

1817

**DEDICATION [OF POEMS, 1817] TO LEIGH HUNT,
ESQ.**

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." Dedication (of Poems 1817) to Leigh Hunt Esq - Leigh Hunt was a poet, a liberal journalist, and the first to publish Keats' work. Opening lines: Glory and loveliness have pass'd away; / For if we wander out in early morn,

TO LEIGH HUNT ESQ

Glory and loveliness have pass'd away;
For if we wander out in early morn,
No wreathed incense do we see upborne
Into the east, to meet the smiling day:
No crowd of nymphs soft voic'd and young, and gay,
In woven baskets bringing ears of corn,
Roses, and pinks, and violets, to adorn
The shrine of Flora in her early May.
But there are left delights as high as these,
And I shall ever bless my destiny,
That in a time, when under pleasant trees
Pan is no longer sought, I feel a free,
A leafy luxury, seeing I could please
With these poor offerings, a man like thee.

THE END