

"that is so, for my mother said so, and she is right whether it is so or it isn't so." For children, such confidence is admirable; but men must put away childish things, and they must learn to reason for themselves. An examination of our educational system according to the method which Professor Robins had in view and which he wished to inculcate by his address would make a vast change in many of our favourite subjects. The

greater part of the work in many of our universities consists in a slavish dependence on the memory, cramming into the mind the ideas as found in certain authors. History, literature, science, languages and even a large part of the mathematics are made to depend entirely on this faculty, so that of two students, one with strong retentive powers and another with strong logical powers; the chances of success are with the former.

## "'TIS BETTER TO BE GOOD THAN FAIR."

BY JAMES BERRY BENSEL.

In the broad summer's sun I stand, and you where spring-time posies blow,  
While softly, thro' your shading hand, you peer toward the time of snow,  
Toward the autumn's gold and brown, toward the summer's splendid crown.

O, little girl! I would that I for you so loud and clear might sing;  
You'd turn your face toward the sky with faith to see a lark on wing,  
And turning upward so your face, God on your brow might shed his grace.

I only breathe a simple thought, within my plain and homely rhyme,  
The greatest battles ever fought are those unknown to fame and time.  
None reads upon the army-roll the struggle of a faithful soul.

To fight by day, to war by night, to plot and plan to hold and keep  
Your lily soul in garments white, amid base things that crawl and creep,  
To walk unstained in every place, with God's great glory on your face.

My little girl with sunlit hair, and spring-time shining through your eyes,  
'Tis better to be good than fair, 'tis better to be true than wise.  
Bear this in mind for me—he wins the noblest fight who slays his sins.