LATE

still there
a line of sky
between
treetops and cloud
and what is now
below
the moon,
the sun
two in orange
rebuild a wall
their bodies occult,
the word

in perspective they
bend against
flat rock

against
blue sky, a
wooden cup, turned
laburnum

a green
stone bear, a cube
of glass, books
they're

travelling through
standing up,
resting
a bit
hard work behind high hedges, a hawk aloft off the grass at our quietening to look
red soil a rise in the near distance like a rusty round barn roof
blackberries - not enough pastry to keep up, and wine lay down that sickle

STEPHEN OLDFIELD
ALLOTMENT (I)

bi
you
WHACKED
on south
'n
face in
slopes
tens
döff the perpend
(i) cular tan
gential
too (sic)
hibernal
sun

SHACKED
brushed hairy brome
tacked tacky
polythene
many themes
on windy
terraces

Scorched Earth
Lotus Leaf
Spice under
CUT
with Drab
polyurethane pastorals
glossed glossary
over/out of/in
dented tins
your refrain
al(l)
located quadrants
mapped out
under
a tundra sky

ten

Autumn King
Scarlet Emperor
channelled Aquadulce
proper
Rogation
blight
sous cloche
glut to rot
through sweet water
under prime spike
of frost
Harbinger of what's to come
TIMES ARE HARD
white poplars
gesture
ALARM
on the knife
ridge
of the hill

whereunder
crouched over
hissing primus
spitting kettle
beiwacht
pissing ad hoc
in a bucket

army sur
place jacket
potato in
foil
EMERGENCY
ration
ale

"You couldn't shift the hoe out of this man's hands."

finger
LESS
gloves
finger
CUT
price digestives
in Coronation caddy
both feet grown cold
interred
utility
wool/fibre/rubber
well 'e be blind
two holes for eyes
lantern
jawed
scrubbed turnip
face puckered
scrotum

no angelus to tell
"Nie Wieder Krieg"
NOR
"Peace in our time"
BUT
the cream-faced loon
of WAR...
(III)
FARIN
slugs
of poison
person pellets
lure I'M
provised TRAPPED
stale
track of the moon
hacked tin
foil symmetry
strung bottletops
BUF0 bufo
bleeping EK
static
in hare's-foot
tre(e)
foil
slivered under lunar
glow
tunnelled tubers
furrowed
depth in sub
soil
pitted flesh
burrowed worm
holes
cysts
on roots
A POX
on the potatoes

harrowed flesh'n
bone man
in pill
boxed lair
sieves derris
pots pyrethrum
traces ill
worms
squirmed
under glass
plots soft
ROT
NOTES: "The victims disintegrate into a liquid mess."
squamous
on the retina
fissured cere
bellum
endures attachments
to the seasons
chews wormwood
stares into/past
scarred night light
muffled flight
of cabbage moth
forced terminal
growth
in hot bed
BOLTED
on the outside
INCIDENT IN BAVARIA

Vivaldi cancels you out
COMPELLED
from coast
to hinterland
DASH
board lights
beaded comfort glow
black trees
duplicate freedom
PAST
plethora
of deadwood
the needle circumscribes
the globe
in one
smooth
movement
SLICE
hiss and crackle
carrier waves
BREACHED
ionosphere
LOST
oscillations
IMPELLED
in a straight line
there's no stopping you now
inside the apparatus
the orchestra is not.

Hypothesis : in parenthesis
if
we keep moving
we will never
die
perpetual motion
saying is
believing
Grimm's Law
as the crow never flies
backwards
from the Black Forest
beyond the Moravian Heights
pater/vater/father
figure
Herr Homunculus
you've forgotten
your name
or else you lie
stamp your rage
where parallel lines
never meet
but that's another
story.
For VAIR read VERRE
semantic rift
continents shudder
a ripple
on the Richter scale
down the cleft
the shoe goes tumbling

A PRIORI
warnings on
draped banners
off bridges
letters
UPPER CASE RED
we read
aber wir verstehen nicht
scan lexicons
ad lib
connections
all the time
straight roads
end in
STAU
a litter of texts
on the autobahn.