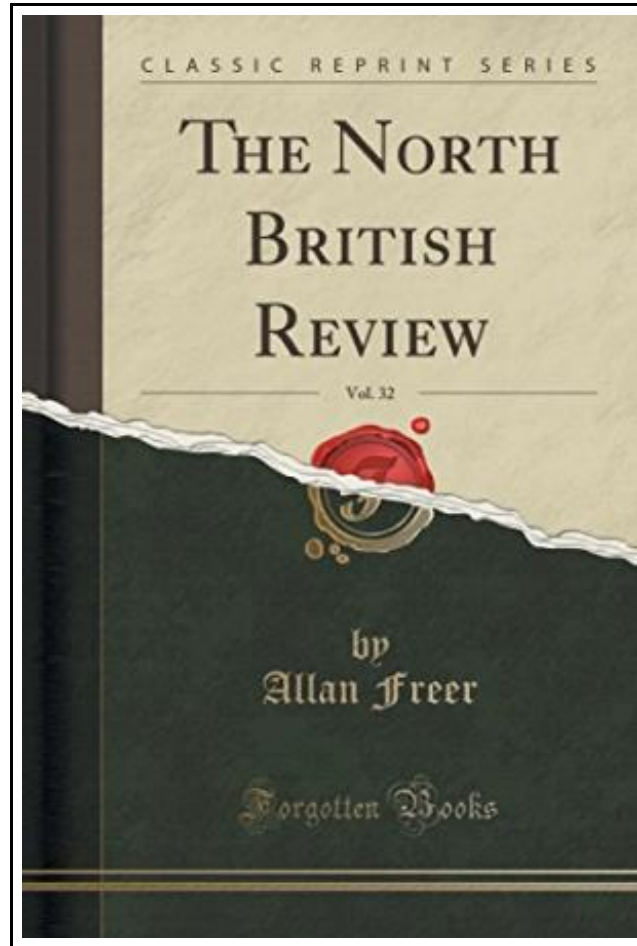


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from The North British Review, Vol. 32 It has been a constant subject of regret with men of the world in our own country, that the social habits of France in former times (namely, the establishment of social intercourse upon intellectual bases) should never have been introduced into England. From Horace Walpole to Lord Holland, you meet everywhere with the strong feeling of French superiority, as far as the organization of society is concerned. It is quite clear that we envy the French their salons, and that directly an Englishman ceases to be an irreclaimable sporting character, or to be riveted to the mere drudgery of political life, he is ready at once to exclaim, Why don t we talk like the French? why are we so utterly ignorant of what they term la causerie? Now, at the same time with this, may be observed in France the disposition to cast a regretful, retrograde glance upon society as it once existed in that country, and to say with a sigh, The real genuine salon exists no longer - it is extinct. From the sadness with which Frenchmen speak of the decline and fall of salon life, and from the regret expressed by Englishmen whom We have been taught to regard as of Superior intelligence, that no such thing could be established in our own country, we might reasonably infer that the Paris salon was a social institution of importance and undeniable worth. That the salon, such as it was constituted in France from Madame de Rambouillet down to Madame Recamier, was one of the chief springs whereby the political and social machine was set working, is...

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