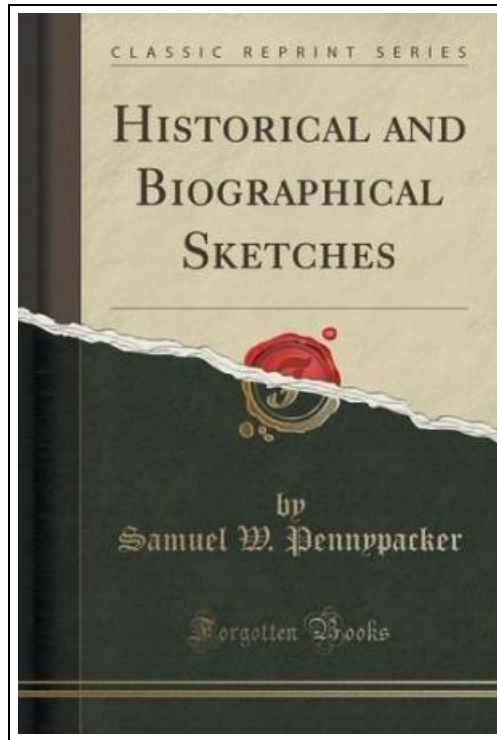


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from Historical and Biographical Sketches The philologist, who seeks to know something of the language of the primeval man of Europe, finds amid the mountains of the Pyrenees, the Basques, who have preserved down to the present time the tongue of these remote forefathers. The ethnologist studies the habits of prehistoric races not by the uncertain light of early legends, but by going to the Islands of the South Pacific, where savage life still exists, as it was before the dawn of civilization. The historian, who pursuing the same methods of investigation, would stand face to face with the Reformation, need only visit the Mennonites of Lancaster County, in Pennsylvania, where he can see still rigorously preserved, the thought, the faith, the habits the ways of living, and even the dress of that important epoch. The hymn book in ordinary use by the Amish was written in the 16th Century, and from it they still zealously sing about Felix Mantz, who was drowned at Zurich, in 1526, and Michael Sattler, who had his tongue torn out and was then burned to death at Rottenburg in 1527. Whether we regard their personal history, or the results of their teachings, the Mennonites were the most interesting people who came to America. There is scarcely a family among them which cannot be traced to some ancestor burned to death because of his faith. Their whole literature smacks of the fire. Beside a record like theirs, the sufferings of Pilgrim and Quaker seem trivial. A hundred years before the time of Roger Williams, George Fox and William Penn, the Dutch reformer Menno Simons contended for the complete severance of Church and State, and the...



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