

'Tis true, I don't read fairy tales  
 With quite the zest of yore ;  
 But then, I write them with a zest  
 I never felt before.  
 Of course, I'm very old ; but then,  
 If I wish to play, you see,  
 There is up here upon the heights  
 Another little me.  
 He's ten years old and he's a boy—  
 A mischievous young elf ;  
 But I like him every bit as well  
 As I used to like myself.  
 You needn't send that little girl,  
 Whose heart was full of joy,  
 Back to me now ; I'd rather keep,  
 Instead of her, my boy.  
 Don't fear to climb, dear children,  
 So slowly day by day,  
 Out of the happy valley  
 Up to the heights away.  
 I know it's lovely to be young.  
 Sheltered from heat and cold ;  
 But let me whisper in your ear,  
 "It's nicer to be old."

*Alice W. Rollins, in "St. Nicholas."*

### †Matthew Arnold.†

✻ HE man who ranks among the greatest of men, poet, critic, philosopher and essayist, all in one, has laid down his thrilling pen for ever. Matthew Arnold, possessed a noble and gentle nature. He was always critical toward mankind, yet always in sympathy with them.

Dr. Arnold, of Rugby, has gained world-wide fame, yet his son, the subject of this sketch, shines with no lesser light.

Matthew Arnold, was born at Labham, near Staines, on the 24th of December, 1822. He attended the several schools of Rugby, Winchester, and Balliol. At the latter he had a distinguished career. He took the Newigate prize in 1840, and graduated from Balliol with high honors four years later. Dr. Arnold was made fellow of Oriel, in 1845. He held the position of private secretary to the father of the present Lord Lansdowne. In 1851 he was married to a daughter of Justice Wightman.

A few years after he was made professor of poetry at Oxford. It was in 1854 that his name was first signed to his works. He was appointed assistant commissioner to commissioners for enquiring into foreign educational affairs. As a result of this appointment he wrote educational works on France, Germany and Holland. He also wrote many essays on religious topics.

Within a year the universities of Oxford and Edinburgh conferred on him the honorary degree of L. L. D., and in 1833 Cambridge followed the example of those just mentioned.

Matthew Arnold made two visits to America. His latest work was the production of his observations during his visit in 1886.

This great man, whose life breath has just passed away, was quite distinguished as a poet. A good example of his verse is found in his poem "Switzerland." In this he upholds fortitude, acceptance of the given lot, and the inestimable value of affection.

Although his creed was not acceptable to churchmen, yet they had reverence for him in that he was an earnest "seeker after God." At times he may have seemed hard upon the world in his criticisms, yet his motives were of the noblest and highest, and we must take some of his criticisms as a child reproved by his parents, for they are, most likely, for our own good.

J. R.

### †Calisthenics.†

Major Dearnley at the Wesleyan Ladies' College.

Last night, at the Wesleyan Ladies' College, Major Dearnley's class in calisthenics gave their annual exhibition, and great reason had all concerned to be proud of the result. At a few minutes past 8 some forty or fifty young ladies, clad in black uniform, with pale blue favors, and in the very flush of maidenly beauty, filed into the college hall, singing a stately processional, and, after marching around the room a few times, formed in four columns, and clubs in hand, awaited the