

Imagination is a unifying and exemplastic power "unifying the faculties of the soul, identifies the mind with nature (matter) and matter(nature) with mind.

His View of Art *

- AT Coleridge - Neo-classical view art as imitation
but Coleridge see it as product of imagination, a much self revelation.
Art represents nature as thought and thought as nature.
It reveals 'the natura naturans' (the very spirit of nature)
Impact of nature on the soul and Vice-versa = art.
- Union of deep feeling with profound thought. Art is the union of the soul with the external world or nature [MIB]. Art therefore.

* Art therefore and the poetic art in particular is "the balance or reconciliation of opposite or discordant qualities: of someness with difference, of general with the concrete, the idea with the image, the individual with the representative, the sense of novelty and of freshness, with old and familiar objects....etc.

His definition of a Poem

Poetry is an activity of the imagination, idealising the real and realising the ideal -

AT Coleridge, the difference between the two must lie in their different use of words in consequence of their different objects.

- The immediate object of a work of science is truth and of poetry is pleasure. An ideal state would be one in which pleasure is truth and truth is pleasure. And as pleasure is the object of poetry, only metre conduces to it, poetry prefers ^{it to} the language of prose.
- Metre should suit the language and content of the poem & not be a mere super-addition for ornament's sake, or to facilitate memory.
- Why a Novel or other work of prose which also has pleasure for its immediate object, if put in metrical form cannot be called poetry?

- (1) The metrical form would not be appropriate to its language & contents
 (2) Owing to its length all its parts, not requiring an equal attention
 would not equally conduce to total pleasure.
 "a poem of any length neither can be nor ought to be, all poetry."

On Poetic Diction

→ Disputed Wordsworth's assertion that 'a selection of the real language of men' or 'the very language of men' constituted the language of poetry. and that there was no essential difference betⁿ the language of prose and that of poetry.

Coleridge replies :-

- ① Every main language has first its individualities.
- ② Secondly the common properties of the class to which he belongs
- ③ words and phrases of universal use.

Each he replies has to be purged of its uncommon or accidental features before it can become the ordinary language of men. Omit the peculiarities of each. And the resultant language alone has a universal appeal and is therefore the language of poetry.

Difference betⁿ prose language & poetry language

Though the words prose and poetry use are the same, their arrangement in each is different. "Are there not passages, which would suit the one and not the other".

On Poetic Genius

→ Genius is like imagination,
 creative and vibrant

vs

→ Talent like fancy
 is merely combinatory and
 acquired

e.g. Shakespeare's Venus & Adonis,
 Rape of Lucrece.

Genius manifests itself in four ways :-

- ① Sense of Musical delight : perfect sweetness of the verifications
 its adaptation to the subject
 music according to the thought