

"Pleasure" and the opening line of Lucretius

Post by "Joshua" of January 11, 2023 at 11:43 AM

"DELIGHT of Humane kind, and Gods above,
Parent of Rome; Propitious Queen of Love,
Whose vital pow'r, Air, Earth, and Sea supplies,
And breeds what e'r is born beneath the rowling Skies:
For every kind, by thy prolifique might,
Springs, and beholds the Regions of the light."

John Dryden translation in heroic couplets; rhyming couplets in iambic pentameter. Dryden is already taking liberties with the meter in the second line, but he nails the first line and that sets the tone.