

cannot have thoughts about God. We can only think about the word 'God'. This also strikes me as confused. If God exists and we make true statements concerning him, we are thinking of him, not of a word. We are thinking of him when we say, for example, that God created the heavens and the earth. A word did not create the heavens and the earth. God did. And to say so is to say something about him.

In short, I do not feel that Dr Loughlin has effectively undermined either me or Anselm. Our knot, as Dr Loughlin calls it, may be less than firm, but I do not see that his tugging at it has done much to unravel it.

- 1 Dr Loughlin's article, 'Thinking of that than which nothing greater can be thought', appeared in *New Blackfriars* in September 1991. My article appeared in *New Blackfriars* in May 1991.
- 2 See my 'Does God Create Existence?', *International Philosophical Quarterly* (June 1990).

January the First

Rachel Blake

Belief, I thought,
the train sliding, the sun orange
over lean meadows with ragged horses,
is leaflike, dropping
in oddly, there is no feel of
a light pile accumulating

The vibrant rails
may have started it, the cleared day —
a swerve solidier than crystal moved
into the fields
elongating them beyond the known
melding what's seen in its wayward quiver