Beauty Is One With These

By John E. Nixon, Wauchope

You ask me for a list of lovely things:

These will I name for you—

The soft green of the poplar's emerald hue;

The deep blue of the sky that April brings,

Half seen through clouds; moonbeams that dance and shake

On moving waters; the green gold light that lingers

In wooded groves, and little winds that make

Dark shadows on a pool's tranquility.

Frost laid by Winter's fingers

On window panes by night; starshine at dawn,

Or the wide ocean's blue immensity.

Are these not lovely things?

The music of the song the thrasher sings;
Sunlight on dew, and dew tracks on a lawn;
Blue shadows on the snow as evening falls.
The gleam of light on china and on glass;
Dim colours in the bricks of ancient walls;
Rainbows and bubbles, and the yellow gold
On spreading beds of opening daffodils.
The light of sunset thrown on barren hills;
The slow change of the seasons as they pass.
Bare boughs and twigs against a winter sky;
The sheen of pearl; the cold
Hard light of diamonds; the soft sigh
Of stirring trees when wind the forest fills.

Voices of children and the songs they sing. The smile of childhood is a lovely thing!

—All laughter, when its source is innocent— Men spent in years, yet in their age content; And women, silver-haired and quiet eyed. Beauty is one with these. Beauty is everywhere for one who sees, And only hides from those who from her hide.