

**DE LIBRIS:
PROSE & VERSE**

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De libris: prose & verse by Austin Dobson

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AUSTIN DOBSON

**DE LIBRIS:
PROSE & VERSE**



THE OTTER HUNT IN THE "COMPLETE ANGLER."

(From the original pen-drawing.)

DE LIBRIS

PROSE & VERSE

BY

AUSTIN DOBSON

Vt Mel Os, sic Cor Melos afficit, & reficit.

Deuteromelia.

A mixture of a *Song* doth ever adde Pleasure.

BACON (*adapted*).



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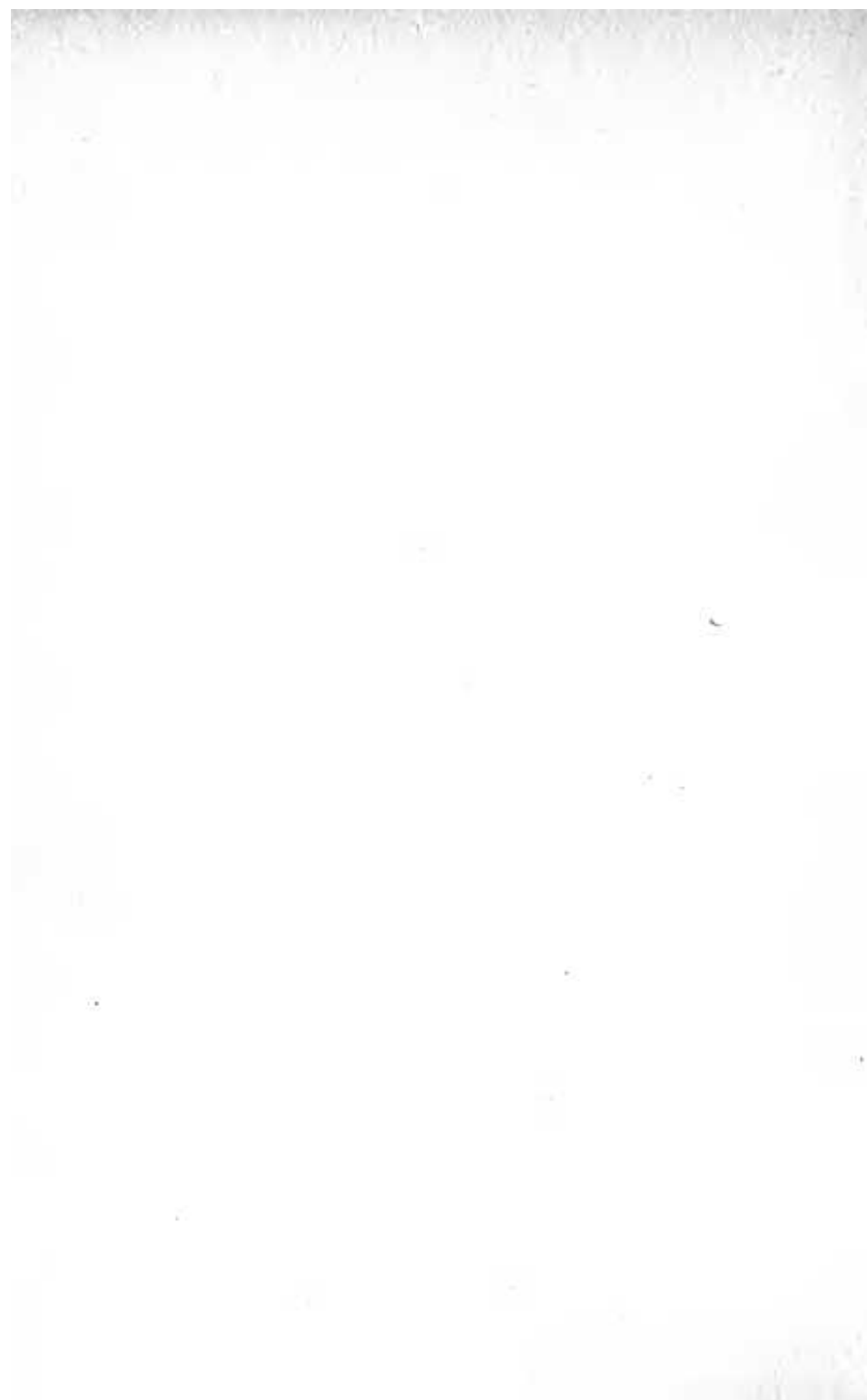
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SYRACUSE, N. Y.

PROLOGUE

LECTOR BENEVOLE!—FOR SO
THEY USED TO CALL YOU, YEARS AGO,—
I CAN'T PRETEND TO MAKE YOU READ
THE PAGES THAT TO THIS SUCCEED;
NOR COULD I—IF I WOULD—EXCUSE
THE WAYWARD PROMPTINGS OF THE MUSE
AT WHOSE COMMAND I WROTE THEM DOWN.

I HAVE NO HOPE TO "PLEASE THE TOWN."
I DID BUT THINK SOME FRIENDLY SOUL
(NOT ILL-ADVISED, UPON THE WHOLE!)
MIGHT LIKE THEM; AND "TO INTERPOSE
A LITTLE EASE," BETWEEN THE PROSE,
SLIPPED IN THE SCRAPS OF VERSE, THAT THUS
THINGS MIGHT BE LESS MONOTONOUS.

THEN, *LECTOR*, BE *BENEVOLUS!*



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