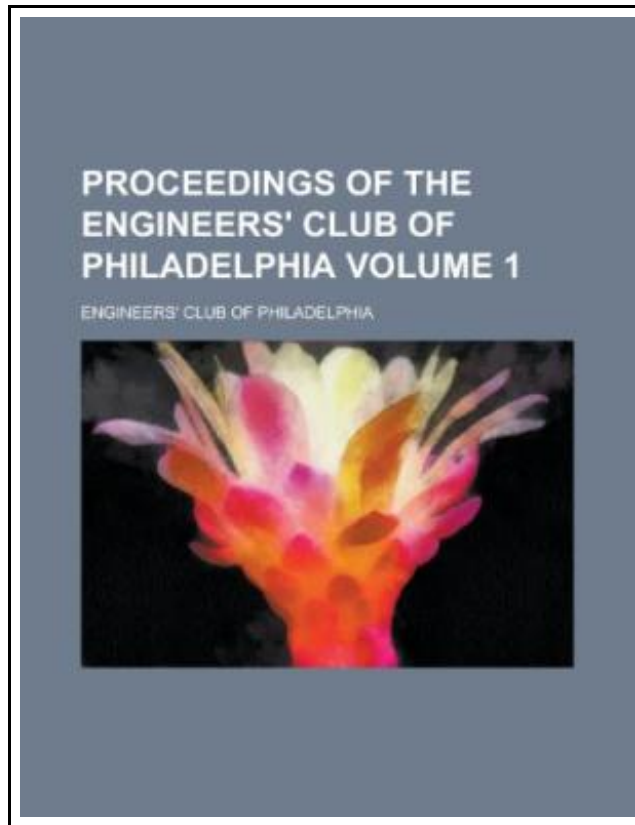


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Rarebooksclub.com, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can usually download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1880 edition. Excerpt: .The temple of Abu Shahrein (these, of course, are modern names) rests on a platform of beaten clay, cased with a massive wall of sandstone and limestone, 20 feet thick in places. From the platform to the summit of the first story extends a marble staircase, composed of small polished blocks, 22 in. X 13 in. X 4J in., fastened by copper bolts to the bed of sun-dried bricks, on which the staircase rests. Of these edifices Rawlinson says: No buildings in the world, not even the Pyramids, are more deficient in external ornament. The buttresses and air-holes, that alone break the uniformity of the walls, are intended for utility only. A brick burial vault at Mugheir is interesting, as exhibiting what we may call a rudimentary arch. The vault is of sun-dried brick, laid in mud, 7 feet long, 3 7 wide, . and 5 feet high. The sides slope gently outwards as they ascend until the springing line is reached, when the successive layers of brick are pushed towards each other until they meet.1 The Chaldean ascendancy in the East lasted from about 2200 to 1500 B. C, after which time the Assyrians became masters of the situation, remaining so until about 650 B. C. The centre of activity now advanced to the upper portion of the Tigris-Euphrates valley. At Nineveh, according to Diodorus, the wall surrounding the city was. 100 feet high, and so broad that three chariots might drive around...

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