

applied himself diligently to his work and the popularity of his productions amply attest the measure of success he achieved.

The distinguishing characteristics of De Vere's poems are that he always strives to illustrate the supernatural; he never strives for ornate effect; his characters are true to life. In his poems are exhaled the vales of purity. His poetry also exhibits grace and charm of diction coupled with the fact that they are historical in substance, heroic in theme. Besides, its theme is religious always exhibiting a distinctive element of faith and in it is delineated the poet's classic knowledge, his richness of imagination, and his discriminating power as a critic. All that is necessary to verify this statement is a careful perusal of some of his masterpieces, chief among which are the following: *May Carols*, *The Legends of St. Patrick*, *Inisfail*, *Alexander the Great*, *St. Thomas of Canterbury*, *Recollections*, etc.

De Vere was an ardent admirer of Wordsworth. True Wordsworth was not a Catholic, but the themes discussed by him were among the noblest,—God, nature, life, man, our desires and our hopes. Saturated with such lofty themes, and believing in and professing true Catholic principles, is it any wonder that we find Aubrey De Vere ranked as one of the greatest poets of the land.

His poems were principally of an Irish nature, another instance which only serves to heighten our appreciation of him, because it is the bounden duty of each and everyone of us to give to our country after God, the noblest and best that is in us.

This humble Christian man breathed forth his soul to its maker in the year 1902. Though ceasing to play a part on the stage of this mortal life, his name will live after him, for his works, characterized as they are, with such elysian and lofty inspiration must necessarily be perpetual.