

points out, pre-eminently romantic. Take for instance "The Eve of St. Agnes." In form and idea the poem belongs to the romantic. It is full of color and warmth and fragrance. Speaking of this exquisite poem. Dr. Mabie says: "There is no magic of colour in written speech that is not mixed in the diction of 'The Eve of St. Agnes,' — a vision of beauty deep, rich, and glowing as one of those dyed windows in which the heart of the Middle Ages still burns."

It is interesting to note how differently Keats and Tennyson treat the same poetic theme. "The Eve of St. Agnes" is a good exemplification of this. Tennyson's "Eve of St. Agnes" is more severe and classical than is that of Keats, while there is a warmth and fragrance in Keats's poem entirely wanting to Tennyson's. Keats approaches the theme through the avenue of romance, giving color and glow to his lines within the radiant dome of his imagination. The genius of Tennyson turns from the romantic to the ascetic and devotional and paints a St. Agnes more in accordance with the life and spirit of the early saints, and martyrs. Tennyson's is the more real and Catholic, Keats's the more ideal and pagan.

Keats was responsive to the beauty of the world around him. He was sensuous, but his love of the

Treatment
of the Same
Theme by
Keats and
Tennyson
Contrasted.