

The alliteration is clever, but it is to the eye and the memory; it is in the pictures and the associations which the lines evoke that the fascination of "Sussex" lies, not in the permutations of "s" and "b" and "c."

There are many other minor traces of his English reading. "Barrack Room Ballads" has echoes of Swinburne at his best, in "Atalanta," that is to say: ("The Masque of Plenty"). "Sea Warfare," his last book (page 45), has a parody, probably an unconscious memory, of the little known contemporary poet, F. W. Bourdillon: the poem called "The American" in the "Seven Seas" is obviously suggested by Emerson's "Brahma": surely a feat of discrimination, since "Brahma" is the only poem Emerson ever wrote—as the little Sunday-school girl also recognized—which is worth memorizing. No, not quite, Kipling has found and used one other tag from Emerson which is effective (vide the lines prefixed to "The Children of the Zodiac").

"The last department" (in "Departmental Ditties") is a vigorous exercise in the style of Fitzgerald and Omar Khayam, a Mahometan student in the story "On the City Wall" (p. 144) quotes Dickens and "Nicholas Nickleby." "Baa Baa Black Sheep" heads a chapter with four of the best lines of Clough—but they are strangely labelled "The City of Dreadful Night," and are ascribed apparently to James Thomson, who is more correctly quoted in "The Light that Failed." One of the best lines of Matthew Arnold's "The unplumbed salt estranging sea" appears in another story—always the best, that is the point, "choice Latin, picked phrase, Tully's every word. No gaudyware, like Gandolf's second line: Tully, my masters! Ulpian serves *his* need!"

But to return from this long digress on Kipling's literary education to the three soldiers. It is not beer, Bible, and flag which inspires the study of officers and privates called "His Private Honour" ("Many Inventions"), nor "The Courtship of Dinah Shadd" ("Life's Handicap"). This story contains, I suppose, the best piece of rhetoric in Kipling—the drunken Irishwoman's curse when Mulvaney takes Dinah