

Among the proposed books of the series will be a treatise on the Nature of Causation in the lately discovered doctrine of the Conservation of Energy and the Persistence of Force; and one on the Doctrine of Development or Evolution, what it can do and what it cannot do. This will be one of very great interest and value. Another will be a Criticism on the Philosophy of Herbert Spencer, "the most powerful speculative thinker of our day." The whole series promises to be one of unusual importance.

Rare Poems of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries. A Supplement to the anthologies collected and edited with notes by W. J. LINTON. 12mo, bound in white linen, red lettered, pp. 264. Boston: Roberts Brothers. Toronto: Willing & Williamson. Price \$2.

This volume, with its vellum-like cover, its quaint old poems, its unique style of illustration, is dainty enough for Queen Titania's fairy fingers. The editor presents us here a rich sheaf gleaned from the fertile fields of old English poesy. Which of the modern poets, after three hundred years, shall yield as rich an anthology as the pages of Dunbar, Heywood, Wyatt, Tusser, Sir Philip Sidney, Drayton, Davies, Donne, Rare Ben Jonson, Drummond, Shirley, Herrick, Walter Marvell, Vaughan, and others of later date? Other poems in this volume are of unknown parentage, whose sweetness will not let them die, rich enough in true poetry to defy that *edax rerum*, the gnawing tooth of time. The notes are scholarly and critical, and the vignettes, tail pieces, and other dainty devices are in keeping with the "rare poems" of the book.

The Wisdom of the Brahmin. A Didactic Poem, translated from the German of FRIEDRICH RUCKERT by CHAS. BROOKS, pp. 252. Boston: Roberts Bros. Toronto: Willing & Williamson, and Wm. Briggs.

This volume of oriental theosophy resembles somewhat, in its spirit and

literary quality, Matthew Arnold's fine poem "The Light of Asia." "The Brahmin," says the translator, "is a poem of vast range, expressing in epigrammatic form the world-wisdom which the author has been for years storing up in his large heart and evolving out of his creative soul, enriched and quickened by sympathetic study of the poesy and philosophy of the 'Morning Land.' By long and deep study he has caught the spirit of oriental thought and the style of oriental expression, and now reproduces the essence of the best oriental wisdom in forms created by the most accomplished European culture."

Art and Nature in Italy. By EUGENE BENSON. 12mo, pp. 188. Boston: Roberts Bros. Toronto: Willing & Williamson.

Next to the charm of wandering amid the art galleries and through the storied land of Italy in one's own person, is that of following in thought the steps of such an accomplished art critic and tourist as Mr. Benson. He lingers lovingly amid the scenes haunted with memories of the great painters, *Giorgione*, Titian, Raphael, Tintoretto, Bellini, and discourses, with enthusiasm of their work. While reading his pages we feel again the thrill of our first visit to Rome, Florence, Venice and Ferrara; the desolation of the Campagna again surrounds us; and the glory of St. Peter's dome again over-arches our heads.

My Household of Pets. By THEOPHILE GAUTIER, translated by Susan Coolidge, with illustrations, \$1.25. Boston: Roberts Brothers. Toronto: Willing & Williamson.

The French are masters of a style of light and airy *persiflage*, and none more so than Theophile Gautier. In a series of bright and witty chapters he gives a charming account of the numerous strange pets of his household, with such clever characterization, that we read with as absorbed interest as if it were the subtle, mental analysis of rational beings.