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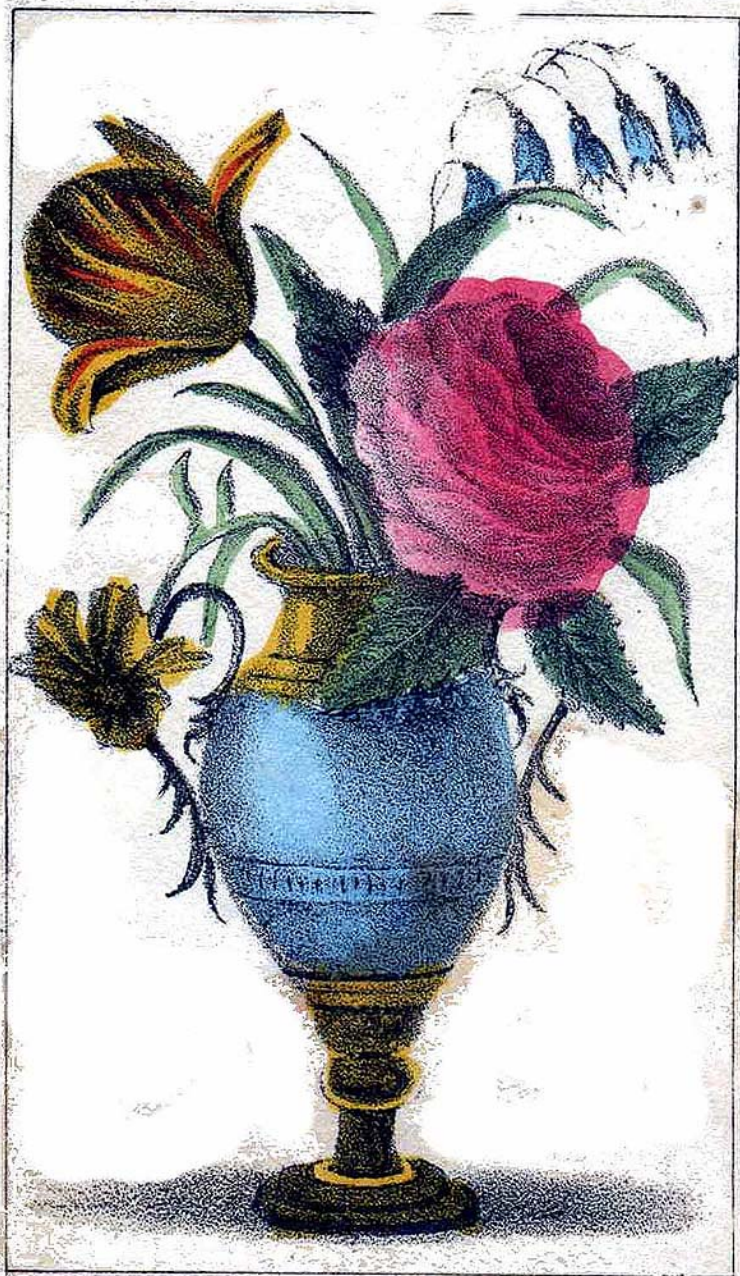
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HAW April 2009





THE FLOWER VASE;

CONTAINING

THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS

AND

THEIR POETIC SENTIMENTS.

BY MISS S. C. EDGARTON.

‘Love hath its symbols; hence, in far Cathay,
And where the arrowy Tigris rolls his wave,
The fragrant reeds and woods, whose bending trunks
Weep precious balms; and on those palmy fields
Where erst the majesty of Persia fell,
The words of passion find an utterance thus,
And all its nameless feelings stand revealed
By emblems gathered from the grove and rill.
Methinks *our* land, as fair and green as these,
Might furnish matter, in its mossy glades
And fern-invested rills, where thought should rove
And young imagination sport as free.’.....*J. F. Hollings.*

LOWELL:
POWERS AND BAGLEY.

1844.

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1843,
By A. C. BAGLEY,
In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the District of
Massachusetts.

PREFACE.

