

**THE SCHOOLMASTER: A
COMMENTARY UPON THE AIMS
AND
METHODS OF AN ASSISTANT-
MASTER 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

FELLOW OF MAGDALENE COLLEGE
CAMBRIDGE

THE UPTON LETTERS
FROM A COLLEGE
WINDOW

BESIDE STILL WATERS

THE ALTAR FIRE

THE SCHOOLMASTER

AT LARGE

THE SCHOOLMASTER

A COMMENTARY UPON THE AIMS AND
METHODS OF AN ASSISTANT-MASTER
IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL

By ARTHUR CHRISTOPHER BENSON
AUTHOR OF "THE UPTON LETTERS," "FROM A COLLEGE
WINDOW," ETC.

"Le travail, il n'y a que ça!"

With an Introduction to the American Edition

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TO THE
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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 schoolmasters 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.