

**TENDERNESS.**

Not unto every heart is God's gift  
Of simple tenderness allowed; we meet  
With love in many fashions when we lift  
First to our lips life's waters bitter-sweet.  
Love comes upon us with resistless power  
Of curbsless passion, and with headstrong  
will;  
It plays around like April's breeze and  
shower,  
Or calmly flows, a rapid stream, and still  
It comes with blessedness unto the heart  
That welcomes it aright, or—bitter fate!  
It wrings the bosom with so fierce a smart,  
That love, we cry, is crueler than hate.  
And then, ah me, when love has ceased to  
bless,  
Our broken hearts cry out for tenderness!

We long for tenderness like that which hung  
About us, lying on our mother's breast;  
A selfless feeling, that no pen nor tongue  
Can praise aright, since silence sings it best.  
A love, as far removed from passion's heat  
As from the chillness of its dying fire;  
A love to lean on when the falling feet  
Begin to totter and the eyes to tire.  
In youth's brief heyday hottest love we seek;  
The reddest rose we grasp—but when it  
dies,  
God grant that latter blossoms, violets meek,  
May spring for us beneath life's Autumn  
skies!

God grant some loving one be near to bless  
Our weary way with simple tenderness!

"YALLER NANKIN TROUSERS,"

The following sketch appears in the  
Editor's Drawer of *Harper's Magazine*  
for April, and is credited to an old con-  
tributor:

Whittier's poem of the "Water Fall,"  
in the *Atlantic Monthly*, requiring so  
much search for the water fall reminds  
me of an anecdote related by Judge  
of Maine. He was once on a  
circuit at Portland, and having a few  
days to spare before the term of the  
court closed, occupied the time in look-  
ing up objects of interest in the vicinity.  
He had heard of a romantic cascade in  
the neighborhood and was enquiring  
its locality of the hotel clerk when a  
green looking countryman standing by  
volunteered the information in this  
wise:

"Say, I can tell the Judge all about  
that 'ere cascade, for I live close by it."  
The judge turned to him and express-  
ing his thanks, desired to be informed  
how he might reach the place.

"Easiest thing in the world, judge,"  
replied the man; "it ain't a great way  
out on the Saco turnpike. You go out  
—wa'll, I guess about four miles till  
you come to a cross road, and then you  
turn off to the left; you keep along,  
say half a mile, till you come to a  
pasture lane, where there's a pair of  
bars. If you let 'em down, mind put  
'em up, 'cause the owner is mighty  
particular about his cattle. You keep  
along say forty rods until you come to  
another pair o' bars—mind you put  
them up too—then foller up the road  
till you comes to a hill; you kinder  
circle round that till you come to an-  
other sort o' crooked path that crosses  
a road; take one right turn go down  
the holler; foller up the hill till you  
come to a by path that leads you round  
the mountain; that bings you right up  
to old Isley's barn."

"How shall I know Isley's barn?  
if I ever arrive there?" asked the  
judge.

"How'll you know Isley's barn?  
Why, it's right opposite his house."  
"But how will I know Isley's  
house?"

"His house? Of course you will see  
Isley round there."

"But how shall I know that it is Is-  
ley?"

"Sure, judge, you can't make a mis-  
take about Isley; you'll know him by  
his yaller nankin trousers!"

"Nankin trousers! Does he always  
wear Nankin trousers?"

"In course he does, judge. Why,  
you see the way on't was this. There  
was a man down here to Portland that  
owed Isley considerable, and couldn't  
pay. So Isley levied on him, and at-  
tached six cases o' yeller nankin he had  
in his store, and them he took for the  
debt, and carried home. Well, Miss  
Isley she was so darned mad that she  
told the old man that he'd got to wear  
out the darned stuff in trousers—that  
was about seven years ago—and Isley  
he's been a-wearing nankin trousers  
ever since; one pair in summer, two  
pairs in fall and spring, and about a  
half a dozen pairs in winter. Judge,  
you'll laugh till you split if you only  
see old Isley in them trousers! Miss  
Isley she ain't much of a tailorsse,  
and she makes 'em narrer at the bottom  
and pucker up where they go round  
him, an' he looks just like a demijohn  
bottom up. Seems to me I should bust  
everytime I see him."

"Well, well," exclaimed the judge  
with some impatience, "if I ever find  
Isley, what then? How about the cas-  
cade?"

"Cascade, judge?" replied the infor-  
mant.

"You are the particularest man I  
ever see. I should think old Isley was  
cur'osity enough for one day, anyway,  
and arter you have seen you'll forget  
all about the cascade."

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By order of the Board

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June 5 1877

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