THE SCHOOLMASTER: A COMMENTARY UPON THE AIMS AND METHODS OF AN ASSISTANTMASTER IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL

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The Schoolmaster: A Commentary upon the Aims and Methods of an Assistant-Master in a Public School by Arthur Christopher Benson

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ARTHUR CHRISTOPHER BENSON

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BY

ARTHUR C. BENSON

PELLOW OF MAGDALENE COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

THE UPTON LETTERS
FROM A COLLEGE
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BESIDE STILL WATERS
THE ALTAR FIRE
THE SCHOOLMASTER
AT LARGE

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BY ARTHUR CHRISTOPHER BENSON
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WINDOW," ETC.

"Le travail, il n'y a que ça !"

With an Introduction to the American Edition

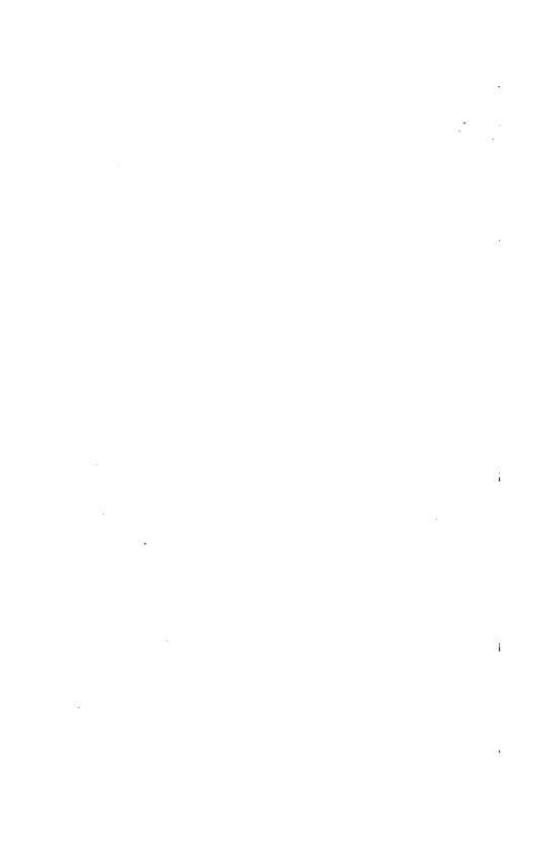
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PREFACE

THE following pages do not profess to be a scientific educational treatise; they merely aim at considering the life of the schoolmaster from within. It seems a pity that one who has exercised the profession of a schoolmaster for a good many years should make no attempt to gather up and record experience; it is useful simply to compare impressions; and though the following is merely a personal view, and lays claim to no sort of scientific or philosophical treatment, yet it may be of interest to other teachers, and may even be of use to those who have not yet begun their professional life, but are looking forward to joining the ranks of the profession.

The schoolmaster is perhaps not so much criticised at present as he ought to be; or such criticism is of a secret character. The public schools of England just now enjoy a considerable popularity, rightly or wrongly, in the country; but what is still needed is that school-masters should have a more definite aim, a theory of their art, and it seems a pity that so many of us schoolmasters do our work in so fortuitous a way. I therefore venture to gather up the fruits of my experience, and to try to uphold, not boldly but sedately, the dignity of the profession to which I have given my best years.