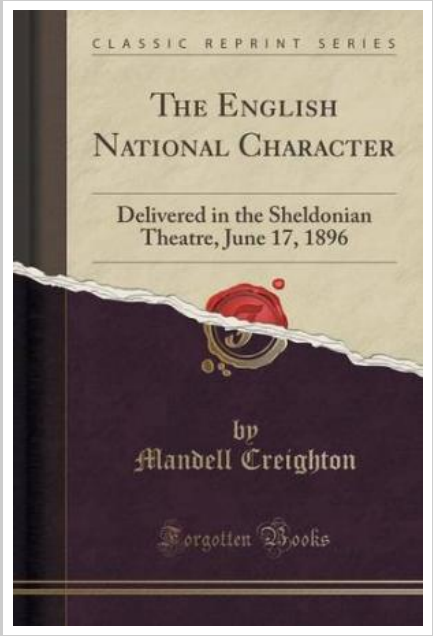


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The English National Character: Delivered in the Sheldonian Theatre, June 17, 1896 (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By Mandell Creighton

Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from The English National Character: Delivered in the Sheldonian Theatre, June 17, 1896 If he lacks the capacity for making clear what he is, that is a defect which must count against him. Of course the analogy between nations and individuals cannot be pursued very far. Individuals are many; nations are few. Individuals are judged for their own actions; nations have a continuous character, and each generation is paying the penalty for the prejudices created by the actions of its predecessors. Moreover, in judging individuals, we adopt standards which vary according to the scale on which their life was lived; for instance, a statesman is not judged so much by his private life as by his public policy. When this method is extended to a nation, all appreciation of the finer forms of its activity tends to disappear, and only very broad characteristics are taken into account. Further, it must be remembered that at present nations stand towards one another in the relation of commercial firms. In the ordinary course of things they have no occasion...

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