

more remarkable as he was distinctly abstemious; but he admired the social virtues, and possibly, as with professional wine tasters who refrain from swallowing, the very cleanness of his palate rendered his judgement more exact. He was as interested in and intimate with the manners and customs of the Cambridge undergraduate as with those of the remotest aborigines of Australia or Central Africa. His knowledge of patristic literature and of heresies appeared to be as extensive and peculiar as was that of Mr. Sam Weller of London streets. He discussed all the sciences like a master. I remember well his correcting a naturalist, fresh from two years spent naturalizing in Celebes, regarding some statement he uttered bearing upon the fauna of that island. My old friend, the present Master of Christ's, has recounted to me that once when a guest at Lord Hardwicke's, his stay coincided with the annual tenants' dinner, and that sitting among the farmers he discussed with such intimate knowledge and, *more suo*, dogmatically, the factors making for speed in race horses, detailing minutely the genealogies of and strains entering into the great sires and great racers, that they took the Professor of Arabic for a professional horse-breeder.

He was, without doubt, the most widely learned, perhaps the most deeply learned, man of his generation. Nothing that he had seen or heard or read appeared to be forgotten. They tell the judgement passed upon Norman Lockyer—"that he was the editor of *Nature* and considered himself the author of it." Of Robertson Smith it may well be said that he was the editor of the "*Encyclopædia Britannica*" and was the "*Encyclopædia Britannica*." If I may judge from his knowledge of and attitude towards the one subject of which I knew anything more than superficially, his opinions were wonderfully sane. It is true that he got into trouble over the article "*Vaccination*." I do not think he ever quite forgave himself for allotting that article to a man of irregular views. But the fault was scarce his. Creighton, who wrote it, had held a distinguished position in the Edinburgh Medical School, and was a friend of the old days. How far he had in