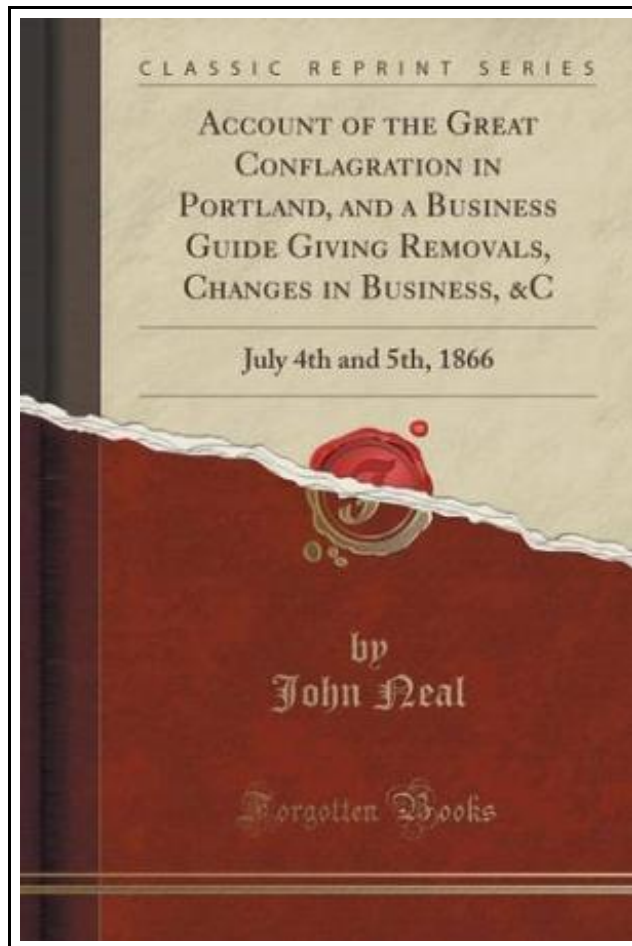


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Excerpt from Account of the Great Conflagration in Portland, and a Business Guide Giving Removals, Changes in Business, C: July 4th and 5th, 1866 About five o'clock, on the afternoon of our great National Sabbath, while our streets were crowded with strangers from all parts of the country, and what seemed to be the larger part of our whole population was about, enjoying the delicious weather and waiting for the fire works - the balloon-bubble having burst, like a forerunner of the great catastrophe at hand - the tinkle of a distant fire-bell was heard, and soon after, the rattling of engines on their way toward Commercial Street. No alarm was felt; we had been so greatly favored, that we had grown boastful and presumptuous. Our largest fires had always been so well managed, our fire companies were so zealous and faithful, and our losses for a long time had been so trifling, that although insurance rates were unreasonably low, in comparison with rates elsewhere, very few of our people had more than a third or half insurance, while others by hundreds, had no insurance at all, and some few of our large property holders had been long in the habit of insuring themselves, or of insuring in home offices with small capital, upon the ground that all such business had better be kept at home - forgetting that, if the principle were sound, next-door neighbors might as well insure each other, and the system of mutual endorsement be applied, in the shape of mutual guaranties against fire. For the first half hour, indeed, so little concern was felt, that very few among the thirty odd...



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