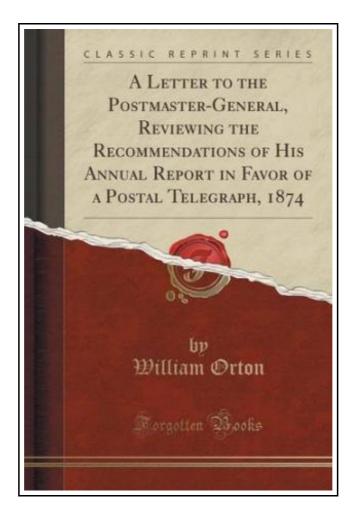
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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from A Letter to the Postmaster-General, Reviewing the Recommendations of His Annual Report in Favor of a Postal Telegraph, 1874 The system of electric telegraph, which is now almost universally used throughout the world, was first established in the United States nearly thirty years ago. Its inventor and founder was a citizen of the United States, and the first public attempt to demonstrate its utility was upon a line constructed by Professor Morse and Ezra Cornell, between the cities of Washington and Baltimore. To enable this experiment to be made Congress appropriated, with much reluctance, the sum of \$30,000. Many of those who voted for this appropriation were influenced more by the importunities of the inventor and his friends than by their convictions that the experiment would justify their action. Not a few treated the subject with ridicule, and some proposed, and compelled formal consideration of the proposition, that a part of the appropriation should be expended in Mesmeric experiments, and one facetious member moved to include Millerism also. About the same time an offer was made to the Government by Professor Morse to sell his patents, and all the benefits to be derived therefrom, for \$100,000. But the offer was not accepted - indeed it was scarcely entertained - and the experimental line, after accomplishing all that Morse claimed or expected, was abandoned by the Government upon the recommendation of the Hon. Cave Johnson, then Postmaster-General, who said, in his report upon the subject: That the operation of the telegraph between Washington and Baltimore had not satisfied him that under any rate of postage that could be adopted its revenues could be made equal to...

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