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AND OTHER PAPERS

BEING VOLUME XII.

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INTELLECT

AND OTHER PAPERS

BY

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

*WITH A GENERAL INDEX TO EMERSON'S
COLLECTED WORKS*

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PREFATORY NOTE.

THE first two pieces in this volume are lectures from the "University Courses" on philosophy, given at Harvard College in 1870 and 1871, by persons not members of the Faculty. "The Natural History of the Intellect" was the subject which Emerson chose. He had, from his early youth, cherished the project of a new method in metaphysics, proceeding by observation of the mental facts, without attempting an analysis and coördination of them which must, from the nature of the case, be premature. With this view, he had, at intervals from 1848 to 1866, announced courses on the "Natural History of Intellect," "The Natural Method of Mental Philosophy," and "Philosophy for the People." He would, he said, give anecdotes of the spirit, a calendar of mental moods, without any pretence of system.

None of these attempts, however, disclosed any novelty of method, or indeed, after the opening