



The Follies of Science at the Court of Rudolph II; 1576-1612

By Henry Carrington Bolton

Theclassics.Us, 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. 1904 edition. Excerpt: . Chapter XIX. DECLINE OF THE FOLLIES OF SCIENCE. Ye Rosicrucian schools, Ye number-prickers, ye physiognomists, Ye dream-expounding, treasure-seeking fools, Alchemists, magnetizers, kabbalists! Ye re wrong! Hellgren. HE QUADRATURE of the circle, the multiplication of the cube, perpetual motion, judicial astrology, alchemy and magic have been characterized as the Six Follies of Science. While a great deal of time and energy were wasted by intellectual men in these studies and chimerical pursuits, it must be admitted that these follies gave great impetus to the progress of true learning. The study of abstruse problems in pure mathematics even though non-solvable, attempts to construct mechanical devices on principles opposed to a fundamental law of nature, erroneous conceptions of the relation of celestial phenomena to mundane affairs, the vain quest for the Philosophers Stone, the Elixir of Life and the riches and bodily vigor they would ensure,...



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