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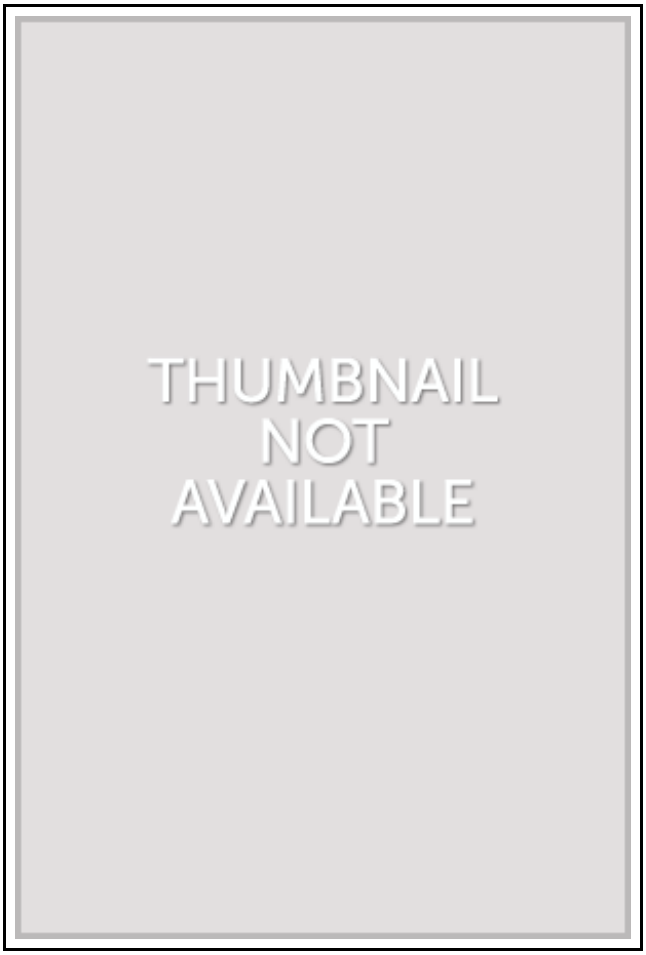

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Forgotten Books, United States, 2016. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Excerpt from Songs of Three Centuries It would be doing injustice of this of this volume to suppose that his work implied any lack of appreciation of the anthologies already published in this country Dana s Household Book of Poetry is no misnomer; and the honored names of Bryant and Emerson are a sufficient guaranty for Parnassus and the Library of Song. With no thought of superseding or even of entering into direct competition with these large and valuable collections, it has been my design to gather up in a comparatively small volume, easily accessible to all classes of readers, the wisest thoughts, rarest fancies, and devoutest hymns of the metrical authors of the last three centuries. To use Shelley s definition of poetry, I have endeavored to give something like a record of the best thoughts and happiest moments of the best and happiest minds. The plan of my work has compelled me to confine myself, in a great measure, to the lyrical productions of the authors quoted, and to use only the briefer poems of the old dramatists and such voluminous writers as Spenser, Milton, Dryden, Cowper, Pope, Byron, Scott, Wordsworth, and the Browning s. Of course, no anthology, however ample its extracts, could do justice to the illimitable genius of Shakespeare. It is possible that it may be thought an undue prominence has been given to the poetry of the period beginning with Cowper and reaching down to Tennyson and his living contemporaries. But it must be considered that the last century has been prolific in song; and, if Shakespeare and Milton still keep their unapproachable position, souls like stars that dwell apart, there...

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