

foolish man. Sense never comes into his mind.

So it is thought that Shadwell will be the fittest king of the kingdom of nonsense. He chooses the reign of London for Shadwell Coronation.

Flecknoe's throne is made of worthless volumes. Flecknoe made Shadwell sit on his right side. He rubs the holy oil on Shadwell's forehead. Twelve owls fly over their heads. People cheer at this sight. They take it as a sign of Shadwell's great future. Flecknoe then makes a prophecy. It is said that Shadwell will be the greatest king of nonsense. He will break all the previous records of foolish writings. Here Shadwell's vicerey presented in a heroic way. The presentation makes us laugh so it is the perfection of the mock-heroic among personal and literary satire. This shows that Dryden is a great satirist. His satires are personal. But Pope's satire are general. Dryden satirizes individuals. Pope satirizes both types of heroic couplets.

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Q. Discuss Mac Flecknoe as a mock-heroic poem or

Discuss Dryden as a satirist  
With reference to Mac Flecknoe.

Ans - Poetry in the 18th century was that of reason and thought. It was then a source of inspiration. It was the age of political rivalry. There were two party the Whig and Tory. The poet of one party criticizes the Tory party of poets. The Tory poets criticized the Whig poets. So satire was the most literary form of that age.

Satire is humorous poem. Such a poem exposes the faults and vices. But the whole thing is done in a very subtle way. The person being criticized does not show that he is being attacked. The attack remained hidden under laughter of satire is another name of mock heroic poetry. In such a poetry also vices of a person are as presented as a hero. The effect is pure laughter.

Mac Flecknoe is a very good mock heroic poem. It is a personal satire. Here Dryden makes a bitter attack on his political opponents. First Shadwell criticized Dryden in a satire. That satire was the medal of "John Bays". Mac Flecknoe is a reply to that. The whole poem has been cast in a mock-heroic way or atmosphere. Flecknoe is an Irish poet. He is well known for his foolishness. He is very old. He wants to choose his successor. His choice falls on Shadwell. The reason is that Shadwell is the most