THIS little volume is put forth, not for its originality of design or arrangement, but because it embraces the language and poetic sentiments of flowers in a smaller and less expensive form than any similar work hitherto before the public.

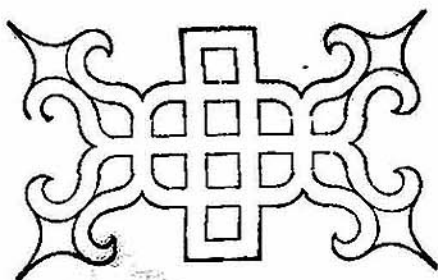
The poetic sentiments are chiefly original; those that have been selected are usually from sources not attainable to the mass of readers, and will, we think, be as new as they are appropriate. The *language* of the flowers is, in most cases, that which has been established by popular acceptance. Where authorities differ, we have followed our own taste.

The prose descriptions are necessarily brief and simple. The botanic name and classification are given, as a reference to more elaborate and scientific description in works devoted to floral

analyzation. 'Flora's Interpreter,'—the best of the flower books,—has been our guide in this; but, though imitating, we have not copied.

The study of flowers is so interesting, and their connection with poetry so natural, that it is hardly necessary to commend any work of this class to the notice of the cultivators or the lovers of flowers. We only ask for ours, that it may have its day with the rest.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1943.



DEDICATION.

'T is said that in gorgeous Eastern climes,
Where folks are too idle for stringing rhymes,
When a lover would send to his lady a token
Of love, which in words may not be spoken,
He hies away to the garden bowers,
And culls a boquet of the fairest flowers;
Which, woven together of magic art,
Are the language of love to the maiden's heart!

No tale of passion have I to breathe;
Yet, gentle reader, I fain would wreathe
A floral garland, whose leaves shall be
Emblems and tokens of love to thee.
FLOWERS!—they bloom by the lowliest cot—
May they gladden, and brighten, and bless thy lot!

THE FLOWER VASE.

AMARANTH.

AMARANTHUS. *Class 19.—Order 5.*

Of this plant there are many species. Among the prettiest is the Coxcomb—flowers red, unfading.

Immortality.

Oh, not for the hue of thy roseate cheek,
Nor the dimpled rubies that smile and speak,
Oh, not for the flash of thy glowing eye,
Nor the eloquent sound of thy soft, low sigh,
Do I love thee, bright being of passion and grace!
'Tis the SOUL, the sweet soul in thy beautiful face,
The spirit immortal, the charm that ne'er dies,
That from death and the gloom of the grave will
arise ;

It is *this* that enthrals me ; and thou unto me
Art the embryo, only, of what thou shalt be ;
For thy mortal shall die ; but the beauty *I* love,
Hath an endless existence and progress above !

ANEMONE.

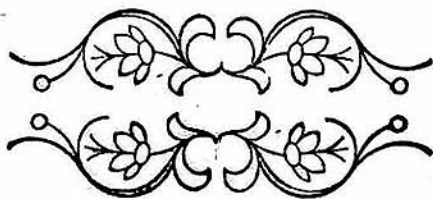
ANEMONE. *Class 13.—Order 13.* Wind-flower.

This plant is native to America, and is one of the earliest harbingers of Spring. The flowers are of various colors —blue, white, purple, etc.

Frailty.

LIFE'S frosts thou art too frail to bear,
And in its storms would perish ;
A floweret Love alone should wear,
And on his bosom cherish.

Love, like a rock, should firmly stand,
And hang its shelter o'er thee ;
While only zephyrs soft and bland,
Dispense their sweets before thee.



ASTER.

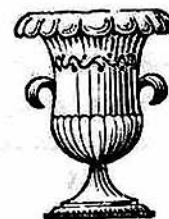
ASTER. *Class 19.—Order 2.* Starwort.

This is one of the most common of American wild flowers, and has almost every variety of color. The genus consists of more than one hundred species; of which none is prettier than the purple wood-aster, that blooms in September and October.

Beauty in retirement.

THOU, like a star-flower in the wood,
Thy modest charms art hiding ;
Content with humbly doing good,
And in God's love abiding.

But though the world observes thee not,
In one fond heart thou 'rt treasured ;
And bright indeed must be the lot
That shares a love unmeasured.



