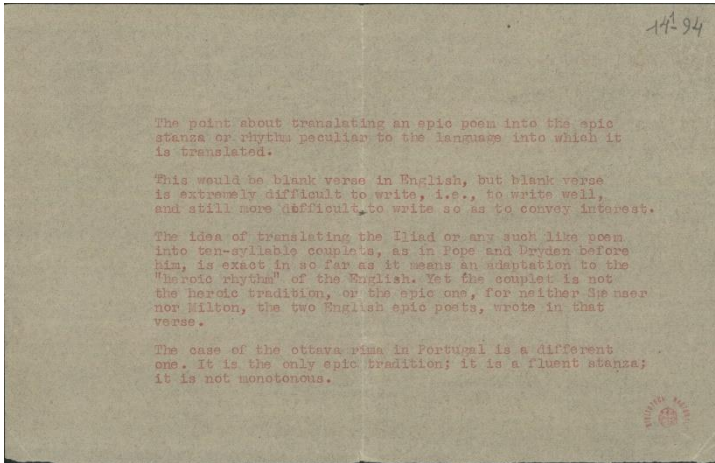


BNP/E3, 14¹ - 94^r



Transcrição

The point about translating an epic poem into the epic stanza or rhythm peculiar to the language into which it is translated.

This would be blank verse in English, but blank verse is extremely difficult to write, i.e., to write well, and still more difficult to write so as to convey interest.

The idea of translating the Iliad or any such like poem into ten-syllable couplets, as in Pope and Dryden before him, is exact in so far as it means an adaptation to the "heroic rhythm" of the English. Yet the couplet is not the heroic tradition, or the epic one, for neither Spenser nor Milton, the two English epic Poets, wrote in that verse.

The case of the ottava rima in Portugal is a different one. It is the only epic tradition; it is a fluent stanza; it is not monotonous.

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