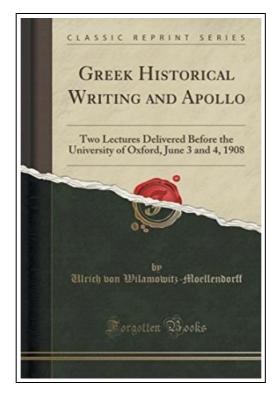
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Forgotten Books, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*\*. Excerpt from Greek Historical Writing and Apollo: Two Lectures Delivered Before the University of Oxford, June 3 and 4, 1908 But there is another element in the case which reaches even deeper into the nature of the Hellenic genius. The history of the past can be understood by no man who cannot transport himself into the souls of men passed away. That idea never came near to the Greeks; they never tried to think on the model of foreign peoples. In general they Show themselves little sensitive to the individuality of others. The psychology of the Socratic school, and above all that of the Stoa and of Epicurus, begins and ends with the normal man. Woman and child are to them merely imperfect man. Even the keen observation of Theophrastus discovers no characteristics of individuals; only of types. What enormous advan tages that conferred upon their philosophy and their plastic art I need not say but the light was not without its shadow. Their biographicalwrifings began with ideal figures - with Heracles and Pythagoras, and they never even attempted to show the development of a human soul. How we modems admire those of their poets who succeed in the delineation of individual men! How we exult that we have a glimpse of it again in Menander! But how rare such poets are, and how keenly one must look in order to seize the individual quality in their creations! Here also no one has done higher service than Plato, and yet his most ardent admirer will not deny that by the laws of his whole being he was bound to take an alien, nay, a hostile attitude towards real historical research - as, for instance,...

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