judgment most oracular in its form, most untrue in its version
of the facts, and immediately falsified by the event.   His chief
disciple, in like manner, pronounces that the Irish question can
be solved only by despotism, while statesmenship is successfully
solving it in a milder way.   To democratic optimism he ad-
ministered some wholesome rebukes; but their extravagance
deprives them of serious value ; everybody knows that the
" thirty millions," though very fallible, are no more " fools "
than he is ; and while he rails at the ballot-box, he proposes
nothing in its room. Rosewater philanthropy again might have
benefited by his preachings, if he had not ruined them by trucu-
lent sophistry and sometimes by downright brutality. His cyni-
cism became at last as bitter, as undiscriminating, and as barren
as the east wind. His sympathy with religious enthusiasm seems
to indicate that his philosophy had a religious basis of some
kind, but he never gave it or tried to give it a distinct form.
No thinker of genius who ever lived was so satisfied to put up
with haze.   His tone was always high ; he was a good antidote
to materialism ; but his Titanic vocabulary filled very weak
men with false notions of their own strength, set them wield-
ing a Thor's hammer of thundering talk, and generated the
very humbug which he thought it his mission to put down. He
sometimes cants terribly against cant; his praises of silence are
very voluminous, and his Eternal Verities are about the
best stuffing for windbags in the world.

—Our free expression of opinion as to the intense vulgarity
of the view of life presented in " Endymion," seems to star-
tle some Endymionists in England.   Journalism on this side
of the Atlantic, at all events, may speak without reserve
of matters on the other side ; and, if the people there choose
of their own accord to reprint what we say, we hope they
will find it wholesome.   Was criticism needless ? Is nobody
to protest when young men setting out in public life are
taught that they owe nothing to their country or to their