

## MAHARAJAH

Lorenzo Lawrence walked an elephant south  
until the name and walk were one,

noteworthy as the gentle beast himself, called  
Maharajah, who trashed his wagon and

for this offence was put off the train  
to get from Edinburgh to Manchester on foot

in 1872. At the museum soft tissue is gone  
but there is no doubting his kind

in the bare armature of solidity and greyness  
and between his tusks the notion

of a trunk with strength enough to curl air  
round the air, to feed or bathe him.