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Reviews

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Rarebooksclub.com, United States, 2012. 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 download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1911 Excerpt: .story was finished. For its unrealized, but extreme improbability the theory of the accidental settlement of the Pisa tower has hardly a rival. Ranieri Grassi, who was the most vigorous exponent in modern times of the theory of the intentional construction of the Leaning Tower of Pisa, and who was the first observer of the facts relating to the changes of height in the spiral stairway and in the dip of its ceiling, adduced another argument which deserves serious attention. Grassi quotes Michele da Vico, an author of the 14th century, as expressly mentioning the strength of the foundations and the fact that they were allowed to rest for a year before the construction was undertaken. The tower was finished in the middle of the 14th century; therefore, says Grassi, da Vico could not have praised the foundations if the tower had settled, and if it had settled he assuredly would not have described the foundations without mentioning a settlement. This argument also appears unanswerable. Descrizione di Pisa et Suoi Contorni, vol. II, p. 96, 1837. The arguments recently advanced by the Italian Government Commission as demonstrating accident do not appear to have great weight. The discovery that the foundations (of masonry) are only three meters deep, is held to demonstrate their weakness, but the history of the tower, which is known not to have changed its inclination for many centuries, before the movement which was probably caused by the earthquake of 1846, demonstrates that this...



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