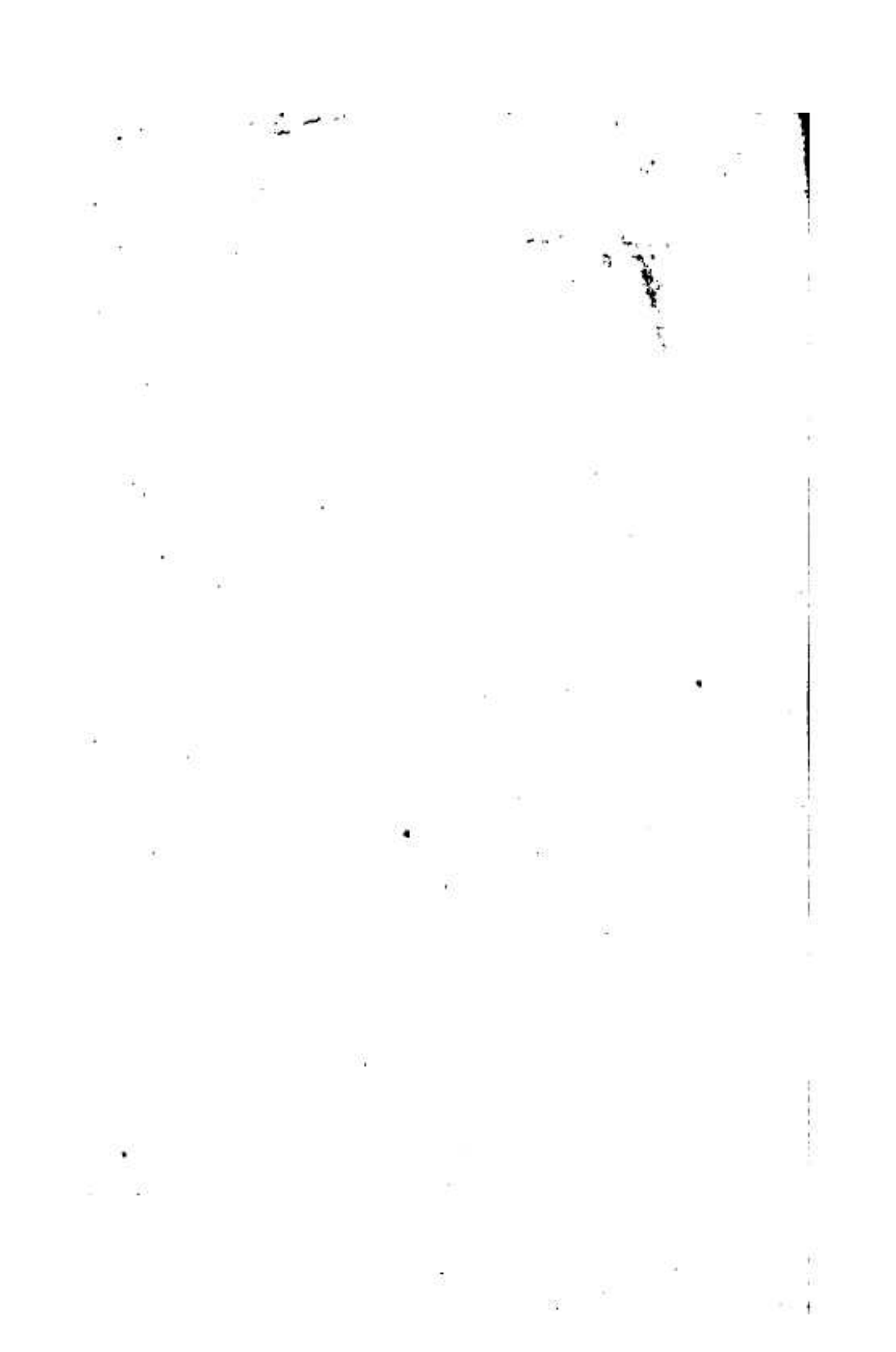
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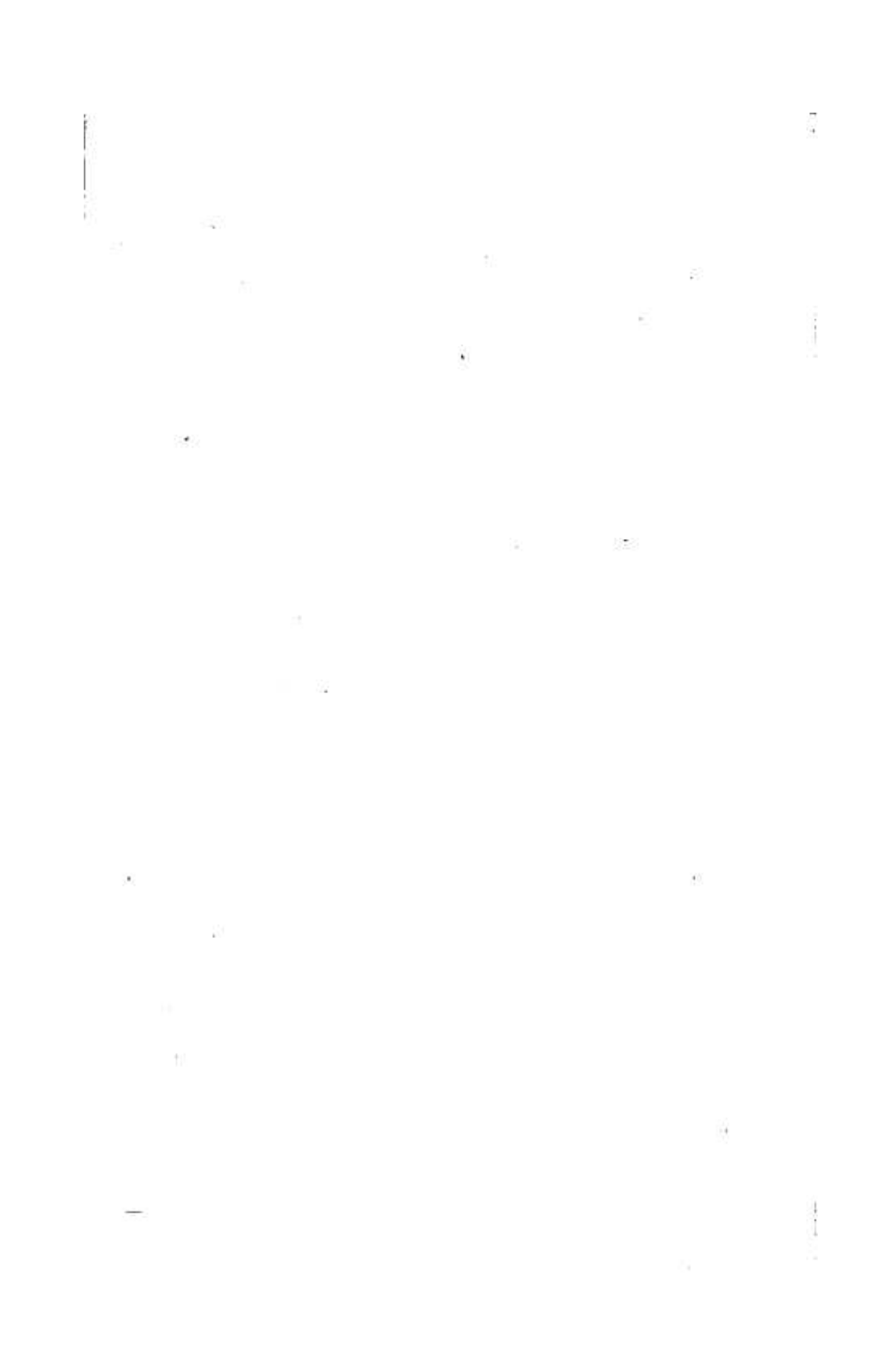
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ON SOME DEFECTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION.

