

## Old Men

Old men wear armor  
of a hoary crust of rime  
not ready to slide back  
into unmarked time  
Old men protest loudly  
against the wars  
against the brutalities  
and broken futures  
of those still young  
standing side by side  
each one a living  
bundle of rights  
because they remain  
seasoned subjects  
of the land  
They know metal  
can corrode under  
a coat of paint  
Fiat money fiat rule  
politicians who  
whitewash fences  
with other peoples  
brush and lime  
Old men hear loudly  
what is spoken  
between the words  
and see clearly  
through dimmed eye  
Old men know well  
the father of the lie