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POETICA

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82

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POETICA

An International Journal of Linguistic-Literary Studies

82

Special Issue

Romantic Connections

Edited by

Alex Watson Nahoko Miyamoto Alvey

2014

Yushodo Co., Ltd. Tokyo

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Introduction

This issue of *Poetica* presents some of the highlights from "Romantic Connections": a three-day supernumerary conference of the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism (*NASSR*) that took place at the University of Tokyo in June 2014. The purpose of this event was not only to develop scholarly links between Japan and the rest of the world, but also to provide a forum in which to discuss the connections between European Romanticism and foreign peoples, cultures, and literatures: both in terms of how the Romantics responded to faraway places; and the less-frequently-posed question of how Romanticism itself has come to be understood and appropriated in non-Western contexts.

One of the major virtues of this theme is that it enables us to explore the issue of Romantic-period intercultural encounter in a manner that acknowledges that not all meetings between different cultures can be encompassed within the binary paradigm of dominant Western Self and dominated Eastern Other utilized by Edward Said in his foundational *Orientalism* (1978). Rather, intercultural encounter necessarily takes place in a multi-polar world of shifting power relationships between polyvalent cultures, and the assorted images cultures construct of one another typically display a complex blend of veracity and embellishment, openness and antipathy, insight and incomprehension. At the same time, considering "connection" also foregrounds the links between these new forms of global power and new technologies, such as electricity and the telegram, and new models of social interaction, including the crowd and Adam Smith's formulation of sympathy. A further, vital advantage of the topic is that it helps us to develop a less Eurocentric view of Romanticism, and to acknowledge its important afterlife in South-East Asia in particular.

The first section of this issue, entitled "Connections in Romanticism," features articles that utilize the concept of "connection" as a means of uncovering overlooked but significant exchanges in Romantic-period culture. In "Electrical Science and Della Cruscan Poetics in the 1790s," Mary Fairclough traces a hidden relationship between electrical science and political thinking in the revolutionary decade. Fairclough demonstrates how figures as different as the anti-revolutionary polemicist Edmund Burke and the Della Cruscan poets Robert Merry and Mary Robinson each utilized electricity as a political metaphor. While Burke saw electricity's hazardousness and unpredictability as a mirror of the unprecedented dangers of revolutionary ideology, Merry linked electricity's intensity and fluidity to radical fellow feeling. Questions of political and

personal communication are also raised by Richard Adelman in "Keats and the Sociability of Idle Contemplation." Adelman uncovers a subtle but significant link between the poets William Cowper, Percy Bysshe Shelley and John Keats, arguing that each explored disinterested contemplation as a direct challenge to political economy's description of human life, particularly its view of the human being as primarily a worker. Adelman thereby proposes a rereading of Keats' famous concept of "negative capability" that exposes its latent radical politics. More pecuniary forms of connection are explored in Matthew Sangster's "British Institutions, Literary Production and National Glory in the Romantic Period," which examines two attempts to create an institution for literature to rival the Royal Academy: the Royal Literary Fund and the Royal Society of Literature. Although these institutions assisted such famous names as Samuel Taylor Coleridge and François-René de Chateaubriand, their inability to assume a leading national role represents a failure of British literary Romanticism to link itself to an institutional home.

