

The Two Locksley Halls.

"For I dipt into the future, far as human eye could see,
Saw the vision of the world, and all the wonder that would be."

Locksley Hall.

"All the world is ghost to me, and as the phantom disappears,
Forward far and far from here is all the hope of fifty years."

"Sixty Years After."

THE ecstasy of love, the passion of betrayal, the bitterness of disappointment, and the noble aspirations of youthful fancy, are the central ideas about which the poem of "Locksley Hall" is entwined. The other "Locksley Hall," written after half a century had elapsed, represents the ecstasy of love changed into the prating babble of a fond old man, the fiery passions of youth transformed into the pessimism of old age, and the lofty aspirations of early life shattered by the experiences of later days. The young soldier of the first poem, with all the intensity of youthful passion, disappointed in love, bereft of faith in womankind, soliloquizes on the future of his race, yearns for "the large excitement that the coming years will yield," predicts the dawn of a glorious era: and then taking a long farewell of the home of his childhood, plunges madly into the work of the world. But sixty years elapse, the young man has become old, and the conflict has well-nigh ended; but the realization of his boyish dreams has not been accomplished. "Fifty years of Europe" have rolled by; but the mighty changes wrought have not rung in "the thousand years of peace."

"Locksley Hall," published in eighteen hundred and forty-two, secured for Tennyson an enviable and permanent reputation. The poem touched all that was youthful, ambitious and inspiring in the