

# **ECHOES OF NATURE**

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Echoes of Nature by Edward Brown

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**EDWARD BROWN**

**ECHOES  
OF NATURE**



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OF  
NATURE.

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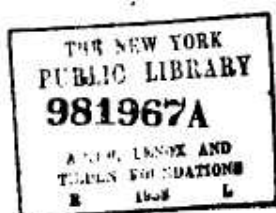
I have seen  
A curious child, who dwelt upon a tract  
Of inland ground, applying to his ear  
The convolutions of a smooth-lipped shell;  
To which, in silence hushed, his very soul  
Listened intensely; and his countenance soon  
Brightened with joy; for murmurings from within  
Were heard, sonorous cadences! whereby,  
To his belief, the monitor expressed  
Mysterious union with its native sea.  
*Even such a shell the Universe itself  
Is to the ear of Faith.*

WORDSWORTH.

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## PRELUDE.

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VERSE alone cannot inherit  
Thought's ethereal land of Song;  
To interpret things of spirit,  
To the spirit doth belong.

What though human imperfection  
Oft the vestal thought may mar,  
Yet its glorious resurrection  
Shineth in the soul afar.

Highest, holiest hopes may falter,—  
Trembling stars, reflected low;  
But no wind-struck wave can alter  
Heaven's serene, unchanging glow.