



Paved with Gold: Or the Romance and Reality of the Streets of London (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By Augustus Mayhew

Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from Paved With Gold: Or the Romance and Reality of the Streets of London It has often struck me that if a truthful account were written of the miseries of criminal life, it would, by destroying the fancied romance of wickedness, have a quicker effect in checking juvenile depravity than any moral appeals that could be made to the understandings of the evil-disposed. Crime has now become a trade. Cunning is the only capital needed. The youths who take to this desperate calling are of such a nature that they are beyond a sense of danger. They would carve their names on gallows-wood as calmly as an Eton boy disfigures his desk. They are insensible to the fear of the law. Of course, crime means - unrestrained selfishness, or, in other words, the gratification of desires, regardless of the misery the indulgence may inflict on others. There are many of the leaden-souled who, if crime were treated as a business speculation, - if the chances of profit and loss were as thoroughly weighed as when a...



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