

**THE WORLD'S
WORKERS. DR.
ARNOLD OF RUGBY**

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The World's Workers. Dr. Arnold of Rugby by Rose E. Selfe

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ROSE E. SELFE

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WORKERS. DR.
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DR. ARNOLD.

From a Photograph published by Mr. Whitton, Rugby.

○
THE WORLD'S WORKERS.
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○
" Dr. Arnold of Rugby. "

BY

ROSE E. SELFE.

" This man's entire of heart and soul, discharged
Its love or hate, each unalloyed by each,
On objects worthy either."—ROBERT BROWNING.

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1889.

To the Memory
OF
ARTHUR PENRHYN STANLEY,

AUTHOR OF

"THE LIFE OF DR. ARNOLD,"

AND TO

THOMAS HUGHES,

AUTHOR OF

"TOM BROWN'S SCHOOL-DAYS,"

THIS BRIEF SKETCH OF THEIR MASTER

IS DEDICATED

BY THE WRITER,

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DR. ARNOLD OF RUGBY.



CHAPTER I.

CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH.

“And through thee I believe
In the noble and great who are gone.”

RUGBY CHAPEL.

IN a series of biographies which treats of the “World’s Workers,” it may for a moment excite some surprise that Dr. Arnold of Rugby should have been chosen as a subject. The life of a great explorer like David Livingstone, or an heroic soldier like General Gordon, would naturally find a place in such a series; their work was that of action, and the value of their self-sacrificing labour for the world’s good can be seen at a glance. But work is of different kinds, and it will be the writer’s effort to show in the pages of this little book that Dr. Arnold belongs, in truth, to the foremost rank of those of whom the present series treats. *Work while it is called to-day!* This message seems to come to us like a trumpet call as we study the records of the strenuous earnest years of Dr. Arnold’s earthly career. A favourite saying with him (quoted from a great

writer), "In this world God only and the angels may be spectators," gives, as it were, the key-note of his life.

The incidents of that life were, no doubt, wanting in outside interest, the field of his work was a great public school ; but on that field it was given to him in large measure to do what, before his election to the Head Mastership of Rugby, it was predicted of him that he would do, *i.e.*, to "change the face of education all through the public schools of England." Surely such a work constitutes a claim upon our interest and admiration. What work can be nobler, more enduring, more important than this, to feed life at its springs, to inspire lofty aims, to awaken to earnest purpose, to train and develop intellectually, morally, and spiritually, the young hearts and minds of those who are to be the men of the future, and on whom so much of England's strength and wisdom and prosperity must depend? Dr. Arnold was not only a great schoolmaster, it is true,—he was an historian, a reformer in many departments of Church and State ; where superstition and bigotry were to be denounced, where social and moral abuses were to be made public and remedied, his voice was never silent. "I must write, or die ;" this vehement saying of his is characteristic of his intense eagerness and earnestness ; but though his interest in public affairs was far too great to be passed over in silence, yet the work he did for education is the principal