ACACIA.

ACACIA. *Class 17.—Order 10.*

Platonic Love.

Lo, others kneel before thy shrine
With Passion's words of fire ;
But better far such love as mine,
That never feels desire.

To pray for thee at twilight hour,
To dream of thee at night,
To link thy name with every flower—
These make *my* love's delight.

And years may roll, and time may mar
The beauty of thy brow,
But thou, however distant far,
Wilt be as dear as now.

From Passion and its stains refined,
My love is deep and pure ;
Shall it not, born of heart and mind,
As long as these endure ?

APPLE BLOSSOM.

PYRUS. *Class 12.—Order 5.*

This is a blossom too well known to require description. Nothing, however, can be more delicious than the soft perfume shed by it upon the breezes of May. And then how like snow-flakes it falls over the green and dewy sward !

Fame speaks you great and good.

THY name is heard in crowds —
They call thee good and great ;
The brightness of the sunset clouds
Seems showered upon thy fate.
Where'er thy pathway leads
They strew it o'er with flowers —
Emblems of generous deeds
Thy heart profusely showers ;
Oh, good and great forever be —
Worthy the praise they yield to thee !



ASH.

FRAXINUS. *Class 21.—Order 2.*

There are six varieties of the Ash native to our forests.
It is a handsome as well as useful tree; and in Autumn
wears a very gorgeous apparel.

Grandeur.

COSTLY the jewels that gleam on thy breast —
Beautiful maiden! say, art thou blest?
Rich are the robes that envelope thy form —
Beats there beneath them a heart that is warm?
Beautiful maiden! slaves wait thy command —
Leadeest thou them with a lenient hand?
Grandeur is round thee, wherever thou art —
Oh say, is there brightness like this in thy heart?
If so, may no sorrows of mine ever dim
The joys that are mantling thy cup to its brim;
In the shade of my lot, I'll adore thee afar —
The worm on the earth may look up to the star!



ALYSSUM.

ALYSSUM. *Class 15.—Order 1.*

Worth beyond beauty.

THOU art not beautiful — ah, no!
Not what the world calls fair;
No roses on a cheek of snow
Beam through soft curling hair;
Thou art not beautiful; and yet
Thy looks are full of grace;
The seal of wisdom, too, is set
Upon thy modest face.

And better far such charms as these,
Than those that fade with years;
Give me the beauty that can please
When withered eld appears.
For time, that pales the rosiest cheek
And tracks the smoothest brow,
Will leave *thy spirit* pure and meek,
And beautiful as now.



BACHELOR'S BUTTON.

GOMPHRENA. *Class 5. — Order 1.*

This is the pretty Globe Amaranth, with the round, red, unfading blossoms. Commonly cultivated.

Hope in Misery.

THE cloud may be dark, but there's sunshine beyond it;

The night may be o'er us, but morning is near;
The vale may be deep, but there's music around it,
And hope, mid our anguish, bright hope is still here.

Still here, though the wing of dark sorrow is o'er us,

Tho' bitterness dregs every cup that we drink;
With a smile in her eye, she glides ever before us
To yield us support when we falter or sink.

Blessed hope! like a star on the darkness of ocean,
Still gleam o'er the track where our destinies tend;

And guide our frail hearts from this sea of commotion,

To havens of peace where our sorrows will end.

BALM.

MELISSA NEPETA. *Class 14. — Order 1.*

This species is commonly called Rose-balm, and is highly aromatic. It is known also by the name of Calamint. The flowers are red and blue, and disposed in heads or corymbs.

Sweets of Social Intercourse.

I HAVE best loved those hours when, 'mid a group
Of chosen friends, I gave frank utterance
To every thought, and won *theirs* in return.
With books around the fireside, or with flowers
When summer reigns, how freely gush and blend
True hearts in unison! To man how dear
His cheerful hearthstone when the day is o'er;
And woman — sure *her* heart was wholly made
For sweet communion at the social shrine.



BALM OF GILEAD.

