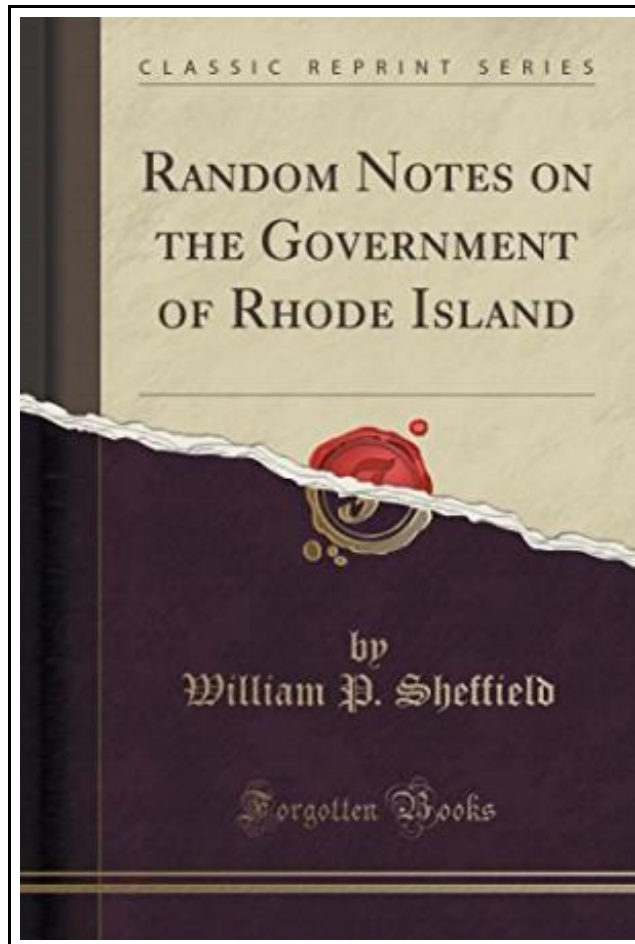


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Excerpt from Random Notes on the Government of Rhode Island The founders of the Rhode Island Colony purchased their lands of the Indians. They incorporated themselves into a civil society by mutual agreement. As the proprietors of the soil, they arrogated to themselves the right to say who should come to reside upon it, and who should participate in the government of the civil society, which they had established. This is alike true of the colonies established at Providence, at Portsmouth, and at Newport. Samuel Gorton, an outcast from Plymouth, came to Portsmouth in December, 1638. He denied the validity of their act of incorporation because the colony had no charter, and because the incorporation was without the recognition of the King s authority: Gorton soon obtained converts to his contention and caused a division among the colonists, whereupon the elected officers of the colony, with some of their adherents, to avoid dissension, entered into a covenant to found a colony, and removed to and founded Newport on the last day of April, 1639. The remaining colonists at Portsmouth, on the day of the withdrawal of their associates, entered into a new agreement of incorporation, in which they fully recognized the king s authority. Perhaps the next year, 1640, an unfortunate occurrence took place, which occasioned sharp differences of opinion and brought to a test the validity of Gorton s contention. Gorton and a widow woman occupied adjoining lands; a cow belonging to the widow escaped and entered Gorton s grounds, an employee of Gorton, went to drive the cow from his ground and according to the report of the case, by the testimony advanced upon the...

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