" L'étude de l'antiquité resta donc, et avec raison, dans l'enseignement classique ; mais les meilleurs esprits, les défenseurs les plus éclairés de cet enseignement, reconnaissaient déjà à l'époque où ces questions s'agitaient, qu'une amélioration était nécessaire et urgente."

M. VINCENT DURIV, Ministre de l'Instruction Publique, 1866.



PREFACE.

THIS Lecture is published by the request of a large number of those who heard it delivered. It is not impossible that I may at some future period treat the subjects, at which I have here glanced, in a much fuller manner, and adduce in their support a far more powerful and extensive array of arguments than in so short a space it was possible to do. At present I have contented myself with adding four Appendices, to show how many scholars and eminent men share in the views which I have here expressed. These appendices are—on the ignorance which is so often the sole result of an exclusively classical education; on the general uselessness of the many hours spent over Latin and Greek verses; on the irrational

way in which we have taught grammar ; and on that strange and disastrous neglect of science which has hitherto been the worst blot on our Public School curriculum. Such testimonies might, without the slightest effort, be quadrupled in number. It will not be possible much longer for any one to ignore them.

F. W. F.

A LECTURE.

WHEN I had the honour of being invited to deliver a Lecture before the Royal Institution, my subject was at the same time assigned to me. Yet, even if this had not been the case, it would perhaps have been unnecessary to apologise for speaking to you on a topic of great importance, of which I know so much from personal experience. Although, therefore, my Lecture must be of an interest immeasurably inferior to those fairy tales of science, illustrated by delicate and wonderful experiments, to which you are accustomed in this place; it will, at least, be so far scientific in its spirit, that it will deal with no facts which have not been derived from first-hand observation.

Thirteen full years of labour spent in the heart of Public Schools, and devoted, to the utmost of my poor ability, to their service, are the cre-