



The Italian Language: Introductory Lecture Delivered in Trinity College, Dublin (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By Robert Atkinson

Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from The Italian Language: Introductory Lecture Delivered in Trinity College, Dublin A national literature is a subject which should always be approached with reverence. It is difficult to comprehend fully the mind of a nation, even when that nation still lives, and we can visit it - and its present history, and the lives of men we know, help us to a comment on the written text. But here the dead alone speak. - Longfellow. A mortal blow had been given to the vigour of Roman civilization by the transference of the metropolis from Rome to Byzantium, and the consequent introduction of Asiatic forms and customs into the countries of the West. The mental powers of the Roman world seemed to be enervated and gradually to fade, and when the Empire was dissolved and its fragments reconstructed into municipalities, the Latin idea no longer maintained its entirety of sway. Still it ever preserved its substance, as being the germ in which the civilization of the West had developed and unfolded itself; and, as being the repository of the science of...



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-- Anabel Zemlak

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