

and Alfred Tennyson—we see what a large part Catholic truth has played in their best work. It was Rosetti that restored to English poetry the mediæval temper of wonder, and this is peculiarly a characteristic of the Ages of Faith. In reading Rosetti's poetry you feel something of the mystery that lurks in the dim aisles of a Gothic Cathedral.

Browning was of Nonconformist origin, and in many a poem does grievous wrong to the Catholic Church, yet his most considerable poem, that massive epic, "The Ring and the Book," which is essentially Catholic in theme, if not wholly so in treatment, bears witness to the fact that the great monologist was at his best when he was most sincere and faithful in his portrayal of Catholic character.

Tennyson went to a Catholic subject to build up what he regarded as his best and noblest poem, "The Idylls of the King." No need to say that this is essentially Catholic. It has its setting in Catholic