

**1817**

**TO ONE WHO HAS BEEN LONG IN CITY PENT**

**John Keats**

**Keats, John (1795-1821) - Widely regarded as the most talented of the English romantic poets, Keats, whose work was poorly received during his lifetime, could not have foreseen his later recognition. Ironically, he wrote for his own epitaph: "Here lies one whose name was writ in water." To one who has been long in city pent (1817) - Opening lines: To one who has been long in city pent, / 'Tis very sweet to look into the fair ...**

**LONG IN CITY PENT**

To one who has been long in city pent,  
'Tis very sweet to look into the fair  
And open face of heaven,- to breathe a prayer  
Full in the smile of the blue firmament.  
Who is more happy, when, with heart's content,  
Fatigued he sinks into some pleasant lair  
Of wavy grass, and reads a debonair  
And gentle tale of love and languishment?  
Returning home at evening, with an ear  
Catching the notes of Philomel,- an eye  
Watching the sailing cloudlet's bright career,  
He mourns that day so soon has glided by:  
E'en like the passage of an angel's tear  
That falls through the clear ether silently.

**THE END**