The second part, "Connections in Romantic Translation," considers both how Romantic poets sought to connect with foreign cultures via the act of translation, and how later writers and artists have reconstructed Romanticism through translation. In "The Artistry of Connection: Shelleyan Ottava Rima in 'Hymn to Mercury' and 'The Witch of Atlas," Nahoko Miyamoto Alvey identifies Percy Bysshe Shelley's employment of the Italian verse form of ottava rima as an example of cultural hybridization. According to Alvey, this form allows Shelley to forge a cosmopolitan, intercultural "Anglo-Italian" identity. Shelley resists the temptations of literary colonialism, instead recognizing and representing what is uniquely other in his foreign sources. The presence of the distinctively foreign in Shelley's writing is also detected by Yorimichi Kasahara in "P. B. Shelley, terza rima, and Italy: Con-fusion of Persons, Cases and Poetic Forms," Kasahara shows how Shelley's The Masque of Anarchy (1819), "Ode to the West Wind" (1819) and The Triumph of Life (1822) reveal a movement away from the closure permitted by the final couplet of the traditional English sonnet, towards a process more common in Italian terza rima, in which speaker is dissolved into addressee. Otherness of a different order is investigated in Tomoko Nakagawa's "Naming the Unnameable: Monstrosity and Personification in the First Japanese Translation of Frankenstein and its Illustrations," Nakagawa investigates the different names deployed for the being in Frankenstein (1818), with specific reference to the first Japanese translation of the novel (1889-90) and its illustrations by the painter and printmaker Kiyochika Kobayashi. Through their choice of appellation, Anglophone critics and readers, as well as foreign

translators and illustrations, are implicated in an act of translation, betraying (often unwittingly) the degree of humanity to which they attribute this character. Lastly, in "British Romanticism in Classical Chinese: The Pastoral in Natsume Sōseki's *Kanshi*," Matthew Mewhinney shows how the celebrated Meiji-era novelist, poet and scholar Sōseki fused Romanticism with ancient Chinese and Japanese culture in his composition of traditional Japanese poetic forms called *kanshi*. In the syntheses and collisions between these different cultural influences, Sōseki stages an ambivalent engagement with Japanese modernity.

Placing these articles alongside one another reveals a few—perhaps surprising—connections: both Fairclough and Sangster, for instance, highlight the importance of the drinking-song; and Shelley, in particular, emerges as a central linking figure, who engaged in many different dialogues within distinctive discourses. But what emerges most strongly is a more open image of Romanticism: as a phenomenon forged and constantly renewed by interpersonal, intertextual and international exchange. It is through their connections with other minds, innovations and cultures that the writers and artists considered in this collection discover their individuality. Their success in reconciling these apparent oppositions provides one of many examples of how our current age of digital communication and globalization continues to be enriched by its connections with Romanticism.

Alex Watson

YORIMICHI KASAHARA

P. B. Shelley, *terza rima*, and Italy: Con-fusion of Voices, Persons, and Poetic Forms

The present paper consists of two parts: the former part that deals with narrative characteristics of "The Triumph of Life" and "The Mask of Anarchy" seen as triumphal pageants, will be followed by the second part in which the same narrative characteristics manifested in "Ode to the West Wind" will be considered in metrical and vocative terms. In so doing, I hope to show that the above mentioned poems, "Ode to the West Wind" in particular, are marked with an inclination away from coupletized closure of the English sonnet, towards *terza-rimian* process in which the first-person narrator is fused with the second-person addressee. (Hence, in this paper, the style of the original oral presentation is reserved so that the readers may feel, as they read on, as if they were being orally addressed by the first-person paper reader / author.)

* * *

Figure 1 shows what Shelley wrote on pages 52-verso and 53-recto of the folio sheets now kept at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, and photographically reproduced by Donald Reiman in 1986. It is the final part of "The Triumph of Life," considered to have been written during the months of May and June in 1822, and left unfinished when Hunt's arrival at Livorno took Shelley away from the MS on 1 July 1822, a week before his untimely death (Reiman, *A Critical Study* 250).

And sent fell, a I have and annua. Hopy the for in.

Fig. 1. Bodleian MS. Shelley adds. c. 4, f. 52v, f. 53v. From Peter Bell the Third: A Facsimile of the Press-copy Transcript; and, The Triumph of Life: A Facsimile of Shelley's Holograph Draft (New York: Garland, 1986) 268.

Reiman's transcript roughly goes as follows:

some

And most grew weary of the ghastly dance And sank fell as I have fallen by the

way side

Alas I kiss you [?]

