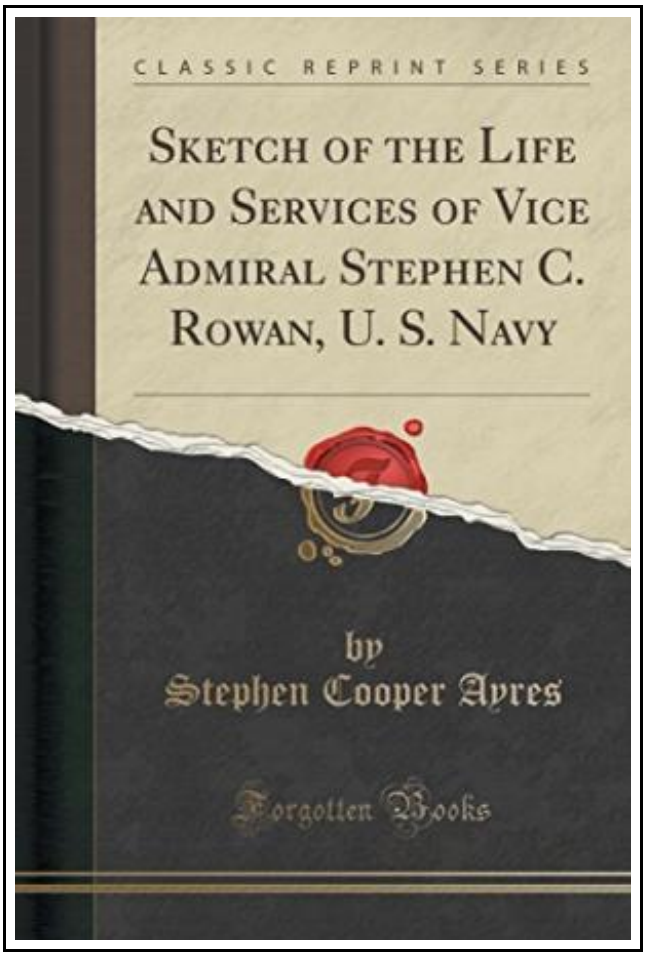
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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from Sketch of the Life and Services of Vice Admiral Stephen C. Rowan, U. S. Navy His timely arrival there was fortunate as he was actively engaged in the war with Mexico until it ended. It was in the conflict with Mexico that Rowan had his first experience in actual war. It was there that he received his first baptism of fire and a training which helped to develop those qualities which made him so conspicious as an officer in the more serious conflict with the South in the early sixties. Let us for a moment glance at the situation on the Pacific Coast in 1846. Upper and lower California belonged to Mexico. There was a Governor, but the Franciscan monks in the various missions which they had established in the beautiful valleys were the real power. Mexico had too much trouble of her own near home, since she threw off the yoke of Spain, to pay much attention to California, which in a commercial way was not as much an asset as a liability. The priests had converted and in a measure tamed and partly civilized the stupid and lazy Indians which they found on and near the Coast. Texas had been lost to Mexico by revolt and had been admitted into the Union in 1845. There were on the Coast about two thousand pioneer settlers from the States, with some English and Irish. A colony of Russians had located in the northern part, but between the settlers and Roman Church which practically controlled the land, there was no bond of sympathy. Many of these settlers were discharged sailors and soldiers, hunters, trappers and adventurers,...

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