POPULUS BALSAMIFERA. *Class 21. — Order 13.*

There are many species of the Poplar. The Balm of Gilead is distinguished for its resinous and aromatic buds, which are useful for vulnerary application.

—
I am cured.
—

My dream is o'er, my heart at rest ;
No idle hopes its peace molest ;
Never again will love of mine
Be cast, rejected, from thy shrine.

It is not pride that bids me wear
A quiet and untroubled air ;
My smiles are no poor tricks of art —
They speak the sunshine of my heart.

Farewell! Pursue in peace thy way ;
I care not where thy feet may stray ;
No idle griefs my peace molest,
My love is o'er, my heart at rest.



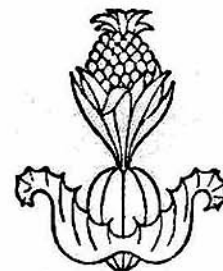
BALSAM.

IMPATIENS. *Class 5. — Order 1.*

This flower is commonly called Touch-me-not. The wild species grows by the brook-sides, and bears an orange-colored flower.

—
Impatience.
—

I CANNOT, will not longer brook
Thy cold delay, thy prudent look !
Dost love me? Share at once my fate,
Be it or bright or desolate !
I will abide no half-way love,
Nor wait for prudence ere I move ;
One more repulse, and I depart !
Come now, or never, to my heart.



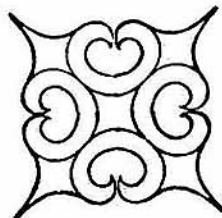
BARBERRY.

BERBERIS. *Class 6. — Order 1.*

This graceful wild shrub is well known. It forms handsome hedges, and is much esteemed for its fruit. It bears a pretty yellow flower.

Petulance.

THAT frown but ill becomes thy face;
That pout hath spoilt thy lips' sweet grace;
Those peevish tones disturb the ear
Accustomed thy *soft* notes to hear.
Have I offended? Gently chide,
And I thine anger will abide;
Will kneel repentant at thy feet,
Until my pardon is complete.
Say, dost thou not this mood regret?
'Thou dost! Forgive, then, and forget.



BAY LEAF.

LAURUS. *Class 9. — Order 1.*

The Greek fable relates that Daphne was transformed into the Bay tree, and that Apollo, her lover, crowned his head with the leaves.

I change but in dying.

THOUGH fate ordains that we must part,
And each fond tie doth sever,
Yet still thou reignest in my heart,
To be dethronéd never!

Thy resting-place it still shall be,
Should grief or care assail thee;
And when thy summer-friends all flee,
This refuge ne'er shall fail thee.

Thy memory, fondly there enshrined,
The dews of thought shall nourish;
And from the dross of earth refined,
The plant of love shall flourish.

C. A. FILLEBROWN.



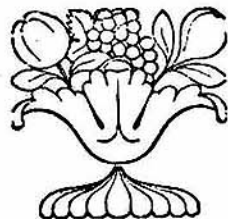
BIRCH.

BETULA. *Class 20. — Order 13.*

There are many varieties of the Birch, and all of them are graceful. Schoolboys consider the bark of the Spicy Birch a great treat.

Gracefulness.

LIKE the foam on the wave floating down to the
sea,
Like the zephyr that flits o'er the grain-covered
lea,
Like the soft fleecy cloud o'er the face of the moon,
Like the sail of a bird on the still air of noon,
So graceful, and airy, and gentle art thou,
With thy curls floating free o'er thy radiant brow!
So fairy-like moveth thy foot o'er the flowers,
They look up and exclaim — 'T was the step of
the Hours!'



BINDWEED.

CONVOLVULUS. *Class 5. — Order 1.*

This is a very pretty wild vine, with delicate pink flowers. There are eight species native to America.

Humility.

LIKE thy Saviour, maid, thou art,
Humble, lowly, meek of heart;
Fairest of the flowers of earth,
Yet unconscious of thy worth.

Ever thus pursue thy way,
Ever thus thy Lord obey;
Dearest of all charms to me
Is thy sweet humility.



BLUE BELL.

CAMPANULA. *Class 5. — Order 1.*

Six species of this flower are native to America. They are all beautiful, having blue or white nodding flowers.

