

## (IV) Matthew Arnold: "The Study of Poetry"

M. Arnold is essentially a literary critic whose standards and values are all literary. His criticism and poetry are inseparable. His criticism is thus, the by-product of his poetic workshop. When he talks about poetry he talks about his own kind of poetry. He gives a new light in the field of critical view, with moral lesson in contrast to religion.

In "The Study of Poetry" Arnold writes in the beginning of his criticism that — "The future of poetry is high with large intensity and much potentiality to its destiny. He makes a fervent appeal to the cast, creed, dogma minded people, which does not try to touch and dissolve it. According to him, "Our religion has materialised intellect but for poetry the idea is everything; the rest is a world of illusions of divine illusion." The fact is that the strongest part of our religion to-day is its unconcernous poetry. It is the need to trace the stream of English poetry and with the help of this stream to form a river of poetry; provided that if we can conceive a higher degree of thought. But more and more mankind will discover that we have to turn to poetry to interpret life for us, to console us, to sustain us. Again, he makes a clear statement that "Without poetry our science will appear incomplete; and most of what now passes with us for religion and philosophy will be replaced by poetry. As Wordsworth rightly calls about poetry.

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the breadth and finer spirit of all knowledge. We must accustom ourselves to a high standard and to a strict judgement because poetry is of a high order of excellence, in which we conceive everything with high attitude and capable thought. But in the order of thought, in art, the glory, the eternal honour is that classicism shall find no entrance.

It is obviously clear that Arnold's "Study of poetry" - whole as a gospel both just like Pope's "Essay on Criticism" in poetry, as a criticism of life under the conditions fixed for such a criticism by the laws of poetic truth and poetic beauty and the spirit of our race. A poet must count past history of his country with its appropriate language for the development of the nation. The perpetuation of past history by the poem, incline man in restoring its glory and tradition. Above all, for the historian this creation of classic personage is inadmissible for it withdraws the poet from his true and proper life. A poet should be classic and true towards his duties for the creation of poetry in the healthy development of his thoughts. A poet should never dubious because it might be injurious and dangerous for the days to be come and moreover, coming generation.

Moreover, Arnold inclination towards good poetry is much high and much more influenced by Milton, W. Wordsworth, Aristotle, Homer and other others. In "the study of poetry" he sets

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many & beautiful examples by the poetry of others which shows the cleverness of the poet. And he quotes the single line of Chaucer's verse — "O master of soudeleyn virginitee" — this line shows the charm and a virtue of manner and movement. According to him, Wordsworth has modernised in his strain of poetry in respect of Chaucer. The substance of Chaucer's poetry, his view of things and his ~~critic~~ criticism of life, has largeness, freedom, ~~shrewd~~ shrewdness, benignity; but it has not this high seriousness. Homer's criticism of life has it, and Dante, Shakespeare too. On the other hand he has poetic truth of substance, though he has not high poetic seriousness, and corresponding to his truth of substance and he has an exquisite taste of style and manner.

In brief, Arnold has tried his best to provide an appropriate method and the estimate are designed to lead a good poetry. A collection like the present method and technique of poetry with its succession with celebrated names offered a good opportunity to the man of the world of poetry as well as the generation for resolutely endeavouring to make our estimate of poetry real. He has sought to point out a method which will help us in making them so, and to exhibit it in use so far as to put any one who likes in a way of applying it for himself because they get their whole value — the benefit of being able clearly to feel and deeply to enjoy the best, the truly classic, in poetry of all spheres for imparting its

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Supreme importance. Again, he is making an appeal to its reader that starting a new era in which we are to see multitudes of a common sort of readers and masses of a common sort of literature. According to him — such readers doubt ~~not~~ and could not relish anything better than such literature and that to provide it becoming a vast and profitable industry in poetry.

At the last of his discussion Arnold talking about literature which influenced more in the generating of moral poetry with the help of literature. A literature must be good entirely because literature is the medium for oneself standard of living and all its habitual character and disposition. The language of a poetry is the medium for the development of literature and reaching everywhere. It is the literature of the world's deliberate and conscious choice, but by something far deeper — by the instinct of self preservation in humanity.

Finally, after scrutinizing all aspects of poetry, we come to the conclusion that Arnold is much rich in its clarification and fueling all spheres of human life. It is that creating a special type of beauty and charm in his poetry. During his discussion Arnold withdraws kind a mention of all the critics of his time in generating a good kind of poetry.

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