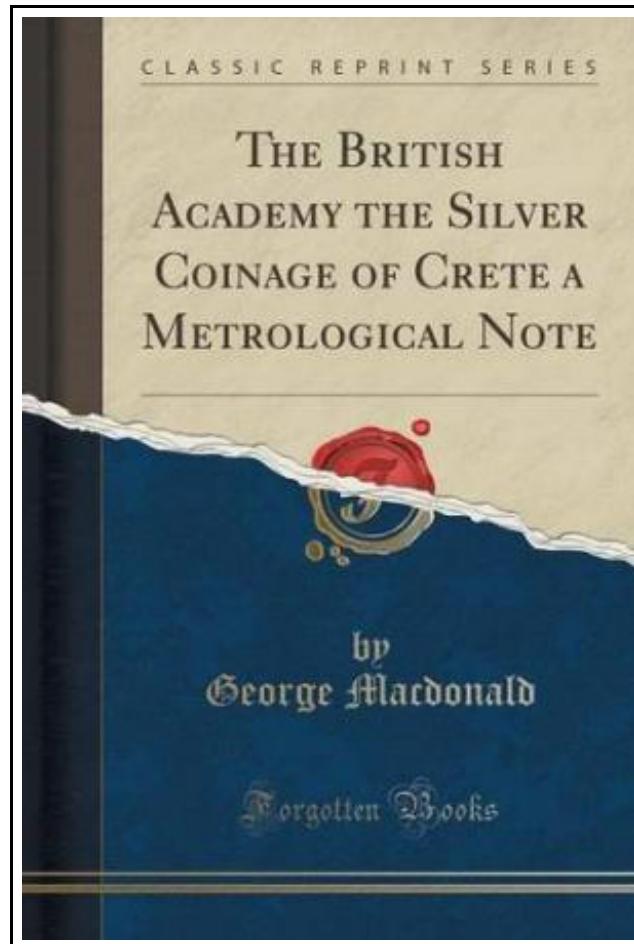


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from The British Academy the Silver Coinage of Crete a Metrological Note That is to say, the material was not excessive in amount, and much of it was readily available. On the other hand, its proper chronological arrangement will always be exceptionally hard to determine. Unskilled engravers were employed in the Cretan mints far more freely than in the mints of any other part of the Hellenic world. Consequently, in applying the criterion of style, it is not always possible to distinguish between degeneration, strictly so called, and mere clumsiness in the copying of first-rate models, such as is apparent in Plate, Fig. 2 when contrasted with Plate, Fig. 1. The broad lines of development are, indeed, obvious enough. It is in the handling of individual specimens that trouble is apt to arise. Yet, for the right solution of a metrological problem, reasonable precision of date may be hardly less vital than reasonable precision of weight. At every step, too, progress is more or less seriously hampered by the general limitation that besets all inquiries into Greek coin-standards - uncertainty as to what should be regarded as the norm for each particular group of pieces. Even well-preserved specimens struck from the same dies hardly ever agree exactly, and sometimes the variation is considerable. The truth would appear to be that. Greek mint-masters had perforce to acquiesce in rough-and-ready methods of calculation. In default of elaborate mechanical appliances, they probably put their chief trust in the acquired instinct of their skilled workmen, who would be given a definite quantity of metal with instructions to produce from it a specified number of coins. Current Views: Need for their...

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