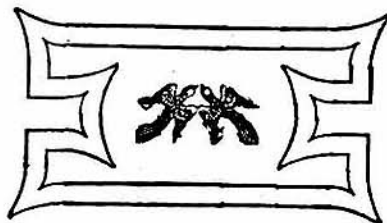
Constancy.

THEY bid me forget him! as if I could tear
From my heart the dear image so long cherished
there!

Like a rose in the wilderness, blooming and free,
Like a fount in the desert that love is to me!

I brood o'er my thoughts in the stillness of night;
I cannot forget him — *would* not, if I might!
'T is the star that illumines my desolate way,
And gives it the glory and brightness of day.

C. A. FILLEBROWN.



BOX.

BUXUS. *Class 21. — Order 4.*

There are two kinds of Box, — the Arborescent, which is twelve or sixteen feet high; and the Dwarf, which is used as a border for flower-beds.

Stoicism.

I NE'ER will weep again!
I will meet fate with an unblenching eye;
For better far in proud contempt to die,
Than idly talk of pain.

Can I not bear *all things*?
Who talks of weakness to a soul like mine?
Love, hope, pity, sorrow I resign,
And all that fortune brings.

In lonely strength I stand,
Unmoved though earthquakes open at my feet;
Though storms of malice on my bosom beat,
I can their rage withstand.



BROOME.

GENISTA. *Class 17. — Order 10.*

Dyer's Broome bears a yellow flower, and blossoms in August. There are two other varieties, violet and white flowering.

Neatness.

I LOVE to see thy gentle hand
Dispose, with modest grace,
The household things around thy home,
And 'each thing in its place.'

And then thy own trim, modest form
Is always neatly clad;
Thou sure wilt make the tidiest wife
That ever husband had'

No costly splendors needest thou,
To make thy home look bright;
For neatness on the humblest spot
Can shed a sunny light.



BURDOCK.

ARCTIUM. *Class 18. — Order 1.*

This is known by its coarse, broad leaf, and round, bur-like blossom. Nurses know how to appreciate its value in alleviating pain.

Importunity.

OF thy teasings and pleadings
I'm heartily sick;
I'm sure if I loved thee
I'd tell thee so quick.

What use or advantage
In wooing like this?
When a woman says 'No!'
Do you think she means 'Yes?'

The longer thou suest
The colder I grow;
There — take my last answer;
Canst hear it? 'Tis — No!



CALLA.

ARUM. *Class 20. — Order 13.*

This is a native of Ethiopia, and is much esteemed for its beautiful snow-white calyx, and broad green leaves.

Feminine Modesty.

THE blue bell by the meadow rill
Is not more fair than thou,
With thy downcast and thoughtful eye,
Thy pure and gentle brow.

All sweet and holy dreams seem blent
Within thy maiden heart;
How delicate in every look,
In every thought thou art!

The blush so frequent on thy cheek,
Thy meek and quiet air,
Thy low and gentle accents, — all
Thy purity declare.



CHAMOMILE.

ANTHEMIS. *Class 18. — Order 2.*

This is a native of Europe — has a white or yellow flower, and is much loved for its fragrance.

Energy in Adversity.

ONWARD! Hath earth's ceaseless change
Trampled on thy heart?
Faint not, for that restless range
Soon will heal the smart.
Trust the future — time will prove
Earth hath stronger, truer love.

* * * * *

Bless thy God, the heart is not
An abandoned urn,
Where, all lonely and forgot,
Dust and ashes mourn;
Bless Him, that his mercy brings
Joy from out its withered things.

MRS. CASE.



CANDYTUFT.

IBERIS. *Class 15. — Order 1.*

This is a pretty garden-flower, bearing clusters of small white blossoms, and forms a very good border to a flower-garden.

Indifference

TAKE back thy flowers and *billet-doux*,
Thy sonnets and thy rhymes;
To burn them all I've half resolved
A dozen different times.

So much waste paper lying round —
So many withered herbs —
I'm sure the very sight of them
My quietude disturbs.

Thou knowest well I little care
For gifts like these from thee;
'T is love alone gives worth to such —
And thou hast none from me.



