

In Imitation of Lucretius-Bevil Higgons, 1670 to 1735

Post by "Charles" of January 16, 2021 at 4:28 AM

This reminds me of a poem I came across just the other night.
<http://knarf.english.upenn.edu/Darwin/temple0.html>

It's titled: "The Temple of Nature: Or, The Origin of Society: A Poem, with Philosophical Notes" by Erasmus Darwin (grandfather of *that* Darwin).

It opens up with a few lines from Vergil's Aenid.

Unde hominum pecudumque genus, vitæque volantum,

Et quæ marmoreo fert monstra sub æquore pontus?

Igneus est illis vigor, & cælestis origo.

Its primarily Darwin's own thoughts and ideas, presented as his version or creative equivalent of On the Nature of Things, given its wide scope and invocations of Venus at times and many references to Lucretius. Have yet to read the full thing, but perhaps this can serve as Higgon's foil.