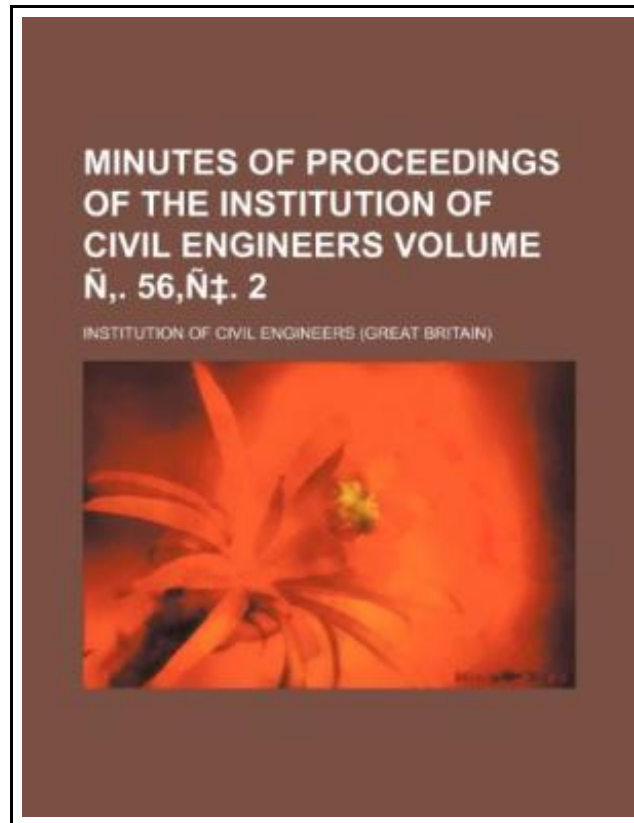


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Rarebooksclub.com, United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1879 edition. Excerpt: .said one thing, Dr. Hart another, and he another; and, since the discussion had commenced, two or three mathematicians had suggested other formulae. Should gun-making stand still until mathematicians had determined the right algebraical expression? He had great respect for mathematicians, but he agreed with Dr. Siemens that mathematics, while a good servant, might be a very bad master. All the formulae to which reference had been made were very well, if the values of the different letters could be obtained; but if those values were not ascertained by experimental data, the formulae were simply so much juggling with letters of the alphabet. Of course the Woolwich system was theoretically wrong, and no one knew that better than the constructors of the guns. But they were perhaps practically the best available in the present state of metallurgical knowledge. A hard steel tube was put inside, and soft metal outside. What could be worse than that? Of course the soft metal outside expanded much more than the tough steel inside, and if it was overstrained it would get the set first. It was, however, necessary to look at such matters practically. If wrought iron were put inside heavy ordnance, as in Sir William Palliser s system for light guns, what would happen? It would not stand the erosion, and the interior of the bore would be guttered and soon destroyed. It might be said, Why not put on steel jackets outside? As far as he had...

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