Those soonest, from whose limbs the from whose forms most shadows

past

strength

And least of beauty & beauty did abide.-

Then,

And what is Life I cried . . . the cripple cast

His

An eye upon the distant - car of beams

car which now had rolled

Onward, as if that look must be the last

And answered Happy those for whom the fold (Reiman, Holograph Draft 269-71) Of

Mary Shelley, based on this MS, edited her Posthumous Poems and published it in 1824, upon which, says Reiman, all editions before 1960 ultimately depended (Reiman, A Critical Study 119). The following is Mary Shelley's version:

And some grew weary of the ghastly dance,

"And fell, as I have fallen, by the way side: — Those soonest, from whose forms most shadows past, And least of strength and beauty did abide.

"Then, what is life? I cried."— (95)

The major or substantial difference, as far as "The Triumph of Life" is concerned, is that she did not include the final five lines into the canon, that part in which the cripple (crossed out in Reiman's transcript) casting his eye upon the car and answers, "Happy those, etc., etc." The minor or accidental difference, on which

at various places, and gave inter-stanzaic spaces simply to make the bare text more readable as a terza-rima poem. But one could not make a text readable without interpretation of some sort on the part of the editor, especially as "I'The Triumph of Life'] was left in so unfinished a state, that [Mary Shelley] arranged it in its present form with great difficulty" (Posthumous Poems vii). And it is this

editorial interpretation that I wish to dwell upon now.

According to this method of punctuation, especially the quotation marks, along with the exclusion of the cripple passage, Mary Shelley seems to think, or she seems to have us think, that it is Rousseau who speaks what she shows us to be the final words of the poem: "Then, what is life." This interpretation was succeeded in her 1839 edition, 1847 edition, and by William Michael Rossetti in his 1870 edition. Please see below, for easy comparison of the points of difference in each edition (I am following Reiman's method of abbreviation), with who is "I" that says or cries "Then, what is life?"

 C_I (Mary 1839) and C_I (Mary 1847): I = Rousseau[Lines set without indentions, and with inter-stanzaic spaces] "...abide. / "Then, what is life? I said."—

R_I (Rossetti 1870): I = Rousseau [Lines set with indentions, and with inter-stanzaic spaces] "...abide. / " 'Then, what is life?' I cried."—

Then came the change in interpretation in Rossetti's second edition of 1878. It reads as follows:

 R_2 (Rossetti 1885): I = Poet Narrator [Lines set with indentions, and with no inter-stanzaic spaces for the terza rima, but with spaces for verse-paragraphs] "...abide." /[Space]/ "Then what is life?" I cried.

What is characteristic, in fact revolutionary, about Rossetti's second edition is that he did away with the three-line terza-rima stanza in editing "The Triumph of Life." Instead he made use of verse paragraphs. But more important than this obvious fact in our present context is another small but obvious fact: Rossetti put a closing quotation mark after the word "abide." What this closing quotation mark means is that Rousseau's long narrative closes with the word "abide."

Then comes "What is life?" with "I cried" outside the quotation marks. And this eventually means that it is the narrating poet who speaks "Then, what is life." With this method of punctuation, the outermost framework of narrative has emerged. Sometime between Rossetti's first edition of 1870 and his second edition of 1878, he must have thought that the three-line stanzaic form with spaces in every three lines was not suitable for "The Triumph of Life," and that the poem would better end with the poet narrator appearing and speaking the final sceptical question.

P. B. SHELLEY, TERZA RIMA, AND ITALY

Rossetti found support in George Edward Woodberry in his edition of 1892. His punctuation goes as follows:

W (Woodberry 1892): I = Poet Narrator [Lines set with no indentions, and with inter-stanzaic spaces] "...abide." / "Then, what is life? I cried."-

Although Woodberry's punctuation marks are slightly different from those in Rossetti's second edition, with the closing quotation marks at the end of "abide," what comes after is to be interpreted as spoken by someone different from the person who has spoken those words that come before "abide."

