

# John Adams and the "Ineffable Nonsense of Epicurus"

Post by "Joshua" of May 29, 2021 at 11:08 PM

<https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Adams/99-03-02-1057>

Quote

I have read Seven Volumes of De la Harpe in course, and the last Seven I have run through and searched but cannot find what I chiefly wanted, His Philosophy of the 18 Century from the Beginning to the End—that revival of the ineffable Nonsense of Epicurus as related by Lucretius not as explained by himself in his Letter in Diogenes Laertius.

---

Post by "Cassius" of May 30, 2021 at 1:06 AM

Good find, not only to show the obtuseness of Adams, but -- Who is De la Harpe?

---

Post by "Don" of May 30, 2021 at 11:04 AM

Looking for info and found this:

[https://www.persee.fr/doc/dhs\\_0070-6760\\_2003\\_num\\_35\\_1\\_2587](https://www.persee.fr/doc/dhs_0070-6760_2003_num_35_1_2587)

And I believe Adams is referencing Jean-François de La Harpe:  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jean-Fran...rpe?wprov=sfla1>