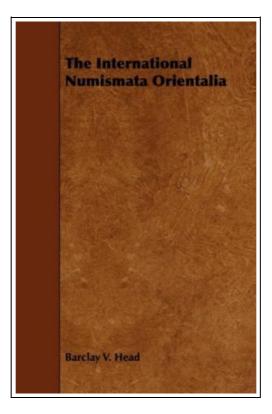
## The International Numismata Orientalia



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#### THE INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATA ORIENTALIA



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Read Books, United Kingdom, 2008. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 216 x 140 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*\*. AUTHORS PREFACE. IN a work like the NUMISALITA ORIENTALIA, which is designed to embrace the whole field of Oriental Numismatics, the coinage of the great Persian Empire holds of necessity an avowedly leading position. The famous Persian Darics, Ithe archers, so frequently alluded to in the history of Grecce and of mhich tho influence was often so detrimental to the morality of the Hellenes, form the connecting link between the coinage of the Empire of Craesus on the one hand and that of Alexander the Great on the other. We are thus led to commence with the consideration of the coinage of the kingdom of Lydia, a thorough cornproheusion of mhich is primarily desirable for those who mould attain to a fuller knowledge of Persian numismatics than is to be gained by a mere contemplation of the types of the coins. The Persian daric is the legitimate successor of the gold stater of Crcesus, to whose administrative genius must bo ascribed the earliest idea of a double currency based upon the relative values of gold and silver. We are therefore called upon to examine, first of all, the origin of the system of weights in use throughout the East in remote times, and to trace back to their source on the banks of the Euphrates and the Tigris the germs of the meights adopted in Lydia by the ancestors of Crccsus, according to which the precious metals mere then estimated, and passed from hand to hand as recognised measures of the exchangeable value of all other commodities. These primitive weight-systems mere the basis of the futuro coinage, not only of Asia, but of European Grecce and Lydia...

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