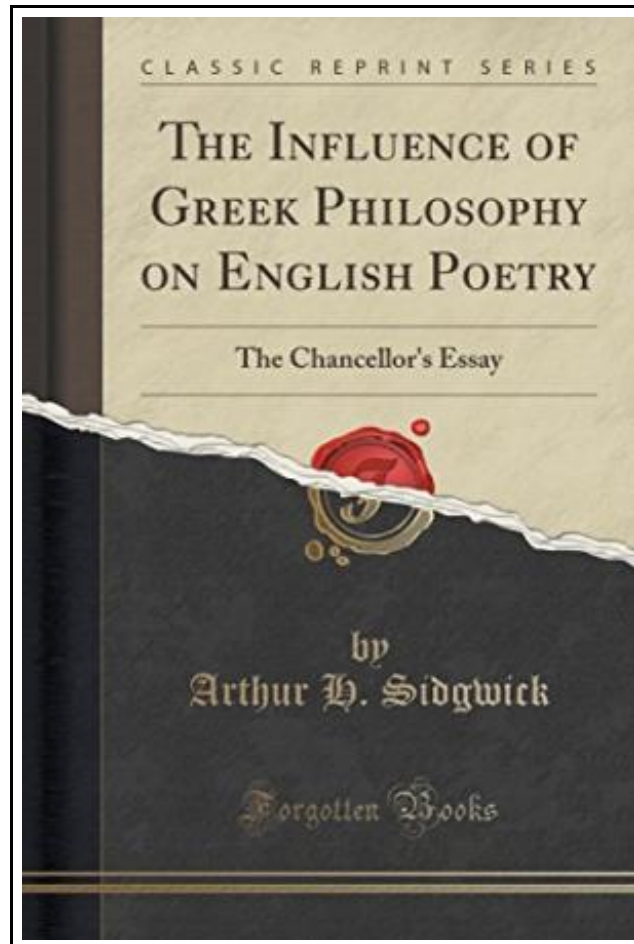


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2016. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from *The Influence of Greek Philosophy on English Poetry: The Chancellor s Essay* Of all the forces that may influence poetry that of a past philosophy is the most difficult to estimate. The influence of metrical tradition, of native or foreign literary forms, of the great classics of the past, is comparatively easy to discern. It is somewhat harder to trace the effects of that intangible entity called contemporary taste but poetry is the creator as well as the creature of taste, and a broad survey of a whole period s literature will reveal the one in the other. But the influence of philosophy is generically different; it is a question, so to say, for the metaphysics rather than the physics of poetry. To estimate it adequately we have to regard poetry itself from the philosophical standpoint: we have to consider it no longer as a traditional form of artistic exercise, but rather as a means by which man expresses his feelings towards the deeper realities. Poetry, religion and philosophy all deal in part with the supersensible or supernatural - with something beyond the ordinary world as revealed to the first consciousness. It is this element which makes a poetic description differ from a literal reproduction, or a picture from a photograph. Hence, to relate poetry to philosophy we have to regard both as functions of that thought or spirit in man, which reaches beyond the sensible and material world to a deeper reality underlying it. It is this which makes it difficult to estimate the influence of the philosophy of one age and nation on the poetry of another: for this thought or spirit in...



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