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and grapples with the problems of life. As science provides the poet with rich sense data, his poetry is replete with fresh and new images. Thus science helps poetry and does not choke it.

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against the sky,

like a patient etherised upon a table." He also compares the waiting soul to a passenger in the tube train waiting for it to move when it has stopped long unexpectedly between two stations. In "The Waste Land" he compares his heart to a throbbing taxi engine. Auden who is an important poet considers mankind to be like the passengers in a train and says:

"... at a station chance delay
 lined branch to pease, iron up valleys
 to a hidden village."

Auden sees a branch line that can take him to a hidden village where he can live with his beloved away from the rest of mankind.

Thus we see that there is no conflict between science and poetry although science is an enemy of wild, unbridled imagination. Those who think that poetry means unbridled imagination seize the way that there is no hope for poetry. But poetry is not wild imagination, it is the record of human experience in words. So poetry is not in any danger. Science presents new ideas and things which the poet experiences in his own way. out of such experience he makes poetry. His poetry may not be an affair of wild imagination any more, but it is certainly tougher

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poet of the seventeenth century compared a drop of tear to a globe. Milton compared the shield of Satan to the moon as seen through the telescope. In the seventeenth century the telescope was as new as the idea that the earth is round. The great poets of the age were quick to make use of them.

Wordsworth said that poetry is the impassioned expression that is in the countenance of all science. Arnold argued that that the countenance is nothing without the expression and so science is incomplete without poetry. Shelley found poetry in the dry bones of science. He called the cloud the daughter of earth and water and the nursing the sky because water turns into vapour and the cloud which is nursed in the sky. Shelley had a myth-making power which we find in almost every poem written by him. In "To the Night" he called night the sister of ~~Death~~ Death and the mother of Sleep. Thus he wrote imaginative poetry without distorting scientific facts. In the modern age science has made rapid strides. It has supplied the modern poet with new images. Thus Eliot compares the evening to an etherised patient and the sky to a table.

"Let us go then, you and I,
when the evening is spread out



SCIENCE^① AND POETRY, B.A. III (A)

A Literary essay

Science examines the laws of Nature and thus controls her forces. It gives us new ideas and things. On the one hand the theories of Newton, Pasteur, Faraday and Darwin have revolutionized man's attitude to life, on the other, Science has given new things like trains, motor cars, aeroplanes, chloroform, penicillin, telephone, radio, television and what not for our use.

There is no conflict between Science and poetry because poetry is made of human experiences. A poet turns his experience into poetry. In the past the poet's experience was highly imaginative. He imagined the presence of fairies and ghosts, gods and demons. Thus we find the magnificent poetry of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "Paradise Lost". But now Science has cured man of his superstitions. Man is now more rational than he was in the past. So modern poetry is not romantic like the poetry of Shakespeare or Keats. It does not mean that the growth of Science causes the decay of poetry; it only means that there will be less and less romantic poetry as human imagination will grow less and less wild.

Science places more and more sense data and ideas at the disposal of the poet who makes a fruitful use of them. Donne, the great metaphysical