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# WHEAT

## The Spur

Because of your strong faith, I kept the track

Whose sharp-set stones my strength had well-nigh spent,  
I could not meet your eyes if I turned back:

So on I went.

Because you would not yield belief in me,

The threatening crags that rose, my way to bar,  
I conquered inch by crumbling inch—to see

The goal afar.

And though I struggle toward it through hard years,

Or flinch, or falter blindly, yet within,  
"You can!" unwavering my spirit hears:

And I shall win.

—Aldis Dunbar, in *The Century Magazine*.

## "The Smiths"

JOHN SMITH—plain John Smith—is not very high-sounding; it does not suggest aristocracy; it is not the name of any hero in die-away novels; and yet it is good, strong and honest. Transferred to other languages it seems to climb the ladder of respectability. Thus in Latin it is Johannes Smithus; the Italian smooths it off into Giovanni Smithi; the Spaniards render it Juan Smithus; the Dutchman adopts it as Hans Schmidt; the French flatten it out into Jean Smeet; and the Russian sneezes and barks Jonloff Smittowski. When John Smith gets into the tea trade in Canton he becomes Jovan Shimmit; if he clammers about Mount Hecla, the Icelanders say he is Jahne Smithson; if he trades among the Tuscaroras he becomes Ton Qa Smitia; in Poland he is known as Ivan Schmittiweiski; should he wander among the Welsh mountains, they talk of Jihon Schmidt; when he goes to Mexico he is booked as Jontli F'Smitti; if of classic turn he lingers among Greek ruins, he turns into 'Ion Smikton; and in Turkey he is utterly disguised as Yoe Seef.—*Phrenological Journal*.

## Autumn Idleness

BY ISABEL ECCLESTONE MACKAY,  
The lazy clouds lie basking on the blue,  
Foam circled islands in a peaceful sea  
Scarce ruffled by the breeze, which carelessly  
Wanders the arch of autumn heaven through.

Beneath, the quiet ocean stretches wide,  
Out and beyond the end of everything;  
The sunlight flashes from the gull's white wing  
Soaring and dipping eastward with the tide.

Above me, where the painted maples spread  
A screen all wrought and interlaid with gold,  
The shining gloom a silence seems to hold,  
A hush that tells of Summer lately dead!

I lie and hear the muffled monotone  
Of the great working world that calls to me  
Claiming my freedom—but I am not free,  
Th' enchantress, Autumn, chains me to her throne!

—Rod and Gun.

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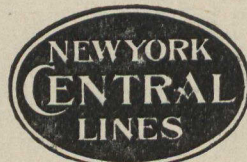
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