Stephen Decatur and the Suppression of Piracy in the Mediterranean: An Address at a Meeting of the Connecticut Society of the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, April 19, A. D.

By Charles Henry Smith

Forgotten Books, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English. Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from Stephen Decatur and the Suppression of Piracy in the Mediterranean: An Address at a Meeting of the Connecticut Society of the Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, April 19, A. D. 1900 On the northern coast of Africa, there appeared toward the close of the Middle Ages the four Barbarian States of Morocco, Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli, which were ruled for the most part by Chieftains of a singularly ferocious temper. Of one of these it is related that he prided himself on an accomplishment in which practice had given him great skill. It consisted in leaping onto his horse, and at the same instant, with a single blow of his scimitar, cutting off the head of the groom who was holding the bridle. There was nothing malicious in this. It was simply an eccentric way of releasing the horse for the ride. Under such rulers, piracy was adopted as a State institution, and regarded as a legitimate source of revenue. Said the Dey of Algiers on one occasion, if I were to make peace with every...

Reviews

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