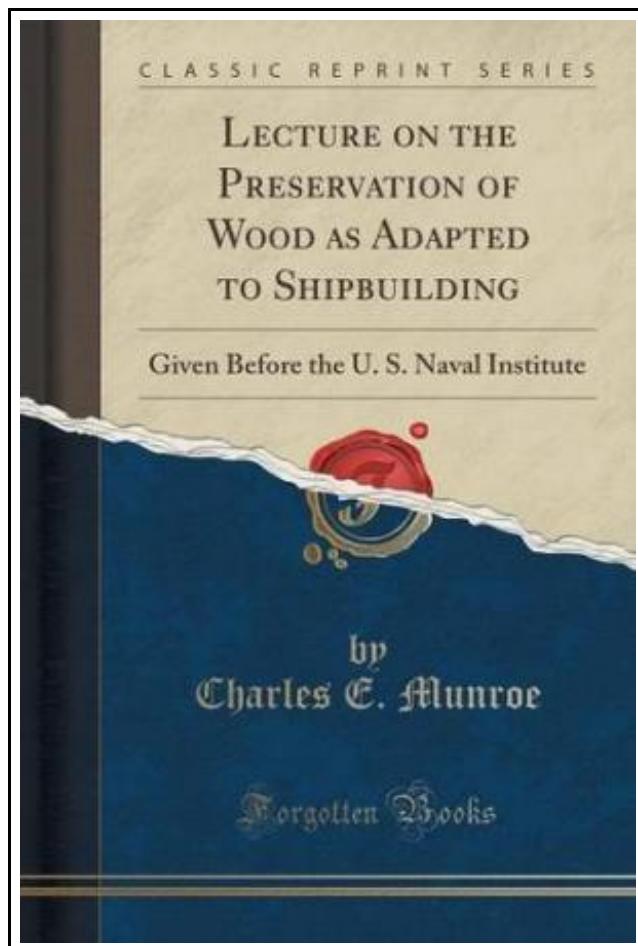


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from Lecture on the Preservation of Wood as Adapted to Shipbuilding: Given Before the U. S. Naval Institute The first fact which attracts our attention is the rapid destruction of our forests which is diminishing the supply and increasing the cost of lumber. While, for instance, a single acre of pine land yields on an average only six thousand feet of timber, billions of feet are annually sold in the United States. In 1855 lumber sold for about \$18 per M.; in 1860, for \$24; and in 1865 for \$45, (Hunt's Merchant's Mag. Feb. 66, p. 106). Excellent authority states that in New England the cost of oak, ash and hickory has doubled during the past twenty years, being now \$50 per M., to \$25 then, and if the demand were as great as ten years ago it would be difficult to supply it. Certainly prudence demands a less rapid expenditure. But when we come to estimate the loss, which results from decay, the necessity for preservation becomes still more apparent. It was calculated in 1866, that the loss by the decay of sleepers on American Railroads, amounted annually to \$1056 pr. mile, and that if they were preserved by cupric sulphate at a light expense there would be an annual saving of over \$4,000,000, (Lewis) and if we included bridges and all the wooden parts of railways subject to decay, it is stated that \$20,000,000 would be saved annually, by impregnating them with coal tar (Robbins p. 67). Processes have been devised by which the durability of many kinds of wood can be doubled; hence if we consider how much timber is employed...



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