

**MATTHEW
B. CRAWFORD**

SHOP CLASS AS SOULCRAFT

AN INQUIRY INTO THE VALUE OF WORK



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My examples are drawn mostly from the mechanical repair and building trades because that is what I am familiar with (I used to work as an electrician), but I believe the arguments I offer can illuminate other kinds of work as well. It so happens that most of the characters who appear in this book are men, but I am sure that women, no less than men, will recognize the appeal of tangible work that is straightforwardly useful.