

**LIGHT AND ELECTRICITY: NOTES
OF TWO COURSES OF
LECTURES BEFORE THE ROYAL
INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN**

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Light and Electricity: Notes of Two Courses of Lectures Before the Royal Institution of Great Britain by John Tyndall

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JOHN TYNDALL

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NOTES

OF

*TWO COURSES OF LECTURES BEFORE THE ROYAL
INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN.*

BY

JOHN TYNDALL, LL. D., F. R. S.,

AUTHOR OF "HEAT AS A MODE OF MOTION," "LECTURES ON SOUND," "FRAGMENTS OF
SCIENCE FOR UNSCIENTIFIC PEOPLE," "HOURS OF EXERCISE IN THE ALPS,"
ETC., ETC.; PROFESSOR OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY IN THE
ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN.

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PREFACE TO THE AMERICAN EDITION.

FOR the benefit of those who attended his lectures on Light and Electricity at the Royal Institution, Prof. Tyndall prepared with much care a series of Notes, summing up briefly and clearly the leading facts and principles of these sciences. The Notes proved so serviceable to those for whom they were designed, that they were widely sought by students and teachers, and Prof. Tyndall accordingly had them reprinted in two small books. Under the conviction that they will be equally appreciated by instructors and learners in this country, they are here combined and republished in a single volume.

No intelligent teacher or earnest student needs to be reminded of the importance of repetition and recapitulation to give permanence to mental impressions. But it is neither possible nor desirable to retain in the memory the copious details which may be necessary to the first comprehension of a subject. Hence, after listening to a course of lectures, or going through an extended work in which facts, experimental proofs, and speculations, have

been elaborately presented, it is invaluable to retrace the field, concentrating attention upon the prominent and established principles of the subject. This is an indispensable condition of all solid acquisition; and, in thus clearly and sharply stating the fundamental principles of Electrical and Optical Science, Prof. Tyndall has earned the cordial thanks of all interested in education.

NEW YORK, *April*, 1871.

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