

## SLUGS ON STRAWBERRIES

"Self-abuse is no recommendation." Possibly, but the abuse of journalists is. For this reason I reprint only adverse criticisms, not specifying the paper whence they are drawn: the breed of slug would interest only the expert: and I do not write for him.

"Mannerism and affectations predominate."

"Leaves no very strong impression."

"Drivel."

"A most unsatisfactory performance."

"The book is not one that can be recommended to the young."

"A vein of scepticism and licentiousness."

"Heaven forbid."

"Absurdity."

"Cryptic type."

"Tends to turgidity."

"A coming poet."

"You have to pause, and corrugate the brow."

"There is no need to compare the writer with any other; but if we had to elect (? select) we should declare for Milton."

"The roar of an idol-breaker who is in danger of breaking his own head."

"Not altogether unworthy of Mr Swinburne's earlier muse."

"Most offensive remarks."

"Wordy, never deep or simple."

"Excessively smart and clever."

"Sins against good taste."

"A young man."

"A riot of words without much thought at the back of them."

"A bad lapse of judgment."

"A good deal of bombast."

"More sensual than sensuous."

"We do not like 'dawny' and 'frondage.'"

"Full of large patriotic ideas."

"Confused and clamorous."

"Rampantly melodramatic."