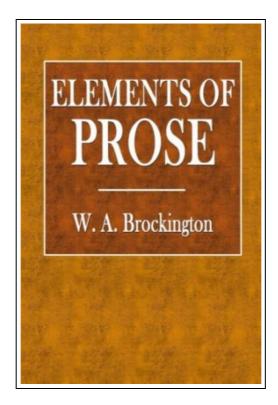
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(Modesto Mante)

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Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2016. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ****** Print on Demand ******. To a student pursuing the difficult and little recognised craft of writing, it is always agreeable to come upon any public recognition that such a craft does really exist. It is distinctly comforting to find a person with the many scholastic distinctions of Mr. Brockington declaring boldly, in English, that in order to write well it is, first of all, necessary to dispossess one s self of the idea that by an intercourse merely casual or desultory, even with literature of the best, one may come by the secret of the craft; that our native speech is not native to us as a literary language; and that the possession of clear ideas does not necessarily involve clearness of expression -all statements diametrically opposed to the average English belief, which agrees so far with that of Dogberry as to hold that writing, if not reading, comes by nature. Excellent, too, is the observation that colloquial words are often vulgar, and more often vague. But when we advance from these generalities to points of definite precept there is room for a good deal of disagreement. In the chapter on The Unity of the Sentence, for instance, Mr. Brockington harps upon a figure of speech in which the sentence is treated as a circle: The second thought runs tangentially from the circumference, instead of radiating from the centre; the second proposition must radiate from the same central idea; and so forth, the section concluding with: Take care that the thoughts in all sentences be as radii from a given centre, and not as tangent* from the circumference. This section, it must be remarked, is one professing to deal, not...



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