

MSS

SPRING 1981

[It was the best of

times, it was the worst of

times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness,

it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch ^{of} incredulity,

it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness.

it was the ~~spring~~ of hope, it was the winter of despair,

we had every thing before us, we had ~~absolutely~~ nothing

before us, we were all going direct to Heaven, we were all

going direct the ~~other~~ way--in short, the period was so

far like the present period, that some of its noisiest

authorities insisted ^{on its} being received, for good or evil,

in the ~~highest~~ superlative degree of comparison only.

[There ~~was~~ ^{were} a King with a large jaw and a Queen with a ^{plain} face, on the throne of england; there were a King with a ~~large~~ ^{large} jaw and a Queen with a ~~very~~ fair face, on the throne of france. In both countries it was clearer than crystal to the lords of the state preserves of loaves and fishes that things in general were settled for ever.

(MORE)

FOREWORD

(Scrawled in the front of an ancient volume)

Molly McKay

Thou art vile, who'er thou be,
Which made this stuff called poetry.
To put me through such misery
With metaphor and simile—
'Tis criminally felony.

To men of prose I say "Beware,"
When at these leaves of verse you stare,
For dreaded Iamb 'waits you there
Within her tetrametric lair
To trap you in her pedal snare.

Thou art a demon and a curse!
Although thy meter's straight and terse
A headache have I now to nurse
From reading limericks—even worse—
That rhyming, scheming, blanking verse!

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CONTENTS

- 1 Foreward by Molly McKay*
- 4 Cast Horse by Carol Lee Hankins
- 9 *Mr. and Mrs. Smith* by Gina R. E. Zellmer
- 10 *Gossip* by Jan Stough
- 11 *Juggler* by Jan Stough
- 12 A Small Island by C. F. Hibbard
- 22 *Third Temptation* by Nathan W. Harter
- 23 *Covenant* by David W. Vandegrift
- 24 The Crayon Beetle by Liz Appel
- 26 *Balloons* by Dan Lillard
- 27 Dear Diary by Sue Mordoh
- 31 They Don't Tell You by Dawn M. Snyder
- 36 The Cavalry Charge by Nathan W. Harter
- 40 *Autumn* by Jan Stough
- 40 *Statement* by George Curran
- 41 *Daydreamer* by Jan Stough
- 42 In Search of Camelot by Michael Hemmes
- 45 *A Living Death* by Marta Phillips
- 47 The Visit by George Curran
- 52 *Two Eyes* by Lunus Finchum
- 53 *To DJR* by Nathan W. Harter
- 54 The Shell Game by C. F. Hibbard
- 63 *The Lament* by Nathan W. Harter

*Denotes Freshman writing.

I'll call for pen and ink, and write my mind.

Shakespeare
I Henry VI. Act V:iii