# A MODEL SUPERINTENDENT: A SKETCH OF THE LIFE, CHARACTER, AND METHODS OF WORK OF HENRY P. HAVEN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMITTEE

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A Model Superintendent: A Sketch of the Life, Character, and Methods of Work of Henry P. Haven of the International Lesson Committee by H. Clay Trumbull

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# H. CLAY TRUMBULL

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# A MODEL SUPERINTENDENT

### A SKETCH OF

THE LIFE, CHARACTER, AND METHODS OF WORK

OF

# HENRY P. HAVEN

OF THE INTERNATIONAL LESSON COMMITTEE

HACTIAY TRUMBULL

METOR OF "MER SUNDAY-SURGOL TRUSS"



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Gift Prof. F. M. Taylor

## INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

No exhibit of a right spirit and of wise methods in any sphere of human activity is so effective as when shown in a life that has been actually lived. There is a temptation to question whether any ideal of a symmetrical character is practically attainable. It is useless to deny that what a man has been and has done is a possibility, in spite of all obstacles. Therefore it is that the best working model for Sunday-school superintendents is—a model superintendent. The subject of this sketch furnishes such a model; not a faultless pattern for exact reproduction, but an illustrative model to work by and to improve on. Mr. Haven might have been presented as a model man of business, as a model citizen, as a model Christian steward; for his course in each of those spheres was worthy of imitation. But his pre-eminent success was as a Sunday-school superintendent; therefore about that department of his varied activities the facts of this story of his life are clustered.

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# A MODEL SUPERINTENDENT.

### I.

### BEGINNINGS:

Of the Sunday-school System; of Mr. Haven's Life; of his Boyhood's Sunday-school; of his Business Career; of his Christian Course.

Whatever may be said of the early origin of | Beginnings. church work for children as the germ of the modern Sunday-school, it is an unquestionable truth that the American Sunday-school system is a thing of recent growth. Its beginnings were at the close of the last century; its foundations were fairly laid in the first third of this. The men who gave it shape have but just passed away. Their number was not large at the best; and, apart from any interest in the men themselves, their methods of work are worth studying; for in them are the germs or the patterns of all measures and machinery which give highest promise of success in the Sunday-school field of to-day.

The story of Henry P. Haven is perhaps as well suited to illustrate the beginnings and progress, and

Recent origin of the Ameri-can Sundayschool