

**A METHOD OF  
ENGLISH  
COMPOSITION**

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A Method of English Composition by T. Whiting Bancroft

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**T. WHITING BANCROFT**

**A METHOD OF  
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A  
METHOD  
OF  
ENGLISH COMPOSITION.

BY  
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## PREFACE.

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THIS attempt to methodize instruction in English Composition is designed not to supplant text-books now in use; but to be used in connection with them. Though the logical relations of Rhetoric are everywhere indicated, yet the discussion is wholly rhetorical. The Methods in Explanatory Composition may seem at first glance to be excessive; but let them be faithfully tried, and the results will prove the truth of the aphorism of Pope:

“True ease in writing comes from art, not chance.”

The treatment of the subject of Argumentative Composition is intended to exhibit the relation in thought between the Deductive and Inductive processes, and to offer a simple yet effective way to utilize the abundant material which science is daily offering to the thinking minds of the age.

Under Practice in Composition a list of Classified Themes has been arranged to aid instruction in the work of essay writing. The plans which follow are offered not as models of excellence, but as specimens of attainment. On the last topic discussed the author has availed himself of the experience of librarians, who have long been pleasantly associated with him in the work of which they treat, and whose efficient coöperation he gratefully acknowledges.

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I.

KINDS OF COMPOSITION.