There remain, however, those who wish to let Rousseau have the final say: Harry Buxton Forman's 1877 edition gives the same punctuation as Mary Shelley's edition. This punctuation was followed by Thomas Hutchinson in his 1904 edition, to be succeeded by G. M. Matthews in 1970.

```
F (Forman 1877): I = Rousseau
[Lines set with no indentions, and with inter-stanzaic spaces]
"...abide. / "Then, what is life? I cried."-
Hutchinson (1904) + Matthews (1970): I = Rousseau
'...abide. / 'Then, what is life? I cried.'-
```

C. D. Locock, in his 1911 edition, includes into the canon what was written on the verso side of page 53 of the original manuscript:

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L (Locock 1911): I = Poet Narrator / the cripple = Rousseau
[Lines set with no indentions, and with inter-stanzaic spaces]
"...abide." / "Then, what is Life?" I cried.— The cripple cast // And
answered, "Happy those for whom the gold / Of"
```

With the appearance, or perhaps the introduction of the cripple, presumably Rousseau, the speaker of "Then, what is Life?" cannot be anyone else but the poet narrator.

The point of this long list of various editorial interpretations shown above lies not so much in clarifying the authorial intention as in showing the diversity of editorial intention, or editorial confusion perhaps, confusion on the part of past editors as to the identity of the narrative voices. Why did so ideal and representative readers of the past such as Mary Shelley, Rossetti, Locock, Woodberry, Hutchinson, etc., etc. get confused in the identity of the subject of the speaking voice?

This confusion may perhaps be explained in part by the fact that Rousseau's narrative is so long, that by the time the reader comes to Rousseau's encounter with the Shape all Light and his description of "a new vision," Rousseau has virtually become the first-person narrator, with the outermost narrative framework pushed out of the consciousness of the reader.

What adds to this is the fact that the recurrence of similar events or narratives makes the identity of the speaker further confused, confused at least in the reader's mind. Rousseau, who appears in the dream vision of the poet narrator, recounts the story which is similar to that of the poet narrator. "Whence camest thou and whither goest thou? How did thy course begin, and why?" (296–97)¹ asks the poet narrator to Rousseau, who later in turn asks the Shape all light almost the same question, "Shew whence I came, and where I am, and why" (398). The repetition of similar questions by the person who once was asked of that question has a power of involving readers' consciousness trapped in a curiously convoluted spiral.² In fact, persistent convoluted consciousness concerning the past and future and their problematic relation with the present is the dominant tone of the entire poem. Having considered thus, we are left to wonder if this is a mere confusion, or something related more to the root and nature of Shelley's poetic composition.

This suspicion is made even stronger when we consider that another poem, in which a long narrative at the latter half of the poem poses a question as to the identity of the speaking voice, also depicts an imaginary triumphal pageant.³ The poem in question is "The Mask of Anarchy," but before discussing details of the poem, we might take a look at what Shelley has to say on the sculptural or architectural representation of the triumphal procession in his prose piece "Arch of Titus," which Nora Crook claims in fact "is an address—an epistle—a dramatic oration, even—to Jews by a Jew who is not necessarily in Rome" (47–48).⁴

After detailed descriptions of the reliefs, either real or imaginary as Crook

claims (47), commemorating Emperor Titus's triumphal procession that took place in Rome in AD 71 after he devastated the entire city of Jerusalem in the preceding year, Shelley, or a Jewish orator, looks far beyond the Foro Romano, and says:

