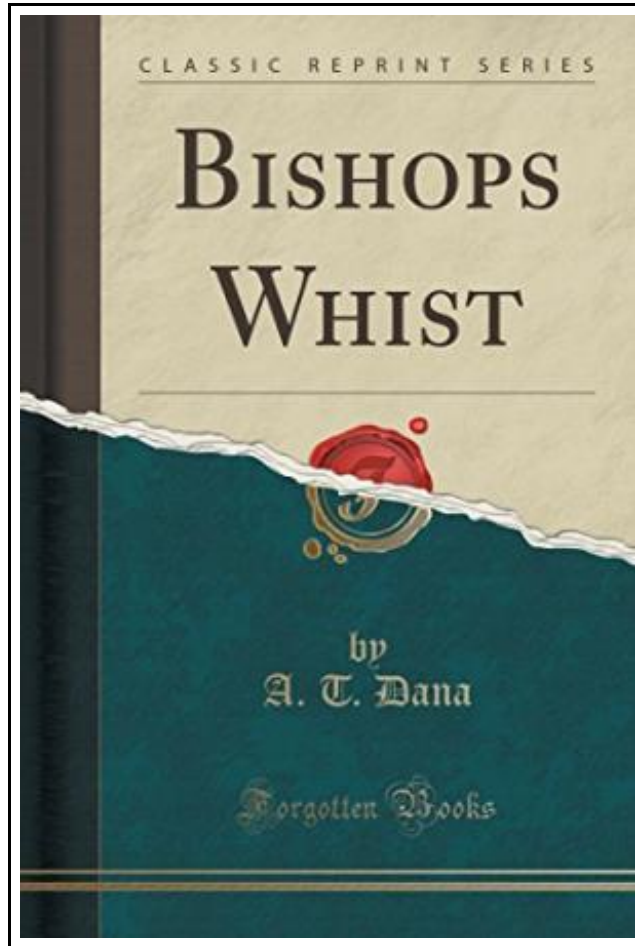


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from Bishops Whist What attempt to copy feudal society by card cuts should we say half succeeded, lacking the bishop and castle, objects, or dignitaries if you so please to term them, quite as conspicuous in that age as kings or queens. Let us admit how much better the chess-board with king, queen, castle, bishop, knight, has succeeded in reproducing the feudal rankings than the old time card packs. Oddly enough it must appear that in the five hundred years which have lapsed since 1396, the date when playing cards were first produced, it appears that no attempt has been made to re-arrange these old time cards in any order of ranking consistent with historical accuracy. The reason becomes obvious when we consider that the bishop and castle had never made their appearance in the packs, hence of very necessity with ace, king, queen, and jack or knight as the fourth rank card, nothing like historical accuracy could possibly be obtained, but in lieu thereof, a mere half correct mathematical grading of kings, jacks, etc. A review of the history of the five centuries which have elapsed since cards were first invented reveals the somewhat piquant fact that while in that period of time all the great branches of the world s literature, poetry, the drama and romance alike, have developed to perhaps extreme perfection, card literature, or to speak precisely, card packs, have remained like the stone statues of Pharaoh s day, at a standstill. This statement must not be misconstrued to mean that great progress, and even perfection, has not been attained in the finishing up of the literature and structure of particular games,...



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