


パストラルと「黒い隣人」について
—クレヴクール『アメリカ農夫の手紙』を読む

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はじめに

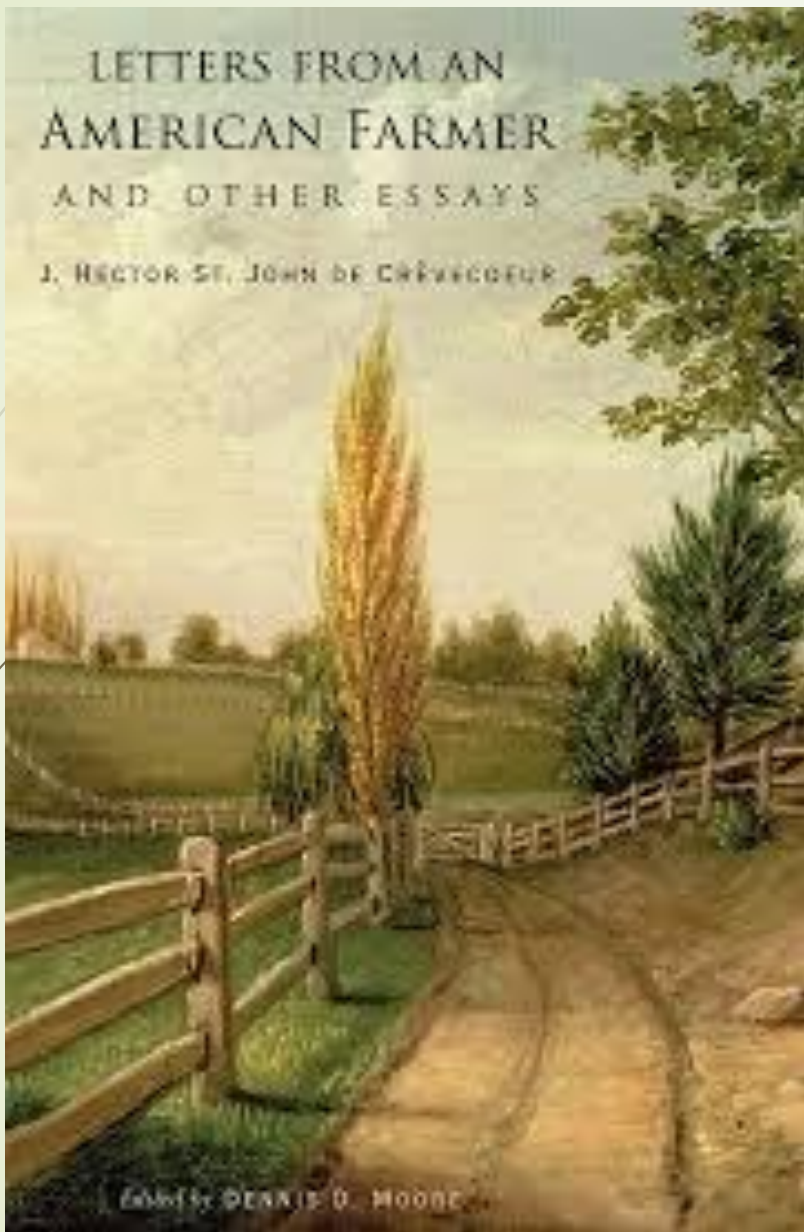
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- I. アメリカの農夫——文明と自然の闘に立つ人間
 - II. パストラルな空間の変質と「黒い隣人」の出現

はじめに

Biography



- Born Michel Guillaume Jean de Crèvecoeur
- In 1735 around Caen, France
- Came to North America by way of England in 1755
- Served with Montcalm's forces during the assault on Fort William Henry
- Settled in upstate New York in 1759
- Became a British subject in 1764





LETTRÉS
D'UN CULTIVATEUR
AMÉRICAIN

adressées à W^m S... ou Esq^r.
depuis l'Année 1770, jusqu'en 1786.

PAR M. S^t JOHN
DE CREVE CŒUR,

Traduites de l'Anglois.

Keen feelings inspire restless thoughts.

TOME 1.



1. アメリカの農夫—文明と自然の闘に立つ人間

J. Hector St. John de Crevecoeur



What, then, is this new man, the American? They are a mixture of English, Scotch, Irish, French, Dutch, Germans, and Swedes. From this promiscuous breed, that race, now called Americans, have arisen.

