

Verse of Poetry between Voltaire and La Mettrie - On La Mettrie's Fatal Indigestion

Post by "Charles" of May 1, 2020 at 1:24 PM

Recorded by Jean-Charles Tibeaux in "Letters on Frederick II, King of Prussia"

Section from Tibeaux's: "On Algarotti, La Mettrie, d' Arget, abbe Prades, abbe Bastiani, the Marquis of Lucceshtini and others.

"Verses from Voltaire to La Mettrie, when he was sick"

(Voltaire)

I am far from uneasy

If our joyous La Mettrie

Sometimes loses that good health

Which makes his face so glowing

A small dose of Gluttony

With a large dose of pleasure,

Defying the Faculty:

Sweetly take up all his time.

He behaves the way he writes;

When nature he indulges;

For him pleasure always heals

All the ills which pleasure brings.

(La Mettrie's Response)

As for me, I'm quite uneasy,

<https://www.epicureanfriends.com/thread/1541-verse-of-poetry-between-voltaire-and-la-mettrie-on-la-mettrie-s-fatal-indigestio/>

*When the most eminent writer,
In his eleventh lustrum,
Enjoys a weak state of health;
I fear that with his glad days
The brilliant torch might go out:
Muses, graces, charities,
With him ends your reign as well!
But, truly, why should I dread
The death of an immortal;
He for whom, in his deep pains,
The most famous king on Earth
Will set up at Sans-souci
A shrine eternal as he?*