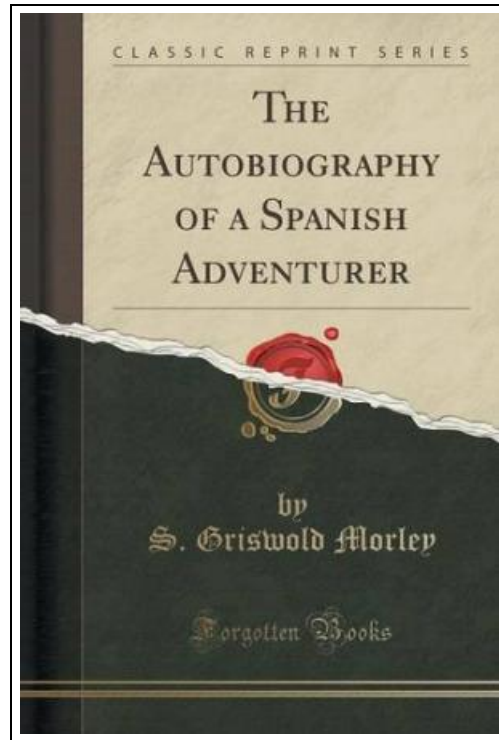


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from The Autobiography of a Spanish Adventurer He looked but a short distance in advance; he was an insubordinate swashbuckler, a dreadnought captain, afraid neither of man nor devil, yet with a code of honor of his own, and a dash of piety that would cause wonder were it not so common in that age. He arrived too late to form one of the band of conquistadores, but their spirit ran in his blood entire. Of such men were the armies of Spain in her great days, and such a type explains many victories. His life-story, told with the utmost frankness, is to a degree a mirror of the time. More completely, it is a mirror of a soldiers life in the continual wars of the Renaissance; and that a soldier in those days missed little of experience, be you the judge. | Our hero was born in 1582. By pure chance his official name was Contreras, for that was his mother s name, which he adopted when he first joined the army. Afterward he wished to take back the surname of his father, but it was then too late, for his service papers were made out to Contreras. Before he left his home in Madrid he had killed a school-mate with the knife of his writing-kit and spent a year in exile for the crime. Only his youth saved him from - death the first of many narrow escapes. He was not yet fourteen, and had this past behind him, when he shook off his mothers restraining hand, his father being dead, and set out after the trumpets of the cardinal prince Albert archduke of...



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