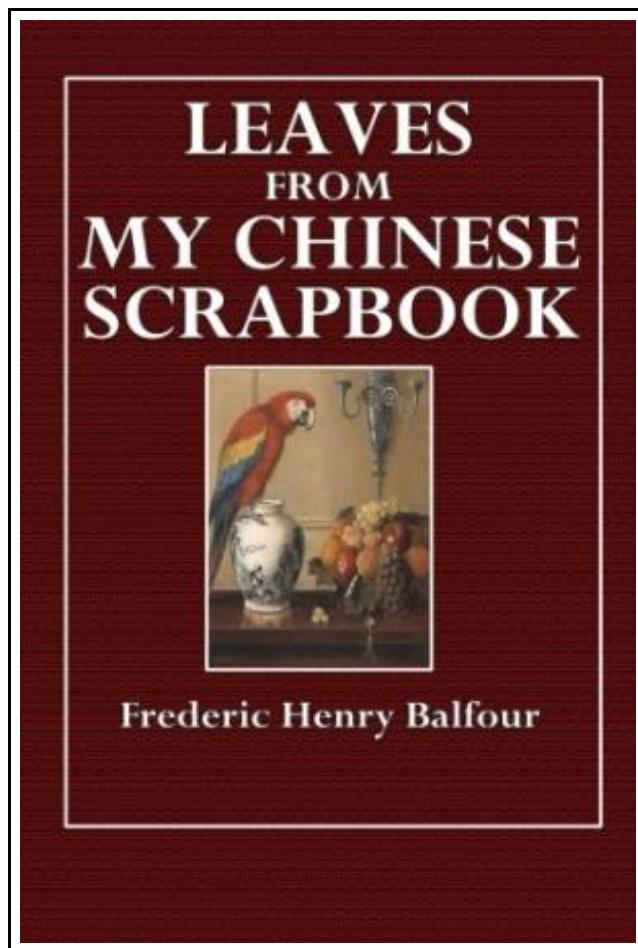


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Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.MR. FREDERIC H. BALFOUR has collected from his scrapbook, kept by him as a Chinese resident and scholar, certain short essays on subjects of historical or general interest in connection with the Middle Kingdom, and these have been allowed a place in Trubner's Oriental Series. The volume, which is the latest issued of that most admirable collection of Eastern knowledge, bears the title of Leaves from My Chinese Scrapbook, and its external appearance is not calculated to deter the reader from making closer inspection. Its contents are essentially light and amusing-rather than heavy and full of facts. In the sketch of the Empress Regent, for instance, we are shown rather the light foibles and human weaknesses of a female ruler than the strong will and masculine character which have enabled her to retain autocratic power during a stormy period, and in spite of many keen and uncompromising rivals. The rest of the contents are varied as well as instructive. Historical subjects are dealt with in chapters bearing such titles as The First Emperor of China and The Fifth Prince. The latter personage is the uncle of the present Emperor, and is generally known by this numerical designation, or more formally as the Prince of Tun. He seems to be the humourist of the Imperial family, and some of the escapades related of him are extremely funny. Out of the twenty chapters of which the volume consists, some new ideas are likely to be gleaned about China and her people. - Asian Review, Volumes 3 [1887].

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