

Capital Offense

by Gary Hardaway

They can't exterminate the poor just yet
but can, machine by elegant machine,
remove the little livelihood they have
and, House by House and Senate by Senate,
strip away what sustenance is left.

They'll starve the filthy parasites instead,
these great, mysterious, makers of jobs
(whose hatred has a reservoir of patience
bequeathed like water from shrinking glaciers
into the salty and slowly toxic sea).

