



The Advance of the English Novel (Paperback)

By William Lyon Phelps

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.The Advance of the English Novel , by William Lyon Phelps, Lamson Professor of English Literature at Yale, should, therefore, meet with a ready welcome. The book is scholarly, but also popular in treatment. The very difficulties of the theme are turned to advantage. True it is that the attempt to deal with the whole history of the English novel from Defoe to Edith Wharton necessitates a very rapid treatment; but rapidity of treatment with Professor Phelps makes for interest and variety. Unquestionably the theory of the novel is a subject too deep and too complex to be dealt with satisfactorily in the space of three hundred-odd pages-if indeed it is at present susceptible of satisfactory treatment in any number of pages; but what the average reader, and often the scholar or teacher, wants most, is, after all, not a theory of criticism, but criticism. Professor Phelps s book is packed with the criticism of common sense and of genuine appreciation, steadied and clarified by the historic view. A feature of the book is its discussion of modern novelists and its incidental...

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