CARDINAL FLOWER.

LOBELIA. *Class 5. — Order 1.*

This is a beautiful flower, growing wild by our brooks and ditches. Flowers are a rich scarlet.

Distinction.

HEAVEN grant thee, friend, a high soft star to be,
Calm, still and bright, to trace thy way in heaven,
And shed thy light o'er life's tempestuous sea,
Where human hearts, like fragile barks, are driven
'Mid rocks and hidden shoals;
A soul 'mid glorious souls —
A small pure star within the glittering band
That high above the clouds, undimmed and grand
In placid beauty, rolls,
To herald on the weary to the land
Where all is rest and peace; to guide the way
To heaven's unclouded day!



CARNATION.

DIANTHUS. *Class 10. — Order 2.*

This is a very rich and fragrant Pink, growing sometimes as large as a rose. It has a variety of colors—chiefly red and white.

Pride.

It is not well amid thy race to move
And shut thy heart to sympathy and love.
It is not well to scorn inferior minds,
And pass them by as though they were but hinds.
Pride may become thee, as the veil a nun,
But ah! they love thee not, whom thou dost shun!
And days may come to thee when human love
Thou wilt desire all earthly things above;
And thou wilt mourn that in thy days of pride
Thou didst not win some true hearts to thy side;
Wilt mourn that now thy rank and wealth have
 flown,
Thou 'rt left to suffer and to die *alone!*



CATCHFLY.

SILENE. *Class 10. — Order 3.*

There are nearly one hundred species of this flower. That most common with us bears a pink blossom, and grows very tall.

A Snare.

OF winning words and tender looks,
My artless friend, beware!
Along the path of human life
Lurks many a fatal snare.

Trust seldom, and with much reserve;
Few merit generous faith;
And should *guile* speak, oh give no heed
To what the tempter saith.

I fear some treacherous snare is laid
Along thy flowery way;
Oh, be thou cautious—smiles may cheat,
And tender words betray!



CEDAR TREE.

JUNIPERUS. *Class 20. — Order 12.*

This tree is native to North America, and is one of our prettiest evergreens. The wood is considered quite valuable for many purposes of building, etc.

Spiritual Strength.

ONWARD, for the *truths of God!*

Onward, for the *right!*

Firmly let the field be trod,

In life's coming fight:

Heaven's own hand will lead thee on,

Guard thee till thy task is done!

* * * * *

Then will brighter, sweeter flowers

Blossom round thy way,

Than e'er sprung in Hope's glad bowers

In thine early day —

And the rolling years shall bring

Strength and healing on their wing.

MRS. CASE.



CHERRY BLOSSOM.

PRUNUS. *Class 12. — Order 1.*

There are a great many species of Cherry growing wild in our woods and glens. They all bear a pretty white blossom, of pleasant fragrance.

Spiritual Beauty.

I KNOW thou art not beautiful, nor art thou fortune's child,

Yet beameth ever from thine eye a spirit undefiled.

I know that genius never shed its radiance on thy brow,

Yet wert thou ever truthful, good, and kind as thou art now.

I know thy form was never cast in fashion's graceful mould,

Nor do I wish in fashion's throng thy presence to behold;

So long as Nature's nobleness has marked thee for her own,

I would not give thy soul-lit smile to share a monarch's throne!

MISS H. J. WOODMAN.

CHINA ASTER.

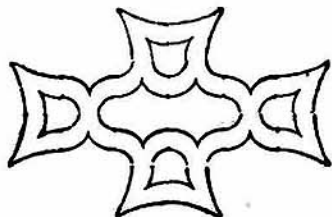
ASTER. *Class 19. — Order 2.*

A very extensive genus, of which we have many species in our woods, but none so beautiful as the cultivated *China Aster*.

—
Your sentiments meet with a return.
—

Yes, I am thine! Upon thy bosom leaning,
No grief hath power to damp my fervent bliss;
Nor can such love to thee be overweening —
Thou art deserving all, and more than this!

Beloved, ne'er from thee one moment straying,
My heart shall twine its roots upon thy truth;
All lighter loves than this are fast decaying,
Lost in the dying years of sunny youth.



