



## The Origin and Growth of the Roman Satiric Poetry (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By Alexander Robertson MacCawen

Forgotten Books, 2018. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. Excerpt from The Origin and Growth of the Roman Satiric Poetry Yet it was still wild and unfettered. Literary influences were not yet at work; and the absence of any contemporary literature is in itself proof that the performers had no settled text. We shall in fact find that the introduction of a plot was a complete revolution and fatal to the very essence of such pieces. Masks had been worn at the earliest festivals and may have been in use; but there can have been no attempt to represent character. The metre employed was the old Saturnian measure, - a system based indeed upon quantity, but allowing the greatest freedom in eliding, slurring, and strengthening syllables. Dependent to a large extent upon alliteration and a caesural pause marking the point at which one speaker gave place to another, it was rhyme rather than verse. If we imagine the jests which the clown of a modern circus? Levels at the grooms to be spoken in doggerel verse, and his capers to be in time with the music of the band, and if we...



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