AZ QUOTES

J. Hector St. John de Crevecoeur



Men are like plants; the goodness and flavor of the fruit proceeds from the peculiar soil and exposition in which they grow. We are nothing but what we derive from the air we breathe, the climate we inhabit, the government we obey, the system of religion we profess, and the nature of our employment.

AZ QUOTES

American farmer's blessings from his field

- ▶ If ever man was permitted to receive and enjoy some blessings that might alleviate the many sorrows to which he is exposed, it is certainly in the country, when he attentively considers those ravishing scenes with which he is everywhere surrounded. This is the only time of the year in which I am avaricious of every moment, I therefore lose none that can add to this simple and inoffensive happiness. I roam early throughout all my fields; not the least operation do I perform, which is not accompanied with the most pleasing observations; were I to extend them as far as I have carried them, I should become tedious; you would think me guilty of affectation, and I should perhaps represent many things as pleasurable from which you might not perhaps receive the least agreeable emotions. But, believe me, what I write is all true and real. -- "Letter II," *Letters from an American Farmer*

King-bird, American Eastern



II. パストラルな空間の変質と「黒い隣人」の出現 A black slave in the cage

In order to avoid the heat of the sun, I resolved to go on foot, sheltered in a small path, leading through a pleasant wood. I was leisurely travelling along, attentively examining some peculiar plants which I had collected, when all at once I felt the air strongly agitated, though the day was perfectly calm and sultry. I immediately cast my eyes toward the cleared ground, from which I was but at a small distance, in order to see whether it was not occasioned by a sudden shower; when at that instant a sound resembling a deep rough voice, uttered, as I thought, a few inarticulate monosyllables. Alarmed and surprised, I precipitately looked all round, when I perceived at about six rods distance something resembling a cage, suspended to the limbs of a tree; all the branches of which appeared covered with large birds of prey, fluttering about, and anxiously endeavouring to perch on the cage. Actuated by an involuntary motion of my hands, more than by any design of my mind, I fired at them; they all flew to a short distance, with a most hideous noise: when, horrid to think and painful to repeat, I perceived a negro, suspended in the cage, and left there to expire! I shudder when I recollect that the birds had already picked out his eyes, his cheek bones were bare; his arms had been attacked in several places, and his body seemed covered with a multitude of wounds. From the edges of the hollow sockets and from the lacerations with which he was disfigured, the blood slowly dropped, and tinged the ground beneath. No sooner were the birds flown, than swarms of insects covered the whole body of this unfortunate wretch, eager to feed on his mangled flesh and to drink his blood. I found myself suddenly arrested by the power of affright and terror; my nerves were convoked; I trembled, I stood motionless, involuntarily contemplating the fate of this negro, in all its dismal latitude.

-- "Letter IX," *Letters from an American Farmer*

Slave Cage, circa 1850 from the Clave Ship Veronica



M.C. Escher, 「出会い」 1944

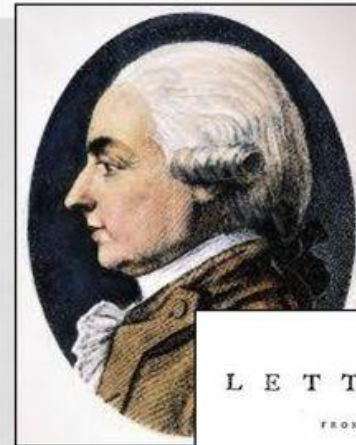


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DE CREVECOEUR

- Written in the mid-1700s, at a time when many people were leaving Europe and making new lives for themselves in America
- De Crevecoeur
 - French immigrant, arrived in New York in 1759
 - Published a series of letters/essays in 1782 illustrating his impressions of America



L E T T E R S

FROM AN

AMERICAN FARMER;

DESCRIBING
CERTAIN PROVINCIAL SITUATIONS,
MANNERS, AND CUSTOMS,
NOT GENERALLY KNOWN;
AND CONVEYING
SOME IDEA OF THE LATE AND PRESENT
INTERIOR CIRCUMSTANCES
OF THE
BRITISH COLONIES
IN
NORTH AMERICA.

WRITTEN FOR THE INFORMATION OF A FRIEND
IN ENGLAND,
By J. HECTOR ST. JOHN,
A FARMER IN PENNSYLVANIA.

L O N D O N,
PRINTED THE YODLEY BATHING HOUSE STREET COFFEE-
HARDEN, AND LOCUTER BATH IN 1782.
M D C C L X X X I I.

ST. JOHN DE CRÈVECOEUR

THE LIFE OF
AN AMERICAN FARMER



GAY WILSON ALLEN
AND
ROGER ASSELINEAU



