

# Syracuse Scholar (1979-1991)

---

Volume 4  
Issue 2 *Syracuse Scholar Fall 1983*

Article 6

---

1983

## Hamley's Death

James Vink

Follow this and additional works at: <https://surface.syr.edu/suscholar>



Part of the [Poetry Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Vink, James (1983) "Hamley's Death," *Syracuse Scholar (1979-1991)*: Vol. 4 : Iss. 2 , Article 6.  
Available at: <https://surface.syr.edu/suscholar/vol4/iss2/6>

This Poetry is brought to you for free and open access by SURFACE. It has been accepted for inclusion in Syracuse Scholar (1979-1991) by an authorized editor of SURFACE. For more information, please contact [surface@syr.edu](mailto:surface@syr.edu).

# Hamley's Death



James Vink is a 1966 graduate of Harvard College, where he won the Quincy Poetry Prize (twice) and the Bowdoin Writing Prize. He completed his graduate work in Renaissance British and Romantic poetry at Tulane University and was literary editor of *Sophia* magazine. He is currently an assistant professor of English, teaching writing and literature, at Embry-Riddle University in Florida.

Hamley, manager of the Saint George Club,  
Was in the north on his first hunting trip  
Accidentally and most pitifully slain  
By rifled executive rover eager for bear  
Who was known to have said once at the Club,  
"The old times were good; the new are better."

An explanatory circular was prominently displayed  
In every empty hall and unechoing corridor  
To spare the members "possible embarrassment"—  
And possible embarrassment *was* spared.

O Hamley dear, stroller in the black suit,  
Picker of the occasional nose,  
Over your nerveless unannointed dust  
Caribou, deciduously-antlered, munch.

—James Vink