Beyond this obscure monument of our destruction is seen the monument of the power of our destroyer's family, now a mountain of ruins. The Flavian Amphitheatre is become a habitation of owls & dragons. The power, of whose possession it was once the type, & of whose departure it is now the emblem, is become a dream & a memory. Rome is no more than Jerusalem. (Crook 59)

Thus concludes Shelley with an epigrammatic sentence. If Rome the destroyer, is the same as Jerusalem the destroyed, in the triumphal pageant, the identity of the subject of the speaking voice may very well be confused. Rousseau in "The Triumph of Life" is no more than the poet narrator. Besides, Rousseau says to the poet narrator before he begins his story, "And what thou wouldst be taught I then may learn / From thee" (307–08). The role of the guide is reversed from the very beginning.

"The Mask of Anarchy" was written in September 1819 at the occasion of Peterloo Massacre that took place in Manchester in the preceding month (White 2:105). The former half of this poem is a description of the visionary, allegorical triumphal pageant that the poet narrator saw as he was stimulated by the "voice [that came] from over the Sea [as he] lay asleep in Italy" (1–2). The latter half of this poem is an extended address to the "Men of England" (147). The identity of the addresser, however, is not clear. The poem does not say who is speaking: it merely says, "These words...arose...as if her [Earth's] heart had cried aloud" (138–45, emphasis added).

This long extended address to the men of England ends not with a direct appeal to action but with words of prophecy to be "[h]eard [by them] again – again – again – #/ Rise like lions after slumber / In unvanquishable number – / Ye are many – they are few." These final five lines (368–72) are the repetition of the first words (151–55) of this long address, in fact the first imperative after the vocative address to "Men of England." And if these words are to be heard again and again and again, then this long address itself will be self-reflexively cyclic. This confusion of narrative voices, unlike the case of "The Triumph of Life," must definitely be the authorial intention. Here is an example of an extended address turned into a convoluted voice of prophecy at the end of a poem.

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* * *

Yet another poem in which the confusion of narrative voices occurs at the end of a poem is "Ode to the West Wind," composed in October 1819 (White 2: 586). The entire poem is an address of the lyric speaker to the west wind, and is made up of five fourteen-line sections (I call them "sonnet sections" in my paper), with each sonnet section consisting of four *terza-rima* stanzas with the addition of a couplet. This couplet is in consonant with the middle line of the preceding *terza-rima* stanza. Thus one sonnet section rhymes as: aba bcb cdc ded ee.

The curious thing about this metrical scheme is that the penultimate lines of the sonnet sections form phonetically a couplet, yet hardly form couplets in meaning, in the narrow sense of the word where concluding summaries are given with sense and metre coinciding at the end.⁵ First three sonnet sections end as addresses to the west wind, ending in the imperative of the verb "hear." These vocative-imperative endings in the form of an address give us an impression that they are far from being closed, firstly because of the unparalleled syntax of the last two lines in which the imperative of a verb "O hear!" is added almost like an appendage, and secondly because of the narrative momentum in which the poet calls out to a being outside of the poem.

Then comes the turning point after the third sonnet section. In the fourth sonnet section, the poet becomes keenly aware of the distance between the west wind, an "[u]ncontrollable" being, and himself, "fall[ing] upon the thorns of life[, and] bleed[ing]." The penultimate lines are descriptive of the poet himself, yet the rhyming words are quite opposite in meaning: "bowed" and "proud," making the couplet not only open, but rather crippled. Yet this pairing of opposing words in the final couplet of the sonnet section itself is indicative of the distance between the west wind and the poet. Thus, these four couplets, far from being closed in meaning, are somewhat de-coupletized in the traditional use of the metre.

