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## Portrait of Mrs. Patrick Campbell

Robert Swets  
*Grand Valley State University*

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portrait of mrs. patrick campbell

lady a graceful  
tower ascending  
with abandon a line  
light as the edge  
of a leaf spins  
the horizontal  
plumb line the inconsequential what  
must be hidden beneath the ships sharp skin hidden  
behind the white marked off  
in an instant with a long even  
slash &  
another &  
a third the folds  
that must be there left  
blank the white the sun  
behind the moon an obscure  
umbra

the design  
stretching to the capstone as if  
the roof were most important or  
the pennants flying  
above the wind blowing  
higher than the  
breeze or the final  
hairwidth of ink

the tiny curve that  
makes the motion of the  
lips the eyes  
that are black  
sad the handkerchief  
starchless hanging wet  
with tears & dreams of yellow  
dresses in summer the spanish  
rose fighting the black  
hair the pinnacle fighting  
the air for room to go higher  
& higher & higher &  
have no end