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A Recall of Benjamin Franklin: Delivered at Lancaster, Pa., on June 12, 1912, Before Theta Chapter of Pennsylvania of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, in Connection with Franklin and Marshall College (Classic Reprint)

By Joseph Buffington

Forgotten Books, 2018. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from A Recall of Benjamin Franklin: Delivered at Lancaster, Pa., On June 12, 1912, Before Theta Chapter of Pennsylvania of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, in Connection With Franklin and Marshall College No man s life can be really known without a just estimate of the influence upon it of those potent factors, heredity and environment. As seed, soil and sunshine are to plant life, so in human life we find in heredity the seed, and in environment the soil and sunshine that determine the fruitage. It was Oliver Wendell Holmes, I think, who said: The education of a child begins two hundred and fifty years before it is born. It follows, therefore, that the mere incident of Franklin s New England birth as the keynote of his life has omitted from his data the factors of a just estimate. The truth is that Franklin was neither a Massachusetts nor a Pennsylvania man. He was essentially a Briton, but a Briton modified by colonial environment. In a letter addressed to Lord Kames, in the early...



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