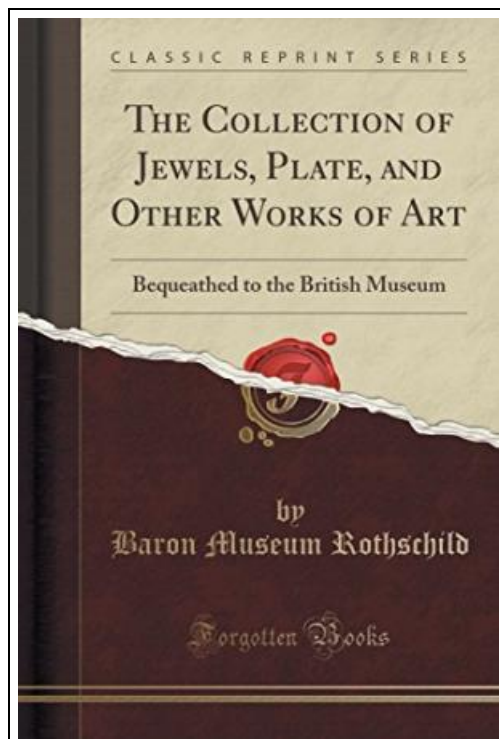


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Forgotten Books, 2018. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from The Waddesdon Bequest: The Collection of Jewels, Plate, and Other Works of Art, Bequeathed to the British Museum by Baron Ferdinand Rothschild, M. P., A Trustee of the Museum Baron Ferdinand also bequeath ed to the Museum a number of fine manuscripts, but these not being subject to the same conditions as the rest of the bequest, are preserved in the Department of Manuscripts, and will be on exhibition in the Manuscript Saloon on the ground floor of the Museum. The collection, which is briefly catalogued in the following pages, is of exceptional richness, and of a kind that is only to be obtained by those who possess the amplest resources. In nearly all the classes of works of art of which it is composed there are pieces of the highest quality. The prevailing tone of richness and splendour of colour evidences a taste rather for the fully developed productions of the later Renaissance than for the more severe Gothic or quattro-cento styles, where the artist is fettered by the conventions of an immature art. The Classical period is represented by four examples only, but of these, two beautiful heads in high relief may well claim to be in the first rank, and their refined style shows that they date from the period when art had reached its highest point (no. 1, Pl. I). The serene beauty of these heads places them in quite a different category from the great proportion of the rest of the collection; the only other pieces that are at all comparable with them, though far removed in date, are the two busts which have been fancifully called Charles the Bold and his wife (n o. The...

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