



Down by the brooklet's side

THE BLUE VIOLET'S SONG

J. H. Tenney
(1840-1918)

John Harrison Tenney (1840-1918) was born in Rowley, Massachusetts. His father was a choir director and his mother was the leading soprano in her husband's choir. He was named after President William Henry Harrison, being born just after the presidential campaign of "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too." By age 8, his parents had taught him to sight-read music and attended singing school and developed a pastime of composing tunes to well-known hymn texts. He studied his father's books and taught himself the principles of harmony. He subscribed to the periodical "The Musical Pioneer", consumed its contents, and began submitting items to the paper— many accepted for publication. He became a deacon and organist in the Congregational Church in Linebrook, Massachusetts. He edited or was associate editor of over 30 books, and contributed to hundreds more. He was a prolific composer of music for Sunday schools, churches, singing schools and choral societies.

Down by the brooklet's side,
Where the soft waters glide
Gently and sweetly away to the sea,
Lifting my tiny bell
Up from the leafy dell,
There is my birth-place—the dwelling for me.

There, where the wild bird's song
Chants, through the summer long,
Strains of affection, unchanging, and true,
Formed by a fairy's wand,
Claiming no care, I stand
Wooing the sunbeams, and quaffing the dew.

Not where the diamond gleams,—
Not where the wine cup streams,
Jars not the revel the bowers that I wreath,
Sought for no festal hall,
Prized by no pride at all,
Care heaps no sighs on the pure air I breathe.

But, o'er the dewy lawn,
Called by the breaking dawn
Up from their sleep in some vine-girded cot,
Maidens of merry mien
Gather the cowslips green,
Breathing the songs that their heaven-dreams have taught.

I, in my lowly bower,
Envy no gayer flower;
Fanned by the bright wing of hum-bird and bee,
While by the streamlet's side,
Glad as the laughing tide,
Velvet-cheeked children are seeking for me.

Still let the nightingale
Fondly the rose assail,
Pouring its moon-sick strains—wasting its sighs;
But on the Violet's breast,
Still shall the angels rest,
Long as we garner the tints of the skies.

Harriet Ellen Grannis Arey (1819-1901)

Down by the brooklet's side

J. H. Tenney

Light and graceful

S
Down by the brook - let's side, Where the soft wa - ters glide Gent - ly and

A
Down by the brook - let's side, Where the soft wa - ters glide Gent - ly and

T
Down by the brook - let's side, Where the soft wa - ters glide Gent - ly and

B
Down by the brook - let's side, Where the soft wa - ters glide Gent - ly and

6
S
sweet - ly a - way to the sea, Lifti - ng my ti - ny bell

A
sweet - ly a - way to the sea, Lifti - ng my ti - ny bell

T
sweet - ly a - way to the sea, Lifti - ng my ti - ny bell

B
sweet - ly a - way to the sea, Lifti - ng my ti - ny bell



Down by the brooklet's side

11

S Up from the leaf - y dell, There is my birth - place— the dwell - ing for —

A Up from the leaf - y dell, There is my birth - place— the dwell - ing for

T Up from the leaf - y dell, There is my birth - place— the dwell - ing for

B Up from the leaf - y dell, There is my birth - place— the dwell - ing for

16

S me, There is my birth - place— the dwell - ing for me.

A me, There is my birth - place— the dwell - ing for me.

T me, There is my birth - place— the dwell - ing for me.

B me, There is my birth - place— the dwell - ing for me.

21

S There, where the wild bird's song Chants, thro' the sum - mer long, Strains of af -

A There, where the wild bird's song Chants, thro' the sum - mer long, Strains of af -

T There, where the wild bird's song Chants, thro' the sum - mer long, Strains of af -

B There, where the wild bird's song Chants, thro' the sum - mer long, Strains of af -

26

S
fec - tion, un - chang - ing, and true, Formed by a fair - y's wand,

A
fec - tion, un - chang - ing, and true, Formed by a fair - y's wand,

T
fec - tion, un - chang - ing, and true, Formed by a fair - y's wand,

B
fec - tion, un - chang - ing, and true, Formed by a fair - y's wand,

31

S
Claim - ing no care, I stand Woo - ing the sun - beams, and quaff - ing the

A
Claim - ing no care, I stand Woo - ing the sun - beams, and quaff - ing the

T
Claim - ing no care, I stand Woo - ing the sun - beams, and quaff - ing the

B
Claim - ing no care, I stand Woo - ing the sun - beams, and quaff - ing the

36

S
dew, Woo - ing the sun - beams, and quaff - ing the dew.

A
dew, Woo - ing the sun - beams, and quaff - ing the dew.

T
dew, Woo - ing the sun - beams, and quaff - ing the dew.

B
dew, Woo - ing the sun - beams, and quaff - ing the dew.

