

## Summer 2009

1.

The cypress and tupelo trees  
are in the swamp, right  
where I left them two summers ago,  
although the three wild turkeys  
appear only fleetingly—  
further along the Trace Parkway  
as I drive North, from Jackson  
to Tupelo—before scurrying  
up an embankment and into the forest.

Which makes me stop to contemplate  
the ways in which wild turkeys  
are different from swamp trees.

2.

It is fairly easy to see wild turkeys  
in upstate New York. But  
never a cypress or tupelo tree  
And only the rare confederate flag.

Which makes me stop to contemplate  
the ways in which New York State  
is different from Mississippi.

Steve Bloom  
July 2009