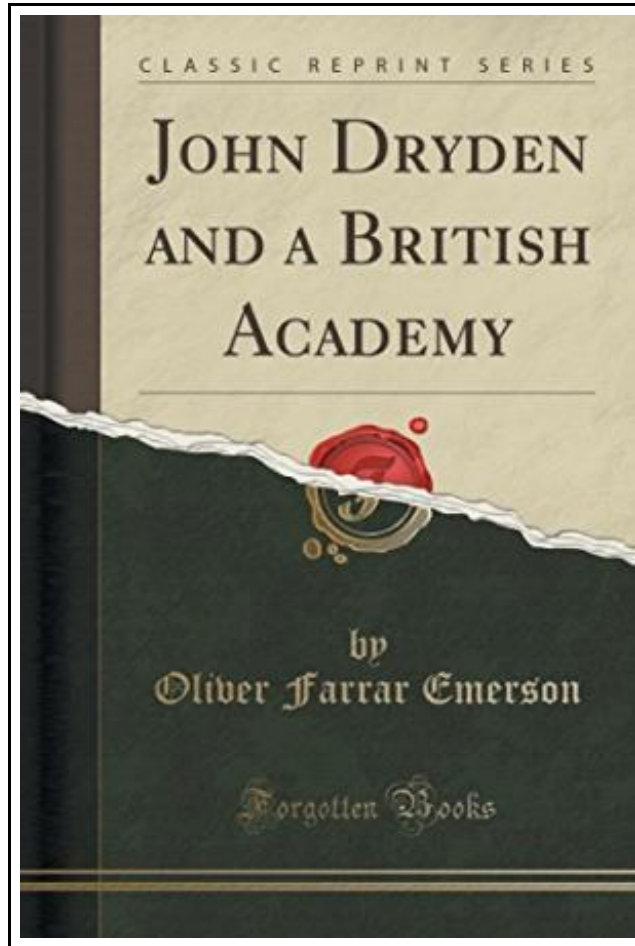


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Excerpt from John Dryden and a British Academy RbCEEDLNGS Of The British Academy while another, sometimes placed in the same decade, has been attributed exclusively to the Earl of Roscommon. Unquestionably the first, and probably the second as I shall hope to show, is to be more directly attributed to one of the greatest men in the English literature of the period, the poet, dramatist, miscellaneous essayist John Dryden. To deal with the first proposal, a lack of regard for chronological sequence has obscured the importance of Drydens suggestion of a British Academy in the Dedication of the Rival Ladies. Writing of the language of the play, in which he questions with becoming modesty whether he has been as careful as he ought, he says: I am sorry that, speaking so noble a language as we do, we have not a more certain Measure of it, as they have in France: where they have an Academy erected for that purpose, and endowed with large privileges by the present King. Now the Rival Ladies, probably produced in the latter part of 1663, was entered on the Stationers Books June 5, 1664;(Malone in Prose Works of Dryden i, 57), and doubtless published shortly thereafter. As Malone points out, it was not usual to publish plays until they had run their course on the stage. The entry on the Stationers Books, with the accompanying proposal of Dryden in the Dedication, antedated the appointment of the Royal Societys committee on the improvement of English by almost exactly six months, and the actual issue of the play and Dedication by several months at least. The Royal Societys move in the matter...



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