The vocative-imperative couplet of the first three sonnet sections naturally presupposes the distinction of the first-person entity from the second-person entity. It is the first-person addresser speaking to the second-person addressee. Again in the fourth sonnet section, the focus is on the difference between the two entities. And comes the fifth sonnet section:

Make me thy lyre, even as the forest is: What if my leaves are falling like its own! The tumult of thy mighty harmonies Will take from both a deep, autumnal tone, Sweet though in sadness. Be thou, Spirit fierce, My spirit! Be thou me, impetuous one!

Drive my dead thoughts over the universe Like withered leaves to quicken a new birth! And, by the incantation of this verse,

Scatter, as from an unextinguished hearth Ashes and sparks, my words among mankind! Be through my lips to unawakened Earth

The trumpet of a prophecy! O Wind, If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind? (57–70)

Here, the distinction between the first-person addresser and the second-person addressee is cancelled, or is on the point of being cancelled, when the poet speaks to the spirit of the west wind, "Be thou me." It is the most direct statement of the first-person addresser to the second-person addressee to be the first-person entity. After this imperative sentence, any address to the second-person entity is confused or overlaid with the attributes of the first-person addresser. The west wind is to "[d]rive my dead thoughts," "[s]catter...my words," "[b]e through my lips...[t]he trumpet of prophecy" (emphasis added).

And then comes one of the most quoted passages in the English Romantic poetry: "O, Wind, / If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?" Since there is no longer, at this moment, a distinction between the first-person addresser and the second-person addressee, this apostrophic vocative to the wind inevitably becomes self-reflexively convolute. And this leads on to the final question, which becomes a self-reflexive rhetorical question. It is only by cancelling the distinction between the first-person and second-person entities and thereby making the address convolutely self-reflexive that Shelley succeeds in closing the couplet and thereby ending the poem, in metre at least.

Table 1. List of WINDs at the end of lines in P. B. Shelley's poems, compiled by the author from *English Poetry*, 2nd ed., with its P. B. Shelley's works based on Hutchinson's 1904 ed.

(1) Works	(2)	1	(3)	(4)	(5)		(6)	12 \ 12 \ 12 \ 12 \ 12 \ 12 \ 12 \ 12
Works	Lines		Rhyming	WIND	Rhyming	100	Not	NB
	1.59		words BEFORE	related phrases	related phrases words	1-3	in	
			wind		AFTER wind		rhyme	
Daemon	200	100	WING		wing			
Daemon	390			gusty wind		_	1	
Alastor	503	-		melancholy wind			1	
Alastor	243 259	1_	-	every wind		ļ	1	
Alastor	309	ļ	-	Spirit of wind	ļ	-	1	
Alastor	397		+	and the wind		<u> </u>	1	
Alastor	410			stream of wind		1	<u>l</u>	
Revolt	1667			wanton wind		+	1	
Revolt	2123	1	blind	like a wind	lined	1		
Revolt	3099	1	behind	like a wind	mind	1		
Revolt	3181	1	benind	weary wind	1 1 1	-		ļ
Revolt	4607	1	o'ertwined	like wind	unbind	1		
Rosalind	816	l	declined	to the wind		-		
Rosalind	854	<u>.</u>	deconed	an altered wind		ļ		
Rosalind	1161	1	confined	muttering wind		₩.	1	
Rosalind	1280	1	commed	moving wind	- II I	 		
Rosalind	1200	_	1-	and the wind Cf.	Rosalind	1		
Rosalind	1318			Cf.	Rosalind	-		unkind
Jullian	275	1	twined	·	Rosalind	-		kind
Julian	297	1	behind	the ooze and wind		-		
Prom. Unb.	327		Denna	climb the wind	1.5.1			
Prom. Unb.	660				behind	1		
Prom. Unb.	683		<u> </u>	wing the wind within the wind			_1	
Prom. Unb.	50			made the wind	mind	1		
Prom. Unb.	147			unwilling wind			_1_	
Prom. Unb.	195			ebbing wind			1	
Prom. Unb.	53	1	behind	uplifting wind			1	
Prom. Unb.	37		beiling	enamoured wind				
Prom. Unb.	98		 	swift as wind			1	
Prom. Unb.	218			an inward wind		-	1	
Prom. Unb.	324			by its own wind			1	
