

AL/3059

Recd

15 Springfield Mount
Leeds

[permanent address 32 Brompton St.
W.C.]

Oct. ³⁰ 28th 1874

My dear Madam

Mr. Rendel tells me
that you will be glad to hear
anything that I can tell you of
lecturing as an employment
for women. I do not myself
follow it as a profession &
the circumstances which led to
my delivering lectures were these:

In several of ~~the~~ our large towns,
especially in the north of England,

there have been established, as you probably know, for some years Ladies' Educational Associations which for promoting the higher Education of women - these associations engage lecturers to give courses on various subjects, the number of lectures in each course varying from 8 to 12 - one a week -; there being from one to three courses in the year according to the state of the funds -

In the Spring of 1873 I was asked to give a course of lectures on Physiology in Leeds, York & Halifax by the Ladies' Ed. Assoc^{ns} of those places,

which I did, & again this autumn I am delivering a course on Physiology at Darlington & Huddersfield & one on Hygiene at York.

But it is, you see, not a permanent employment: and a succession of courses on desultory subjects is not I believe the ultimate aim of any of these associations. ^{Such courses} They are only preliminary to a more comprehensive & definite scheme, such as that which is now established in Leeds & other towns & known as the "University Extension Scheme".

As soon as a town guarantees a certain sum the University of Cambridge sends down lecturers who reside in the town & give both afternoon & evening lectures & tutorial classes. Thus they have made a great advance in the direction of a definite & complete curriculum of study. The lecturers sent down are, I think, all graduates of the University and whether the authorities would authorize the appointment of a woman as lecturer I cannot say.

I have never lectured except under the auspices of one of these

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Educational Associations but I believe the Women's Educational Union has engaged ladies as lecturers at various times.

The only woman I know who ~~follows~~ has taken up lecturing as a profession is Miss Macintosh and I believe her time is very fully occupied. She would

I am sure give you any information on the subject. Her address is Miss Macintosh, Women's Educational Union, 112 Brompton Road, S.W.

I fancy that the demand for

women as lecturers is on the increase but I do not know how far it can be regarded as a permanent employment.

I should imagine that few men, except when appointed to some chair in a college, find lecturing a sufficiently constant employment or sufficiently remunerative to be depended on as a means of support. but I may be quite mistaken on this point.

Believe me

Yours truly

Edith Peckey