

in weaving his great epic around the name of Arthur and in transferring not a few of his lost friend's best traits to the "blameless king." In these latest years, unnoticed minor poems, like the sonnet on the Rev. W. H. Brookfield, and *In the Garden at Swainston* show how lasting this deep affection is. The dead friend is not forgotten. It must have been no ordinary nature that could win so great and so faithful a mourner.

In Memoriam seems to need elucidation, if one is to judge from the number of "hand-books," "keys," and "companions" to it which are continually issuing from the press. These are not without their use. To many, *In Memoriam* is only a long poem and a sad one. Therefore, any book that shows that it is more than this, and induces people to read the poem for themselves, is to be commended. So much has been already written that there hardly seems to be room for another book on the subject. Mr. Robertson's¹ clear summary (now in its twelfth edition) is the best for the general reader. Each separate poem is condensed into a line or two, rarely more; and yet the connection is clear throughout. Dean Gatty² considers the poem from the mourner's point of view, and treats it more in detail. The interpretation is very orthodox, and a little feeble at times, but the book is valuable for its fine portrait of Hallam and the many notes, which deal with matters which can only be explained by a native-born Englishman. For the student, Mr. Gering's book³ is perhaps the best, in spite of its awkward style. It contains much that will help anyone who wishes to get all that is possible out of the poem, such as an account of its setting in time, its place in the poet's development, and a suggestive comparison of it with *Lycidas*, *Adonais* and the sonnets of Shakespeare. The best part is

¹ *Analysis of Mr. Tennyson's "In Memoriam."* By the Rev. F. W. Robertson. London, 1884.

² *A Key to Lord Tennyson's "In Memoriam."* By Alfred Gatty, D.D. London, 1885.

³ *Tennyson's "In Memoriam;" Its Purposes and Structure.* By John K. Gering, Boston, 1888.