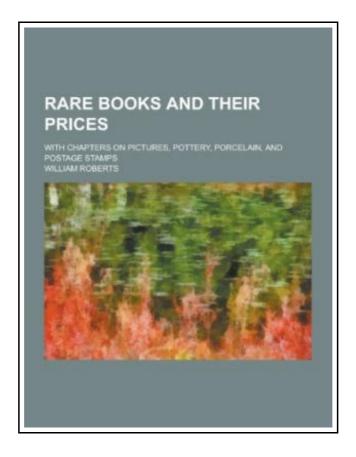
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Theclassics.Us, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can usually download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1895 edition. Excerpt: . in 1886 the Somers tracts in 30 folio volumes, containing some of the rarest Americana in the finest state, fetched only 61. There is no class in the world who in one respect more implicitly obey the Scriptural injunction, Look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged, than the Americans. Fortunately they are in a position to pay for it. For many years past American collectors have been draining England of rare books and manuscripts, and more particularly of works relating to British genealogy and county history. The changes which inevitably occur in every line of life, intellectual and material, are also extended to book-collecting, and extended in a very marked and significant manner. The old loves have to a certain extent been abandoned, and the new generation has gone in heavily for the first editions of modern authors. The attraction of a first edition over the second or subsequent issues falls into the category of things which are not explainable on ordinary principles. The charm is so much a matter of feeling, that any attempt to justify it can nearly invariably be seized upon and used, or rather turned against it by the utilitarian. Book-buying has been described as one of the few passions which require neither apology nor defence; and of all the many attempts which have been made to excuse this most fascinating hobby, we have never yet come...

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