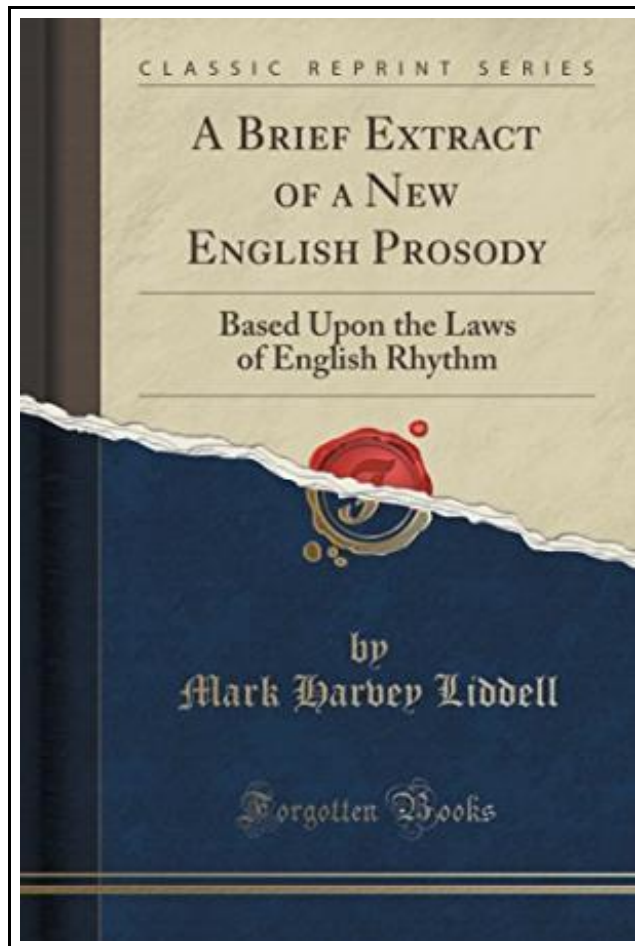


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from A Brief Extract of a New English Prosody: Based Upon the Laws of English Rhythm Our traditional Prosody comes to us from the Grammarians of the Renaissance; they received it from their Classic predecessors. The Classic Grammarians naturally based their Prosody upon Quantity, since the length or shortness of the successive syllables obviously determined the form of Latin and Greek verse. The system was briefly as follows: When successive long or short syllables were arranged in definite groupings measured off by the total time value of each group, the result was metre (metrum). These groups were given special names - trochaei , iambi , dactyli , etc. When the groups followed one another in certain series, like bars of music they produced each a definite tempo-accent (ictus). These ictuses following one another in series yielded rhythm(rhythmus or numerus). In Classic Prosody therefore Rhythm is the indirect effect of Metre. English Poetry, however, does not employ Metre as a means of producing Rhythm. To develop their varied rhythms - infinitely more varied and subtle than those of Latin or Greek verse - English poets have always depended directly upon the varying intensities of the successive syllables regardless of their time values. The psychic effect of a rhythm regulated by time variation is quite different from that produced by a rhythm whose regulating element is intensity variation. But overlooking this difference for the nonce, the fact that Classic prosody recognized only two differentia for the syllables of a verse, viz. their long or their short quantity and noted them by only two (marks, the makron and the breve, makes it impossible for us...



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