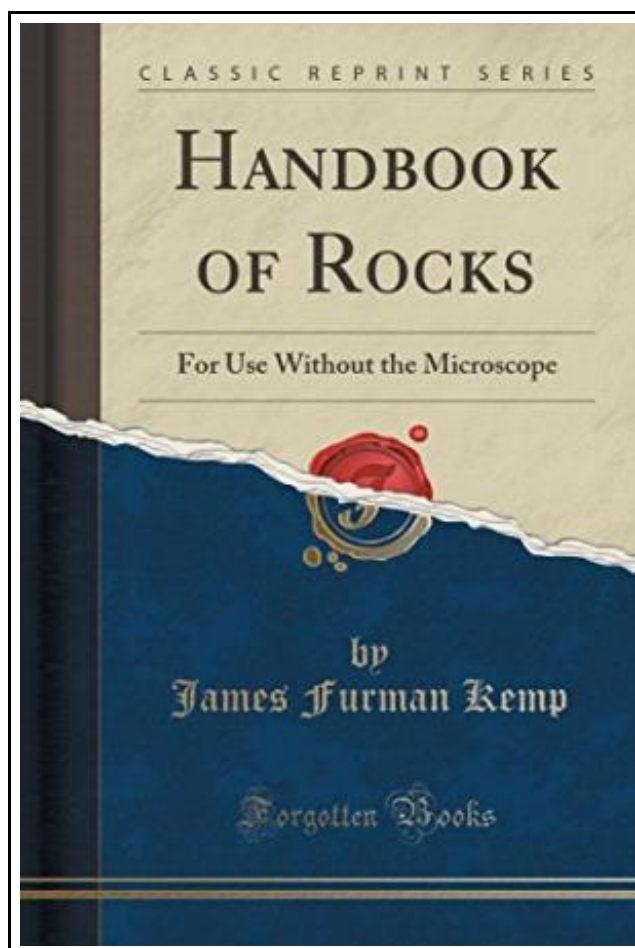


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Excerpt from Handbook of Rocks: For Use Without the Microscope The clear presentation of the subject of rocks to beginners is not an especially simple undertaking. The series of objects is extremely diverse, and many unrelated processes are involved in their production. In order not to confuse and bewilder students, the teacher must emphasize the intelligible points and the recognizable characters, avoiding alike distinctions that have their chief foundations in past misconceptions, such as the time element in the classification of igneous rocks, or that require microscopic study to substantiate them. In the following pages the attempt has been made to avoid these difficulties, and only to mention and emphasize the characters that a beginner, properly equipped with the necessary preliminary training in mineralogy, can observe and grasp. Some years of annually going over this ground have convinced the writer that for this purpose we are not likely to reach a more serviceable, fundamental classification than the time-honored one of Igneous, Aqueous (or Sedimentary) and Metamorphic rocks. They furnish not alone convenient central groups, but also prepare the student for subsequent geological reading. With the Aqueous have been placed the Eolian as a similar, although very minor division, so that fire, water and air, the ancient elementary agents, are emphasized in their work upon the earth, and the fundamental classification is based, as it should be, on method of origin. The only illogical step involved is the placing of the breccias together with the sediments, but breccias are so subordinate and go so conveniently with conglomerates that it has been done. The igneous rocks are the ones that present the greatest difficulties to the learner. In the following...



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