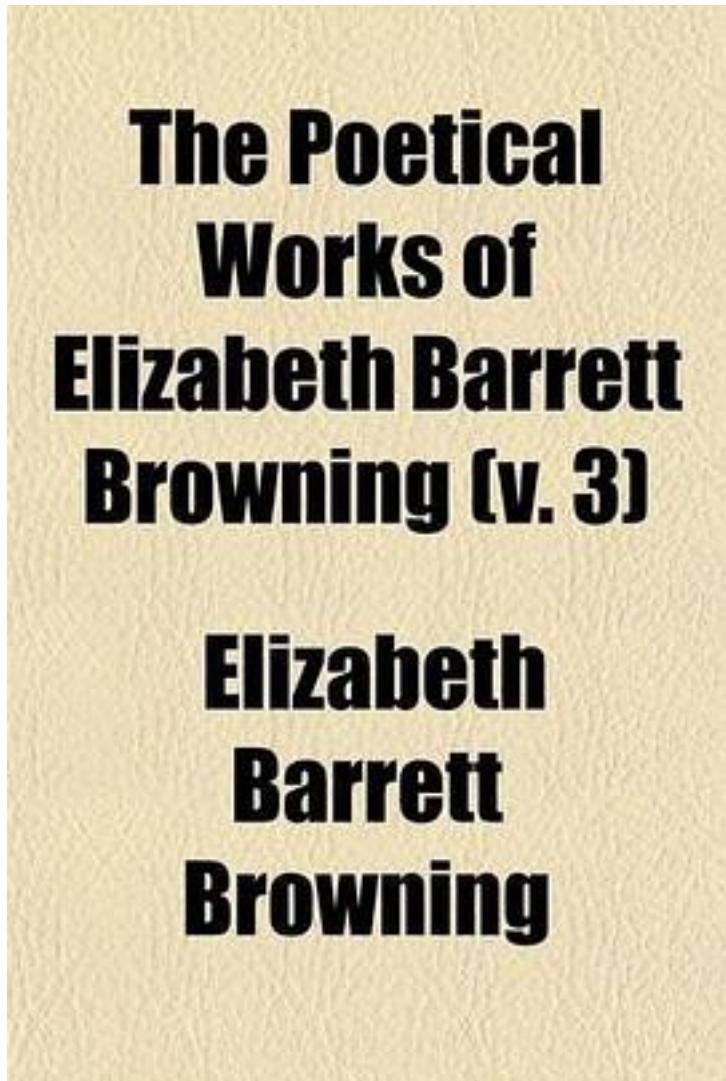


The Poetical Works of Elizabeth Barrett Browning (v. 3)



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Purchase of this book includes free trial access to www.million-books.com where you can read more than a million books for free. This is an OCR edition with typos. Excerpt from book: TO FLUSH, MY DOG. Loving friend, the gift of one Who her own true faith has run Through thy lower nature, Be my benediction said With my hand upon thy head, Gentle fellow-creature Like a lady's ringlets brown, Flow thy silken ears adown Either side demurely Of thy silver-suited breast Shining out from all the rest Of thy body purely. This dog was the gift of my dear and admired friend, Miss Mit-ford, and belongs to the beautiful race she has rendered celebrated among English and American readers. The Flushes have their laurels as well as the Caesars,?the chief difference (at least the very head and front of it) consisting, perhaps, in the bald head of the latter under the crown. (1844.) Darkly brown thy body is, Till the sunshine striking this Alchemize its dulness, When the sleek curls manifold Flash all over into gold With a burnished fulness. Underneath my stroking hand, Startled eyes of hazel bland Kindling, growing larger, Up thou leapest with a spring, Full of prank and curveting, Leaping like a charger. Leap thy broad tail waves a light, Leap thy slender feet are bright, Canopied in fringes; Leap those tasselled ears of thine Flicker strangely, fair and fine Down their golden inches. Yet, my pretty, sportive friend, Little is 't to such an end That I praise thy rareness; Other dogs may be thy peers Haply in these drooping ears And this glossy fairness. But of thee it shall be said, This dog watched beside a bed Day and night unweary, Watched within a curtained room Where no sunbeam brake the gloom Round the sick and dreary. VIII. Roses, gathered for a vase, In that chamber died apace, Beam and breeze resigning; This dog only, waited on, Knowing that when light is gone Love rema...

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目录:

[The Poetical Works of Elizabeth Barrett Browning \(v. 3\) 下载链接1](#)

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