



The Encyclopaedia Britannica Volume 15; Or, Dictionary of Arts, Sciences and General Literature (Paperback)

By Thomas Stewart Traill

Rarebooksclub.com, United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1858 Excerpt: .delicacy; and, not-W V- withstanding all the assistance derived from modern art, it is still no easy matter to ascertain the precise degree of purity of a piece of metal In early ages, such an operation must have been performed in a clumsy and bungling manner. It is most probable, indeed, that when the precious metals were first used as money, their quality would be appreciated roughly by their weight and colour. A very short experience would, however, be sufficient to show the inexactness of conclusions derived from such loose and unsatisfactory criteria; and the devising of some method by which the fineness of the metal offered in exchanges might be easily and correctly made known, would very soon be felt as indispensable to the general use of gold and silver as money. Such a Coinage, method was not long in presenting itself. It was early...



Reviews

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