

MOLLY  
(for J. & D. A.)

I think she's more like us than them,  
a fact which makes it twice as hard  
to be impartial with my pats  
when I'm encircled in the yard.

Not 6 of them can hold her back.  
Red neckerchief against her black  
she pushes forward to the front  
and begs us let her show her stunt.  
Round gift in mouth she waits the call  
to dazzle us with her red ball.

Were this a hundred years ago  
and she Earned Keep by chasing mice  
there is not any doubt at all  
she'd be well known for one small vice——  
and couldn't swear off playing ball.

by Lee Netzler