ART AND NATURE IN ITALY

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EUGENE BENSON

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Trieste

ART AND NATURE

IN

ITALY.

BY

EUGENE BENSON.

BOSTON:
ROBERTS BROTHERS.
1882.

University Press:
John Wilson and Son, Cambridge.

TO

VIOLET,

IN MEMORY OF OUR ITALIAN DAYS.

ROME, 1882.

CONTENTS.

ART AND NATURE IN ITALY.

IN GIORGIONE'S COUNTRY.

PERHAPS no artist could approach Giorgione's birthplace without some quickening of the pulse. Whether one reaches it from Treviso, or from Vicenza, through pleasant ways of country life under the mellowing autumn sun, or comes down to it from the foothills of the Alps, it appears delightfully placed between the mountains and the lagoons, not far from the richly wooded hills of Asolo. Castelfranco is in the vast and gardenlike plain which between the Alps and the Adriatic seems all but infinite, and it is more beautiful, because less monotonous than that of Lombardy; seen from the enchanting hills of Asolo, it is all green and gold and purple and