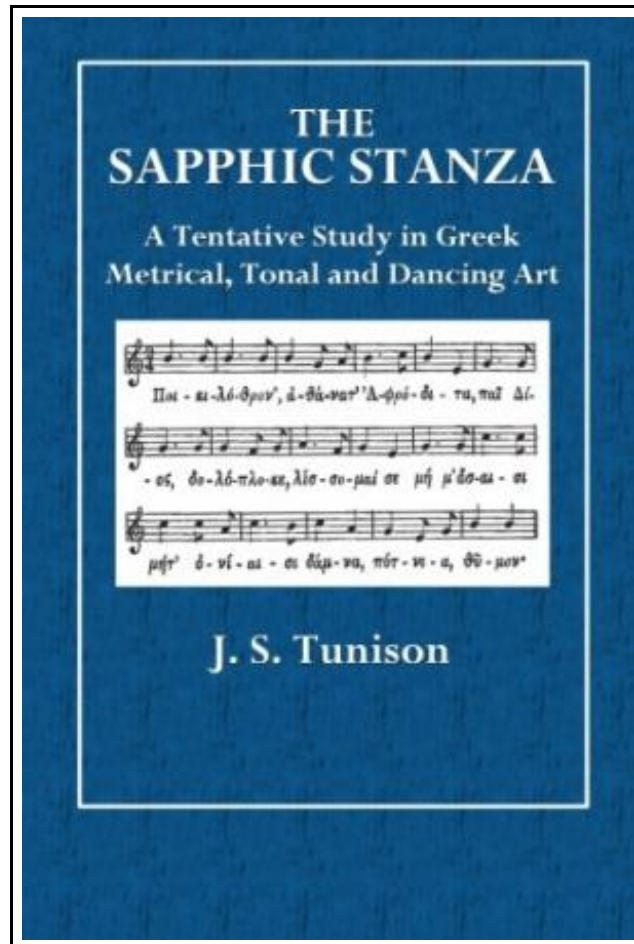


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Createspace, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.In these days of prolific composition and ponderous volumes, it is much to find one who has something to say, and who says it concisely and without digression. Mr. Tunison's study of the Sapphic stanza is so unpretentious and unassuming that one habituated to current weight and quantity, as evincing the quality and importance of the subject treated, will hardly recognize the thought and learning which are contained in these less than fifty pages, unless he takes the volume seriously in hand for a few hours and follows the trend of its purpose. It is not a little curious that one of the most gifted of women, perhaps the most gifted in poetic genius, the world has known, comes to us from the early dawn of human civilization. But although those days when burning Sappho loved and sang are so remote, and though so little of her songs survive, she is still more than a name; her spirit yet exercises an influence in the intellectual world, and has a significance that will abide with all literature. She was a contemporary of the prophet Jeremiah, of Nebuchadnezzar and of Solon of Athens, Mr. Tunison reminds the reader. Her generation came after the first outburst of Greek thought. The Homeric poems had already been written, and hers was the task to impart vitality and soul to the ballad which was to perpetuate the fires of literature to the present day. Her lyrics were among the first, it is cited, that could be spoken or declaimed without musical accompaniment. Music and dancing were a necessary part of poetry in those early days, 3,000 years or more ago. Mr. Tunison s...

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