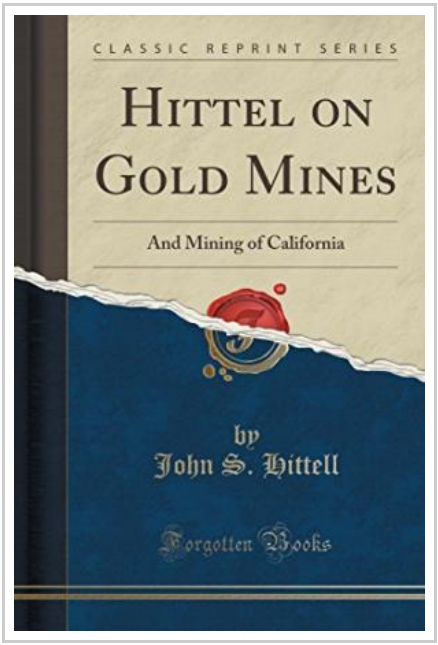


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Hittel on Gold Mines: And Mining of California (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By John S Hittell

Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from Hittel on Gold Mines: And Mining of California In quartz mining the auriferous rock is ground to a very fine powder, the gold in which is caught in quicksilver, or on the rough surface of a blanket, over which the fine material is borne by a stream of water. About two-thirds of our gold is obtained from the placers, and one-third from the quartz. A mine is defined and generally understood to mean a subterraneous work or excavation for obtaining metals, metallic ores or mineral substances; but this definition does not apply to our placer mines, which are places where gold is taken from diluvial or alluvial deposits. Most of the work is not subterraneous; it is done in the full light of day. In some of the claims the pay-dirt lies within two feet of the surface; in others it lies much deeper, but all the superincumbent matter is swept away. Water is the great agent of the placer miner; it is the element of his power jits amount is the measure of his...

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