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Lettre de Vernon Lee à Mary Robinson - 15 décembre 1925

Auteurs : Lee, Vernon (Violet Paget)

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Dossier génétique

Ce document n'a pas de relation indiquée avec un autre document du projet.□

Citer cette page

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Copier

Texte & Analyse

Analyse Critique favorable de la biographie de Racine par Mary Duclaux

Transcription Dec. 15 XXV R6□

Dearest Mary. I hav'nt yet finished your *Racine*, but I want to tell you my indignation and loathing for the brute = fool reviewer in the *Statesman*. It's merely a display of his having read a book about Racine which you don't happen to mention ; on a par with the way reviewers correct one's lapsus calami and (as so often !) one's printer's errors. Your book, my dear, is a beautiful, interesting, *most persuasive* (I mean that you make one take *your* view) a most delightful one. And I who say it am very ill-disposed to the Grand Siècle and all its works (except Molière of course! [and] La Fontaine, who owe nothing to it ; as you know Louis XIV is ~~my~~ a in [without] Patterns to me -- ~~un~~ and I cannot *see* -- or hear, in Racine anything beyond a (forgive the x sacrilegious words!) local celebrity suited exclusively for home-consumption (your translations often seem ever so much more interesting than the original French verse ! You have given colour, gesture, individuality -- ~~but~~ *is that because I am English* ?) What I want to say is that your work is wonderfully *delightful* -- I can find no other word. I was ill-disposed towards it owing to ~~my~~ ~~av~~ Racine boring me. And I have really had difficulties in letting the book go, refraining from it at undue moments : I have read it in ~~the~~ at meals -- the greatest of compliments, especially while having my solitary tea on the landing which is my winter sittingroom (it sounds cheerless but *is* delightful, warmed by the invisible calorifère and by the sun (when there *is* sun) through a big south window & with a view of Fiesole over cypresses through the (double!) window to the north), and of an evening, by the wood fire in my study, I have found myself (tell it not in [Path] !) laying down *Le Côté de Guermantes* to read you. By the way this course of (borrowed from Berenson) Proust may account for my involuted style....

Dear Mary, your book is delightful ! And I believe every word of it.

~~And~~ And it is varied & ~~alive~~ : the terrible chapters on the Poisoning scare after the sweetness of Port Royal. ^Your Racine is perfectly intelligible.^ The way you have brought in your *Comparses* Madame, Mme de Sévigné, St Cyr etc etc -- Boileau -- all alive.

In short I am very grateful for the pleasure your book is giving me; grateful also for the way you have carried out that tiresome money commission. Grateful for your affection and *excellence* dearest Mary. Indeed only one subject for gratitude is still lacking me, viz : that you should come and stay with me under this little roof not shown in this photograph and sit on this bench under the cypresses occupied by the photographer Grizel Bonde. My love and best wishes to Mabel.

Yours Vernon

[caption] Cypresses at end of my grasswalk & towered Villa of Maiano in the distance ; these cypresses are about 200 metres from my house.

Notescontient 3 photos-cartolinas

Contributeur(s)

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- Walter, Richard (édition numérique)

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Informations éditoriales

Destinataire Robinson, Mary

Persons cited

- Berenson, Bernard
- Boileau, Nicolas
- Bonde, Grizel
- de La Fontaine, Jean
- Louis XIV
- Mme de Sévigné
- Price, Mabel
- Proust, Marcel
- Racine, Jean

Contexte géographique

- Fiesole
- Villa Il Palmerino

Couverture Florence, Italie

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see 15. ~~XXX~~

R6

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is a beautiful, interesting,
most persuasive (I mean
that you make one take
your view) a most delightful

One. And I who say it am very
ill disposed to the French
style & at the same time I must
admit of the Le Fontaine, who
does nothing but to copy what
Louis XIV. is ~~not~~ a singular
pattern to the French
I cannot see to make it,
in France anything beyond a
foreigner to the Parisian world!
Local celebrity is not
relatively to Rome - Constantinople
(our translation after some
time for a much more
interesting than the original
French style! I have been
often, often, individuality - it
is that because I am superior to
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2 / delightful — I can find no
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Madame, Mme de Sérigny, St. Yves
etc etc — Bérurier — allusions



17
photograph
taken on the
bench under the
cypresses occupied
by the photographer
Suzel Bonde
her love & best
wishes to mabel
doris Vernon

4/17/1911
Exposition
dearest Mary.
Indeed only one
subject for
gratitude
still lacking,
viz: that you
should come
to class with
me, under the
blessed of not
shown in this



18
 Cypress
 at end of my
 grass walk
 toward village
 Mairgo in the
 distance. There
 cypresses are about
 200 metres from
 my house.



37 In short I am
very grateful
for the pleasure
your work is
giving me.

Grateful
also for the
way you have
carried out
that tire some
money commission.
Grateful for

Cardolita Postale