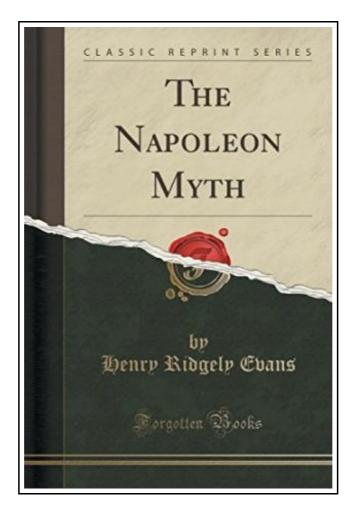
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Forgotten Books, United States, 2016. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from The Napoleon Myth It is remarkable how much more our historical traditions are saturated with mythology than we are commonly aware of, while at the same time legends, in spite of their fanciful dress, contain more of actual fact than, on a superficial inspection, historical criticism seems to warrant. Traditions, be they ever so mythological, if they are genuine, are much more conservative than they may appear at first sight. Though the Trojan war may be a tangle of legends reflecting primitive myths, the Homeric narrative is after all based on actual occurrences. Though William Tell never existed in Switzerland, there must have existed many William Tells, not only in Switzerland but all over the world. Though the Biblical account of Samson s deeds, like the twelve labors of Hercules, is the echo of a Babylonian solar epic which glorifies the deeds of Shamash in his migrations through the twelve signs of the zodiac, there may have been a Hebrew hero whose deeds reminded the Israelites of Shamash, and so his adventures were told with such modifications as would naturally let the solar legends cluster about his personality. Biblical traditions have in one sense been fully verified by the Babylonian excavations. They show that occurrences such as are recorded in them actually took place, but the statements in the several books of the Old Testament are not simply narratives of the facts but stories of events as they appeared to the children of Israel at the time when they were written. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at This book is a reproduction of an...



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