

Shelley his sense of awe was aroused. The boy Browning who is the speaker of the poem with the usual curiosity of the boy asks a series of questions regarding the encounter between the stranger and Shelley. He also expresses his wonder at the presence of a stranger at present as well his presence in the past. The speaker without waiting for a reply from the stranger for his question started to immerse himself in the memory of the encounter that the stranger had with Shelley.

In a trance he gradually walks away from the stranger that the speaker met. The last two stanzas describe his encounter with a feather of an eagle near the moor that he passes by. Near the moor he sees heather and plucks a handful of it. The moment he picks up the fallen feather of the eagle brings in him a multitude of thoughts within him, probably he is reminded of Shelley. The feather that lies in the field represents the poetry that is left by Shelley, the eagle that is no more found in the moor represents P. B. Shelley whose physical presence is not to be found in this transient world. The poem is highly suggestive of the immortal nature of art and the mortality of men.

Memorabilia

— Robert Browning

Like Tennyson, Browning is regarded as one of the renowned poets of the Victorian Age. Even though he has rendered many poems to his credit. Of all his works, 'The Ring and the Book', a novel in verse form has gained him fame as a prominent figure in the history of English poetry. He is considered as a master of dramatic monologue and psychological portraiture.

Unlike his other poems 'Memorabilia' a poem written under the influence of the Romantic poets. While studying closely at the theme and style of the poem it sounds much like a poem of the Romantic age. These prove that Browning has written under the spell of the Romantics. The rhyme scheme of the poem ABAB with four four line stanza used in this poem is in fact the lyrical style used frequently in the poems of William Wordsworth. The lyrical style of the poem gives this poem a Wordsworthian outlook. Likewise the theme of the poem has an inference to Shelley who is one among the eminent poets of the Romantic Age.

This poem comprises four stanzas. In the first two stanzas the poet speaks out his encounter with a stranger. During their conversation the speaker comes to know that the stranger had been a friend of Shelley, whom he admires. The moment when the speaker comes to know that the stranger has casually met