

**ESSAYS
IN FRESCO**

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Essays in fresco by Edward McCurdy

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EDWARD MCCURDY

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Photo. Brogi.

AENEAS SYLVIUS PICCOLOMINI AT THE COURT OF
KING JAMES I. OF SCOTLAND

By Pinturicchio.

ESSAYS IN FRESCO

BY

EDWARD McCURDY

EDITOR OF "THE NOTE-BOOKS OF LEONARDO DA VINCI."

"Others fashion man, I repeat him; and represent a particular one, but ill made; and whom were I to forme a new, he should be far other then he is; but he is now made. And though the lines of my picture change and vary, yet loose they not themselves."—*Montaigne* (Florio), bk. iii. ch. ii.
"Of Repenting."

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A NOTE ON "BUON FRESCO"

I quote from the Book of the Art of Cennino Cennini on "the manner of painting on walls, that is, in fresco," and with this quotation, which I take from Mrs. Herringham's excellent edition of the treatise, I discharge my debt to my title after a manner not infrequent among debtors.

Should you seek further as to matters of pigment and vehicle, which indeed offer a more fruitful field of study than any questions of attribution, the same book may serve your need. The road, although old and disused, and, like the grass-grown Appian way, a strip of herbage, is the pleasanter to wander in when the journey has no very urgent end in view. What journey ever was pleasant else?

Of Cennino Cennini's fitness to speak, his own words bear testimony:—

"A humble working member of the art of painting, I, Cennino, born of Drea Cennino of the Colle de Valdelsa, was instructed in