

Altared

—*Earl Keyser*
English, Grad.

The rounded, not smooth-sanded,
Voice of the black-robed stander.
Red and gold on white.
Hider of tired feet, shaking knees.
Red, again, surrounding the book
With many words in red.
Two yellow droplets topping white columns
On golden staves.
In between, another of the everhere
Red-lined books.
Again, above, the red counterpane
The gilded crossbar.
Once it was of wood. Now of brass.
Hardened in memory.