

THE NATION
16 NOVEMBER 1899

**REVIEW OF *JEPHTHAH and OTHER
MYSTERIES, LYRICAL and DRAMATIC***

Mr. Aleister Crowley, who used to write as "A Gentleman of the University of Cambridge," now published 'Jephthah and Other Mysteries, Lyrical and Dramatic' (London: Keagan Paul), and dedicates them to Swinburne. The hero of his 'Mysteries is a young poet, adrift in the streets of London, who, in answer to the question what he writes about, says naively: "I write about all the horrible things I see, and try to find beauty in them or to make beauty" (p. 105), and this seems to give a key to Mr. Crowley's method, although apparently he does not try very hard. The surprise is that there should be in the same volume some tender and thoroughly poetic things, such as "In the Woods with Shelley" (p. 211).