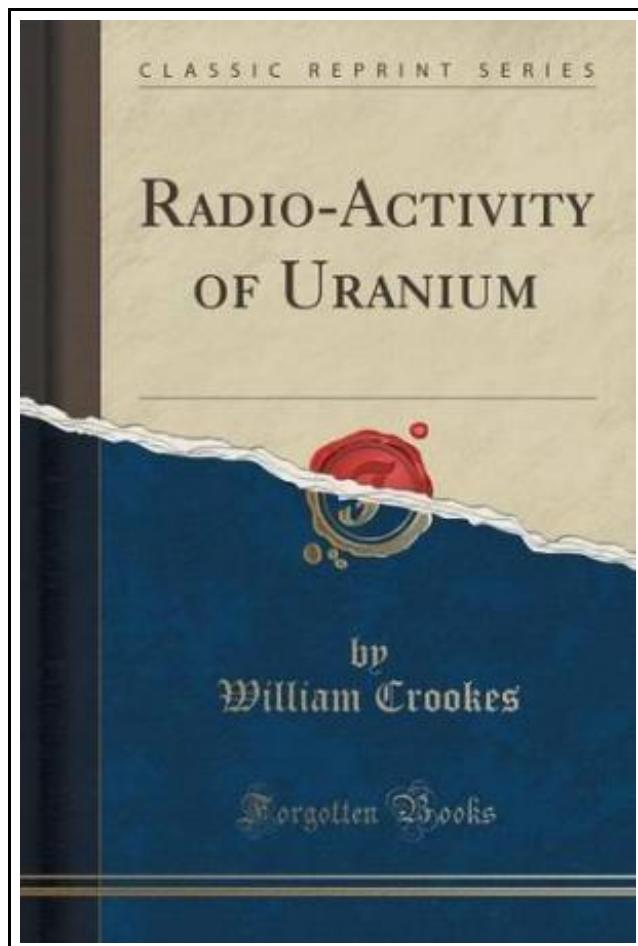


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from Radio-Activity of Uranium The researches of M. Henri Becquerel have shown that compounds of uranium possess the property now called radio-activity; that is, rays emitted by them affect a sensitive photographic plate through bodies usually considered opaque to light; they discharge an electrometer when brought near it; and they are deflected by a magnet. These rays are now called Becquerel rays, or uranic rays. 2. On the discovery by M. and Mdme. Curie of polonium and radium, bodies of enormous radio-active powers, it was suggested that uranium might possibly owe its power to the presence of a small quantity of one of these bodies. But in a paper published in the Revue Generale des Sciences for January, 1899, Mdme. Curie says: - This does not appear probable, for if such were the case different samples of uranium compounds would have very different radio-activities, but in the course of a number of experiments made with various samples of metallic uranium, as well as with oxides and salts from various sources, I have never found any marked difference between the relative activities of the same compound. In another paper the same author says that the property of emitting rays. which act on photographic plates is a specific property of uranium and thorium. The physical condition of the metal seems to be of an altogether secondary importance. Uranium and thorium alone are practically active. 3. When the discovery of radium was announced, and it was said to have to all appearance the properties of almost pure barium, it occurred to me that radium might be found in detectable quantities in some barium minerals were search made among them...

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