

**MOB**

EDWARD McNAMEE

ferocious  
octopus-tentacled  
omnipotent and ruthless  
it crawls on millions of hobnailed  
bare silk-clad sandaled booted  
and tatter-soled feet  
lugging a rope a torch a musket  
a guillotine and lastly —  
the unspeakable atom

undreamed-of  
potentialities  
for evil lurk in this  
boiling over of great numbers —  
this sinister and outsized pack  
yelping in full cry  
whose units of individuals  
when isolated reveal  
softness gentleness compliance —  
even cowardice