

詩のことばと散文のことば 韻文の存在理由を探る

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「経験するテキスト ポウプの韻文表現についての一考察」

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- I. イントロダクション
- II. 経験するテキスト
 - (i) 『批評論』
 - (ii) 『ダンシアッド』
 - (iii) 『ウィンザー・フォレスト』
- III. ロックの影響
- IV. 散文との比較
- V. 結論

- ① This I might have done in prose; but I chose verse, and even rhyme, for two reasons. The one will appear obvious; that principles, maxims, or precepts so written, both strike the reader more strongly at first, and are more easily retained by him afterwards: The other may seem odd, but is true, I found I could express them more *shortly* this way than in prose itself; and nothing is more certain, than that much of the force as well as grace of arguments or instructions, depends on their conciseness. (“The Design” of the *Essay on Man*, underlines mine)
- ② *True Wit is Nature to Advantage drest,
What oft was Thought, but ne'er so well Exprest,
Something, whose Truth convinc'd at Sight we find,
That gives us back the Image of our Mind:*
(*Essay on Criticism*, 297-300)
- ③ *These Equal Syllables alone require,
Tho' oft the Ear the open Vowels tire,
While Expletives their feeble Aid do join,
And ten low Words oft creep in one dull Line,
While they ring round the same unvary'd Chimes,
With sure Returns of still expected Rhymes.
Where-e'er you find the cooling Western Breeze,
In the next Line, it whispers thro' the Trees;
If Chrystal Streams with pleasing Murmurs creep,
The Reader's threaten'd (not in vain) with Sleep.*
(*Essay on Criticism*, 344-53)

- ④ Nor *public* Flame, nor *private*, dares to shine;
 Nor *human* Spark is left, nor Glimpse *divine*!
 Lo! thy dread Empire, CHAOS! is restor'd;
 Light dies before thy uncreating word:
 Thy hand, great Anarch! lets the curtain fall;
 And Universal Darkness buries All.
 (*The Dunciad* IV, 651-6)
- ⑤ More she had spoke, but yawn'd—All Nature nods:
 What Mortal can resist the Yawn of Gods?
 (*The Dunciad* IV, 605-6)
- ⑥ In vain, in vain,—the all-composing Hour
 Resistless falls: The Muse obeys the Pow'r.
 (*The Dunciad* IV, 627-8)
- ⑦ Here waving Groves a checquer'd Scene display,
 And part admit and part exclude the Day;
 As some coy Nymph her Lover's warm Address
 Nor quite indulges, nor can quite repress.
 (*Windsor-Forest*, 17-20)
- ⑧ ..for obtaining a general Peace, and securing the Tranquillity of *Europe* by a Balance of Power, he of his own proper Motion, of his own free Will, and without any Constraint, renounced for himself, for his Heirs and Successors for ever and ever, all Pretensions, Rights and Titles, which he, or any of his Descendents, have at present, or may have at any time to come whatsoever, to the Succession of our Crown:... (“Letters Patent by the King” inserted in the Treaty of Utrecht, underlines mine)
- ⑧ (参考)
- (1) *The Method Your Majesty hath entered into for settling the Balance of Power in Europe, the assuring of the Protestant Succession, as by Law Established, in the House of Hanover, and endeavouring to procure for Your Allies all just and reasonable Satisfaction,...*
 (Abel Boyer, *The History of the Reign of Queen Anne, Digested into Annals* 158, underlines mine)
- (2) ...whereas one of the chief Intentions of the Treaties of Peace now depending between the Crowns of *Spain, France, and England*, is the Preservation of the Balance of Power in *Europe*,...
 (David Jones, *The Compleat History of Europe* 355, underlines mine)
- (3) *Nothing can be more evident, than that if the French King continues Master of the Spanish Monarchy, the Ballance of Power in Europe is utterly destory'd.*
 (John Oldmixon, *The Secret History of the White-Staff* 20, underlines mine)

- ⑨ At length great ANNA said—Let Discord cease!
She said, the World obey'd, and all was Peace!
(*Windsor-Forest*, 327-8)
- ⑩ For *Wit* and *Judgment* often are at strife,
Tho' meant each other's Aid, like *Man* and *Wife*.
(*Essay on Criticism*, 82-3)
- ⑪ *First*, Sometimes the *naming the Subject*, wherein that simple Idea is to be found, will make its name be understood by those, who are acquainted with that Subject, and know it by that name. So to make a Country-man understand what *Feuilmorte* Colour signifies, it may suffice to tell him, 'tis the Colour of wither'd Leaves falling in *Autumn*. *Secondly*, But the only sure way of making known the signification of the name of any simple Idea, is by presenting to his Senses that Subject, which may produce it in his Mind, and make him actually have the Idea, that Word stands for. (*Essay Concerning Human Understanding* III, xi, 14, underlines mine)
- ⑫ To say truth I am weary of translating; I am weary of poetry itself; I am weary of prose (thanks to my notes). (To John Caryll, 11th, Oct. 1715.)
- ⑬ Thy mighty Scholiast, whose unweary'd pains
Made Horace dull, and humbled Milton's strains.
Turn what they will to Verse, their toil is vain,
Critics like me shall make it Prose again.
(*The Dunciad* IV, 211-4)
- ⑭ For thee explain a thing till all men doubt it,
And write about it, Goddess, and about it:
(*The Dunciad*, IV 251-2)

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