CONCLUSION
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He, indeed, was the first to draw our attention to fallacies of personal and historical estimate and bring in disinterestedness to preserve the purity of criticism. By whatever standards he may be judged, Arnold still remains, truly speaking, an eminent critic and a man of letters. His contribution to social criticism was as immense and important. As a prophet of the modern age, he stands unchallenged. Unlike, many of his contemporaries, Arnold not only perceived clearly the problems and dangers that upset his society but wholeheartedly and courageously worked towards "viable compromises between the past and the future."

An analysis of Arnold's criticism of the English Romantics reveals that he had the intuition to understand the value of their poetry and also their limitations. Arnold excels in generalisations rather than in his upholding single author or single poem. Though he seemed to have failed to give a wholesome view, or a real estimate of each writer, his genuine efforts to speak out, in order that human nature may carry out its obligation to 'come to its best', underlie all his critical writings. He might have missed the mystical
or spiritual note in Wordsworth's poetry. He might have lacked sympathy with the note of idealism in Shelley's poetry or the organicism of Keats' early poetry. But his intuition helped him to highlight their true worth.

Nevertheless, Arnold's great service to the English Romantics cannot be forgotten. With his limited and sometimes inadequate understanding of these poets, he went a long way to popularize poets like Wordsworth and Byron by pointing out their true significance their relevance to his contemporaries especially when the English taste turned against them. "It was Arnold, as Leon Gottfried opines," who saw and insisted on pointing out that there was something deeper and stronger in Keats than the aesthete or the perpetuators, of Keats legend could see.

He paved the way for modern criticism and its developments by showing us the distinction between scholarship and criticism, the need for responding to the 'style' of poetry and above all the role of poetry in humanizing man.