

IMMORTALITY.

(Giordano Bruno, 1548-1600).

BY EDMUND NOBLE.

I shall leave the place that knew me,—
 Soon shall mount beyond the fire
 To the sky where hunger ceases,
 To the heaven of dead desire.

From the fanes where I have lingered,—
 From the books I held so dear,—
 From the friends with whom I suffered,—
 I shall pass without a tear.

Ye shall seek me, seek me vainly,
 In the sounding city street,
 'Mid the cries of joy and anguish,
 Through the rush of hurrying feet.

In the lanes a blossom gathered ;
 From the fields a dew-drop gone ;
 On the shore a wave-worn footstep ;
 O'er the sea a sail that's flown !

In the winter and the summer,
 Like the sunbeam and the frost,
 I shall be a vanished presence,—
 Never seized, yet never lost !

High on cloud or low in billow ;
 In the breeze and on the wing ;
 Soaring with the lark at sunrise,—
 With the leaf down fluttering !

Each new season shall repeat me,—
 Countless hours my soul prolong,
 In the perfume of the floweret,—
 In the music of each song !

Day shall wake my name from slumber ;
 Night shall hold me in its ken,—
 I shall live within the starlight,—
 I shall haunt the thoughts of men !