

While verse is, of course, often used as a vehicle of purely prosaic thought, it ought not to be so used. The offices of prose and verse are distinct, and their distinction is not fortuitous nor arbitrary, but vital. Thus it is that in all true poetry that union of substance and form, of which Schiller speaks, is so organic and complete that it impresses with a conviction of its absolute inevitability.

Meter, like music, makes in itself a profound appeal to the feelings. It is a powerful aid in emotionalisation of thought. It is no more an accessory or conventional ornament of poetry but a vital product of the poetic spirit.

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