Cenci	41		 	to the wind			1	
Cenci	170		 	frozen wind			1	
Mask	132		 	tameless as wind	grind / behind	ı	1	
Peter	613	I	mind	in the wind	gring / bening	1		
Witch	196	1	confined	and the wind	unbind	1		
Witch	487		Johnne	platforms of the wind	behind	1		
Witch	521			of that wind	humankind	-		
Dedipus	104		 	upon the wind	nomanking	1	1	
Epips.	108	1	disentwined	faint wind	<u>:</u>		1	
Epips.	290	1	mind	by the wind		-		

Adonais Exhortation Sensit. Pl. Arethusa Arethusa Orpheus	(2) Lines 457 22 23 25	1 1	(3) Rhyming words BEFORE wind	(4) WIND related phrases	(5) Rhyming words AFTER		(6) Not in	
Adonais Exhortation Sensit. Pl. Arethusa Arethusa Orpheus	457 22 23	_	words BEFORE wind	1	words			
Exhortation Sensit. Pl. Arethusa Arethusa Orpheus	22 23	_	BEFORE wind	reisted phrases			in	CALL STATE OF STATE O
Exhortation Sensit. Pl. Arethusa Arethusa Orpheus	22 23	_	wind	1				NB
Exhortation Sensit. Pl. Arethusa Arethusa Orpheus	22 23	_			wind		rhyme	
Exhortation Sensit. Pl. Arethusa Arethusa Orpheus	22 23	_	find	bitter wind	, WIII	-		
Sensit. Pl. Arethusa Arethusa Orpheus	23		mind	beams and wind		┼		
Arethusa Arethusa Orpheus		<u> </u>	шии	of the wind	1 17 1	+-		
Arethusa Orpheus				735-177794554444	behind	1		
Orpheus	54	1	behind	south wind	behind	1		
	36	-	benind	cloudy wind	 			
Carabia	91	1	1 1 1	murmuring wind			1	
Serchio Fr. Rain		1	behind	morning wind		ļ		
Hom. Cast,	13			in the wind		 	1	
Hom. Sun		-	·	the wind	behind	1		
	20	1	twined	uplifting wind		ļ		
Fr. Elegy	7			sweetness on the wind			1	
Magico Prodigioso	140			invisible wind			1	
Faust	161	1	behind	outspeeding the wind				
Q. Mab	221			powerless as the wind			1	
Q. Mab	94			the gusty wind		†	i	
Song	20			sweeping wind			1	
Song	27			to the wind		1	j	
Revenge	38	1	reclined	of the wind		<u> </u>		
Spectral	3			blast of the wind		-	1	
Horseman	İ						.	
Bigotry	1			songs of the wind	hind	1		
Ch. 1st	470		-	coming wind			1	
Triumph	166	1	find / behind		-	1		
O that a chariot	6		-	billowing wind			1	
Marenghi	149			by the wind	mind	1		
Ode W. Wind	69	1	mankind	O Wind	behind	1		
Hellas	177			and a wind		†- <u>-</u> -	1	
Hellas	286			ever-veering wind		_	1	
Hellas	291			northern wind		 	1	
Hellas	480			Thracian wind			1	
Hellas	496			north wind		\vdash	<u>1</u>	
Hellas	516			tainted wind	-		<u>:</u>	
Helias	628		1.772	infant wind	-		1	
Hellas	720			rushing wind			-;	
Ch. 1st	138			before the wind			1	
Ch. 1st	361			favouring wind		 	1	
On Leaving	1			unfettered wind	behind	1	-	
London	_						-	
W. Jew	1053	1	mind	as the wind		\vdash	-	
	1085			upon the wind			1	
	1214	1	mind	in the wind		\vdash		
SUM	W.S.	22	373 N.S. (S) ANS 1		\$	15	34	71

As shown in Table 1, Shelley uses the word "wind" at the end of lines 71 times in all, when it is used as a noun meaning (according to Ellis's definition) "movement of air," with the instances of the verb "wind" excluded. Of those 71 instances, while 34 are used in unrhymed contexts, 37 are used to rhyme with words ending with an /-aind/ sound. We should note that all the words used in Shelley's poetry to rhyme with "wind" meaning "movement of air" end with an /-aind/ sound, and none are used to rhyme with words ending with an /-ind/ sound.

Here in our ode, the final vocative address to the west wind, as elsewhere in his 36 instances, the word is to be pronounced as /waind/ to rhyme with "mankind" and "behind," make it phonetically a couplet, and thereby end the poem in metre.

In theme, however, the poem does not end. Now that the state of spring being not "far behind," it may not be too fanciful to claim that the Shelleyan poetic pronunciation /waind/ will have a power of winding us back to the first sonnet section when the west wind's "azure sister of the Spring" is prophesied as "blow[ing] / Her clarion...o'er the dreaming earth," and "plain and hill" are prophesied as being filled with "living hues and odours." In other words, the Shelleyan pronunciation /waind/ helps the autumn wind that is present in the poem to reach out to the spring wind that is not present in the poem yet promised in the revolution of seasons and of social change as well.

