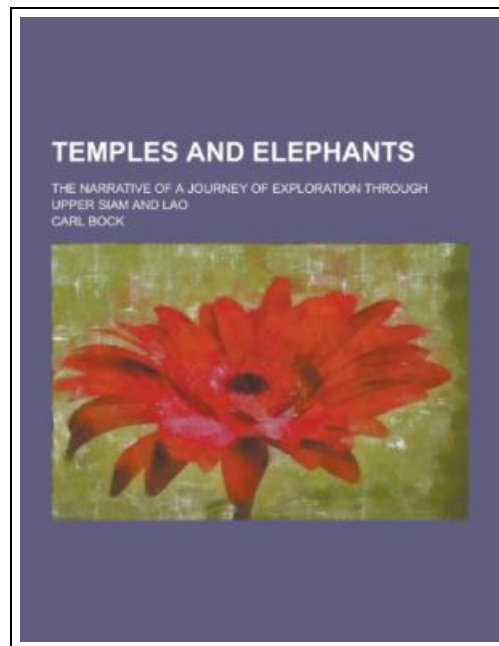


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TEMPLES AND ELEPHANTS; THE NARRATIVE OF A JOURNEY OF EXPLORATION THROUGH UPPER SIAM AND LAO



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Theclassics.us, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can usually download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1884 edition. Excerpt: .of ritual, reminded me very much of that of the Roman Catholic priests. Instead of the figures of the Virgin there are figures of Buddha. The tall candles of the Roman Catholic Churches are replaced by the wax tapers¹ which the priest or suppliant places reverently before the image, or in a receptacle provided for the purpose. Incense is as freely used in a Buddhist Wat as in a Catholic cathedral, and fast-days are common to both religions. The Latin prayers which the Romish priests recite before the crucifix may be likened to the Pali liturgy which the Buddhist priest mutters before the figure of Buddha--both alike being in a dead language. Even in the ornamentation of the places of worship there is a parallel, the beautiful frescoes illustrative of the life of Christ being replaced by rude frescoes representing events in the life of Buddha, which ornament the walls of every Wat; while the entrancing music of the Italian churches has a distant analogy in the dull gongs and drums of the Buddhist temple. ¹ The quantity of wax burnt in the worship of Buddha is enormous. In some temples tapers are kept constantly burniDg. The supply of the native forests is not sufficient for local use, and large quantities of wax are imported from Yunnan. On the subject of the devotional offerings made to the figures of Buddha, it is interesting to note that, according to Captain Forbes British Burma, the Burmese,...



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