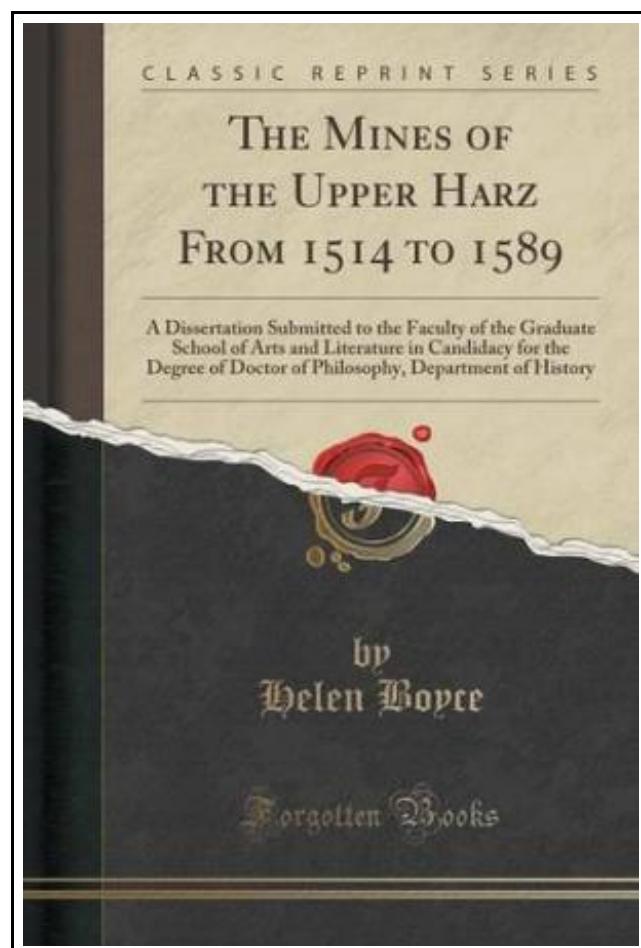


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from The Mines of the Upper Harz From 1514 to 1589: A Dissertation Submitted to the Faculty of the Graduate School of Arts and Literature in Candidacy for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Department of History The purpose of this essay is to draw the attention of the English reader to the historical importance of German mining. This branch of economic history has been the object of much study in Germany, but except the brief references made by Mr. G. R. Lewis in The Stannaries and the introduction and notes in the Hoover translation of Agricola's De Re Metallica I know of nothing in English on the subject. Germany included within its boundaries the most important metal producing centers of the Middle Ages and from them ore was exported to France and England. Moreover, the possession of great quantities of silver gave Germany an independence in solving the difficult problems of currency which was shared by no other country of northern Europe. The mines not only brought material prosperity, but played a part in that most important phase of German history, the eastern colonization movement. For it was the discovery of ore in the Erzgebirge which lured trained miners in great numbers, from the west to the mark of Meissen, Bohemia, Hungary and Silesia. The importance of these mines in the eyes of the sovereign is to be measured by the privileges granted to the workers which at the best spelled practical self-government. As a result of the careful regulation of the industry great codes of mining laws were developed. A general introductory chapter on German mining is included in the essay to emphasize...



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