

\ Pied<sup>1</sup> Beauty

Glory be to God for dappled things—  
For skies of couple-colour as a brinded<sup>2</sup> cow;  
For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;  
Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls,<sup>3</sup> finches' wings;  
Landscape plotted and pieced—fold, fallow, and plough;<sup>4</sup> 5  
And all trades, their gear and tackle and trim.<sup>5</sup>

All things counter, original, spare,<sup>6</sup> strange;  
Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)  
With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dim;  
He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change: 10  
Praise him.

1877

1918

1. Of two or more colors in blotches, variegated.
2. Brownish orange in color with streaks of gray.
3. I.e., freshly fallen chestnuts, bright as coals.
4. Divided into fields used as pastures ("fold"), lying fallow, or plowed for cultivation. The landscape thus appears like patches of different colors.
5. Equipment.
6. Rare. "Counter": contrary.