Down by the brooklet's side

41

S Not where the dia - mond gleams,— Not where the wine cup streams, Jars not the

A Not where the dia - mond gleams,— Not where the wine cup streams, Jars not the

T Not where the dia - mond gleams,— Not where the wine cup streams, Jars not the

B Not where the dia - mond gleams,— Not where the wine cup streams, Jars not the

46

S rev - el the bow'rs that I wreathe, Sought for no fes - tal hall,

A rev - el the bow'rs that I wreathe, Sought for no fes - tal hall,

T rev - el the bow'rs that I wreathe, Sought for no fes - tal hall,

B rev - el the bow'rs that I wreathe, Sought for no fes - tal hall,

51

S Prized by no pride at all, Care heaps no sighs on the pure air I

A Prized by no pride at all, Care heaps no sighs on the pure air I

T Prized by no pride at all, Care heaps no sighs on the pure air I

B Prized by no pride at all, Care heaps no sighs on the pure air I

56

S breathe, Care heaps no sighs on the pure air I breathe.

A breathe, Care heaps no sighs on the pure air I breathe.

T breathe, Care heaps no sighs on the pure air I breathe.

B breathe, Care heaps no sighs on the pure air I breathe.

61

S But, o'er the dew - y lawn, Called by the break - ing dawn Up from their

A But, o'er the dew - y lawn, Called by the break - ing dawn Up from their

T But, o'er the dew - y lawn, Called by the break - ing dawn Up from their

B But, o'er the dew - y lawn, Called by the break - ing dawn Up from their

66

S sleep in some vine - gird - ed cot, Maid - ens of mer - ry mien

A sleep in some vine - gird - ed cot, Maid - ens of mer - ry mien

T sleep in some vine - gird - ed cot, Maid - ens of mer - ry mien

B sleep in some vine - gird - ed cot, Maid - ens of mer - ry mien

Down by the brooklet's side

71

S Gath - er the cow - slips green, Breath - ing the songs that their heav'n - dreams have

A Gath - er the cow - slips green, Breath - ing the songs that their heav'n - dreams have

T Gath - er the cow - slips green, Breath - ing the songs that their heav'n - dreams have

B Gath - er the cow - slips green, Breath - ing the songs that their heav'n - dreams have

76

S taught, Breath - ing the songs that their heav'n - dreams have taught.

A taught, Breath - ing the songs that their heav'n - dreams have taught.

T taught, Breath - ing the songs that their heav'n - dreams have taught.

B taught, Breath - ing the songs that their heav'n - dreams have taught.

81

S I, in my low - ly bow'r, En - vy no gay - er flow'r; Fanned by the

A I, in my low - ly bow'r, En - vy no gay - er flow'r; Fanned by the

T I, in my low - ly bow'r, En - vy no gay - er flow'r; Fanned by the

B I, in my low - ly bow'r, En - vy no gay - er flow'r; Fanned by the

86

S bright wing of hum - bird and bee, While by the stream - let's side,

A bright wing of hum - bird and bee, While by the stream - let's side,

T bright wing of hum - bird and bee, While by the stream - let's side,

B bright wing of hum - bird and bee, While by the stream - let's side,

91

S Glad as the laugh - ing tide, Vel - vet - cheeked child - ren are seek - ing for

A Glad as the laugh - ing tide, Vel - vet - cheeked child - ren are seek - ing for

T Glad as the laugh - ing tide, Vel - vet - cheeked child - ren are seek - ing for

B Glad as the laugh - ing tide, Vel - vet - cheeked child - ren are seek - ing for

96

S me, Vel - vet - cheeked child - ren are seek - ing for me.

A me, Vel - vet - cheeked child - ren are seek - ing for me.

T me, Vel - vet - cheeked child - ren are seek - ing for me.

B me, Vel - vet - cheeked child - ren are seek - ing for me.

101

S Still let the night - in - gale Fond - ly the rose as - sail, Pour - ing its

A Still let the night - in - gale Fond - ly the rose as - sail, Pour - ing its

T Still let the night - in - gale Fond - ly the rose as - sail, Pour - ing its

B Still let the night - in - gale Fond - ly the rose as - sail, Pour - ing its

106

S moon - sick strains— wast - ing its sighs; But on the Vio - let's breast,

A moon - sick strains— wast - ing its sighs; But on the Vio - let's breast,

T moon - sick strains— wast - ing its sighs; But on the Vio - let's breast,

B moon - sick strains— wast - ing its sighs; But on the Vio - let's breast,

111

S Still shall the an - gels rest, Long as we gar - ner the tints of the

A Still shall the an - gels rest, Long as we gar - ner the tints of the

T Still shall the an - gels rest, Long as we gar - ner the tints of the

B Still shall the an - gels rest, Long as we gar - ner the tints of the

116

S
skies, Long as we gar - ner the tints of the skies.

A
skies, Long as we gar - ner the tints of the skies.

T
skies, Long as we gar - ner the tints of the skies.

B
skies, Long as we gar - ner the tints of the skies.

Lee & Shepard
(1875)

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