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Some Masterpieces of Latin Poetry: Thought Into English Verse

By William Stebbing

Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.An excerpt from the beginning of the first chapter. THE EXPANSION OF THE UNIVERSE AND THE ENLARGEMENT OF FAITH. AS the traveler visits the old shrines and cathedrals of Europe, or the scholar delves among the mediaeval treatises on astronomy or geography, he is continually meeting with conceptions of the world and its creation of a most curious and childlike simplicity. A frequently recurring group in the sculptures, mosaics, stained-glass or missal paintings of the Middle Ages is that which represents the Almighty in human form, moulding the sun, moon, or stars, and with His own hands hanging them from the solid firmament which supports the upper heaven and its celestial waters and which overarches the great plain of earth; and when the work of the six days is finished He is represented as sitting, bent and fatigued, in the well-known attitude of the Weary Mercury of classical sculpture. As late as the seventeenth century, Milton, in his poetic representation of the popular theology of his day, does not hesitate at the most literal description of how the...



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