To put it grammatically, the vocative case of a noun is verging upon the imperative of a verb with the same spelling, just like other imperative verbs in the poem: "hear," "hear," and "hear" in the final couplet of the first three sonnet sections, along with other imperative verbs: "lift me...," "make me...," "Be thou me," "Drive...," "Scatter...," and "Be through my lips...." (In fact this poem is characterized with abundance of imperative verbs!)

It is, of course, far from my intention to claim that the word "wind" is a verb, but with the Shelleyan pronunciation /waind/, the vocative case of the noun "wind" acquires a power of verging onto the imperative of a verb. If and when we pronounce this word as /waind/, then all the couplets in "Ode to the West Wind" are de-coupletized, fraught with the kinetic momentum to go on and on in the perpetual cycle of seasons, and the perpetual cycle of social change (whether for good or bad). What emerges out of all this is: (1) the triumph of the *terza rima* over the closed couplet, or the closure of the English sonnet form being challenged by the Italian form of the continuous *terza rima*; and (2) the case of the first-person addresser being united with the second-person addressee at the end of an extended address.

To sum up, what appears to be an editorial confusion of speakers of Shelley's

final words in Italy as a poet, "Then, what is life," may have its origin in "Ode to the West Wind," in which a vocative address is invested with a power of con-fusing (meaning "fusing together" rather than "mixing up") the addresser with the addressee, and invalidating the coupletized closure in favour of the terza-rimian process.

Notes

- 1 All subsequent quotations will be from Shelley's Poetry and Prose. 2nd ed.
- 2 See for example Angela Leighton's comment: Rousseau's long narrative tells as much as the younger poet has already experienced, and the whole poem thus repudiates his search for answers (173–74).
- 3 For a detailed discussion of the triumphal tradition in Shelley, see John Robert Leo, Visualized Triumph Patterns in Shelley (Diss. Northwestern U, 1973). Although Leo admits that a "triumph tradition is difficult to describe in relation to Shelley's understanding of it," he asserts that "[t]he two major triumph poems Shelley writes [are] The Mask of Anarchy and The Triumph of Life" (43, 3).
- 4 Neither Crook nor E. B. Murray confirms its composition date, though it had formerly been associated with the spring of 1819, ever since Mary Shelley put it as a footnote to Shelley's letter to Peacock dated 23 March 1819 in her *Essays, Letters from Abroad...* (1840). I should like to express my sincerest gratitude to my friend Nahoko Miyamoto Alvey, who kindly directed my attention to Crook's article.
- 5 See for instance, "couplet" and "sonnet" in *Princeton Encyclopaedia of Poetry and Poetics*: ...the heroic couplet is "closed"—syntax and thought are fitted neatly into the envelope of rhyme and meter... The Spenserian and Shakespearean [sonnet] patterns... invite a division of thought into 3 quatrains and a closing or summarizing couplet. Also see what Barbara Herrnstein Smith has to say on closure and formal conventions of the English sonnets: ...the terminal rhyming couplet of the English sonnets allows the poet to end it with striking resolution, finality, punch, pointedness...a rhymed couplet, when it corresponds to a syntactically complete utterance, is, in itself, an effectively closed form (51).
- 6 The instance in "Rosalind and Helen" (1280) may look tricky. But elsewhere in this poem the word "Rosalind" rhymes with "unkind" (1), and "kind" (1318). "Rosalind" therefore ends with an /-aind/ sound.
- 7 See what White says on *terza rima* and the concluding couplets: ...when [Shelley] came to write his "Ode to the West Wind" he modified it [*terza rima*] boldly into a stanza form in which concluding couplets, conventionally used to establish a full stop, became a device for increasing suspense and cumulative force (2: 451).

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