

**THE EXPOSITORY
PARAGRAPH AND
SENTENCE: AN ELEMENTARY
MANUAL OF COMPOSITION**

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The Expository Paragraph and Sentence: An Elementary Manual of Composition by Charles
Sears Baldwin

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THE EXPOSITORY
PARAGRAPH AND SENTENCE

AN ELEMENTARY MANUAL
OF COMPOSITION

BY

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PREFACE

This little manual aims to supply for the first term in college such elementary instruction as seems necessary in reviewing and supplementing the work of the preparatory schools before proceeding to more special courses. To this end it deals exclusively with structure, and with expository structure as being at once more obvious, more useful, and less artistic than the other kinds. The book may thus be used as a direct introduction to Mr. Lamont's *Specimens of Exposition*, for instance, or to Mr. Brewster's *Studies in Structure and Style*. But it aspires to more general usefulness as a students' pocket-book of rhetoric.

For advice on the manuscript and for corrections in proof I am indebted to my colleague, Mr. Chauncey Wetmore Wells; for the latter favour, to Professor Thomas R. Price and Professor G. R. Carpenter of Columbia University.

C. S. B.

YALE UNIVERSITY, July, 1897.

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INTRODUCTION

Beneath all forms of prose lie four kinds of writing, which, though variously combined, are yet distinct and separate. These are *description*, the methods of suggesting mental images corresponding in some degree to scenes beheld or imagined by the writer ; *narration*, the methods of conducting a story ; *persuasion*, the methods of moving men to action, whether through their reason or through their feelings ; and *exposition*, the methods of lucid explanation. The principles set forth in this book, though they are generally applicable to all four kinds, are here applied exclusively to exposition. All brief pieces of exposition are included in the extended sense given here to the term *essay*.

The direct use of these rules of construction is confined to revision. Indirectly, sound principles, and even sound rules of detail, may