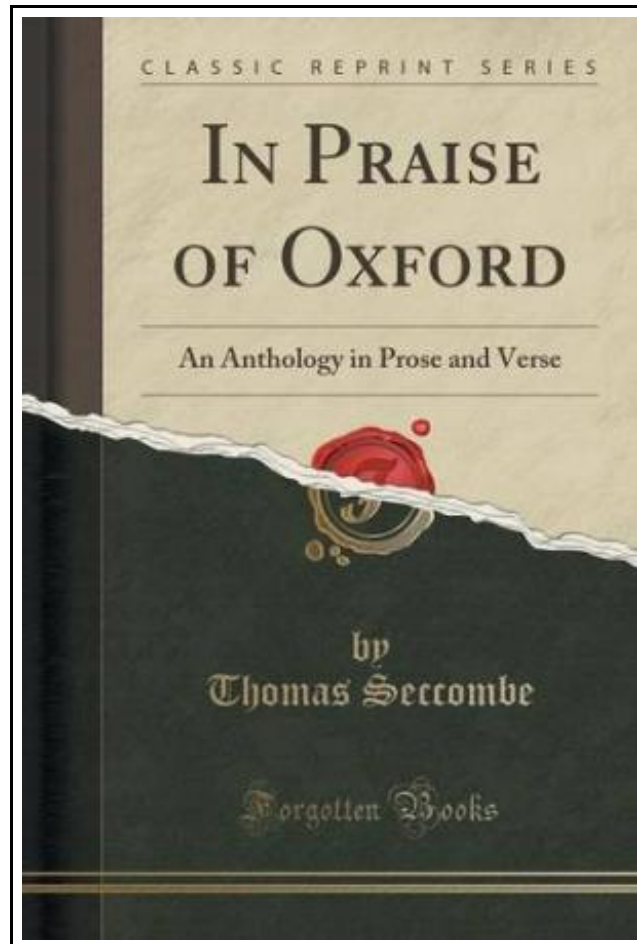


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Excerpt from In Praise of Oxford: An Anthology in Prose and Verse The present work owes its origin to the suggestion of one of those gifted friends whose day dreams sometimes take the form of book-titles. Travelling upon the London and North-Western Railway one evening in the summer of 1904, he saw the words In Praise of Oxford, in letters of gold upon the horizon somewhere above Harrow Weald Common. For some weeks after this I devoted all my spare time to transcribing passages about Oxford that I had become familiar with in my reading. The result was a triumphant solution of the problem of writing without tears. The pieces transcribed were all charming and all well known. In a plush binding, during the first half of December, in Oxford Street, among the feminine relatives of Oxford men, they would have sold, as Jasper Milvain puts it, like hot cakes. But the well-known nerve which has stood so many of our anthologists in good stead failed me at this juncture. Thinking it desirable, in the case of so august a subject, that knowledge should be added to enthusiasm, I was happily inspired to call in the aid of my friend Harold Spencer Scott. Under his tuition I soon discovered that what I had hitherto regarded as one of the easiest achievements in the sphere of compilation was in reality one of the most difficult. I now perfectly understood - what I had always hitherto professed to regard with incredulous amazement - why Oxford had never managed to write its own history. The fact being that Oxford is not merely an exceptionally bright or vivid page from the...



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