CHRYSANTHEMUM—YELLOW.

CHRYSANTHEMUM. *Class 18. — Order 2.*

This genus embraces the Ox-eyed Daisy, Feverfew, and two or three other species. The *Coronarum* is most cultivated in our gardens.

—
A heart left to desolation.
—

THE long, lone Future! It hath no gay dream,
For nought can make it beautiful save thee;
Hope plants no garlands by life's shadowy stream,
Nor are there blossoms on life's frost-hued tree.
And Fame, she may bring wreaths; I heed them
not;
By all the world I pray to be forgot.



CINQUEFOIL.

POTENTILLA. *Class 12. — Order 13.*

There are twelve species of this little flower indigenous to America. The common Five-finger may be found in blossom along our road sides from April till the season of frosts.

Love, constant, but hopeless.

I CANNOT reproach thee! A malison rest
On the word that would wound those kind feelings of thine!
Wert thou colder than snow on Monadanock's crest,
The star of my love on thy spirit should shine.

Yet thou lovest me not as thou lovedst me of yore;
A cloud hath arisen, and passed o'er the light;
It is well! May God bless thee, dear friend, evermore;
So the sun but gild thee, I can welcome the night!



CLEMATIS.

CLEMATIS. *Class 13. — Order 7. Virgin's Bower.*

This is a very graceful vine, bearing white and pale blue flowers. It grows wild by our brooks, and is considerably cultivated in gardens.

Mental Excellence.

EXCELLING riches dwell within thy mind —
Strong, fervent thought, and eloquence refined;
Ideal beauty clusters round thy soul,
While deep within, the waves of feeling roll,
Religious fervor mingles with the grace
Of playful fancy, to illumine thy face;
And sparkling wit with graver sense unites,
And fills thine eye with many changing lights.
Oh, beautiful, indeed, a mind like thine,
And well might angels bow at such a shrine;
But man, weak man, oft passes idly by,
To worship beauty that attracts the eye,
While mental grace, a charm that ne'er can fade,
Flies from the crowd, and dwells amid the shade.



COLUMBINE.

AQUILEGIA. *Class 13. — Order 5.*

This flower is well known. The wild Columbine of New England is of a bright red; those in our gardens are white, purple, pink, etc.

I cannot give thee up.

Oh, blame me not that unto thee I pour
The lavish treasures of unfathomed love;
'Tis, dear one, but to plead with thee, no more
To bid me crush what has its root above.
I shall die gently 'neath its shadowy spell,
And thou shalt know that *one* hath loved thee well.

Mistake me not; nor let one shadow fall
Upon thy heart, already worn with pain;
Let me but love thee, serve thee; this is all;
Grant me but this, and I am strong again;
Strong — for to love thee, though thou art not mine,
Is to my homeless heart an altar and a shrine.



CORN.

ZEA MAYS. *Class 20. — Order 3.*

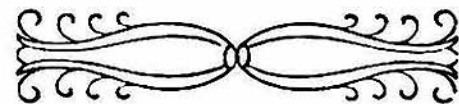
There are several varieties of Corn, but the rich yellow ear is most in favor with New England farmers.

Riches.

If thou 'lt be mine, no want or care
Shall e'er disturb thy life;
Thy days shall all be bright and fair,
With worldly blessings rife.

If thou 'lt be mine, bright gems shall deck
Thy snowy arms and breast,
And pearls shall cluster round thy neck,
And on thy forehead rest.

If thou 'lt be mine, what have I, love,
That is not also thine?
Oh then my heart no longer prove,
But say thou wilt be mine!



COWSLIP.

DODECATHEON. *Class 5. — Order 1.*

A very bright, beautiful yellow flower, growing in our meadows, and blossoming in May.

Native Grace.

SHE grew in love. Around her infant home
Life hung its summer hues, and very fair
Was this wild earth to her. She learned to roam
In artless radiance where the woodland air
Showered trembling sweetness on the glancing
streams,
And stole its hue from sunset's golden beams.

She twined the orchis in her hazel hair,
And stole the violets from the brookside dell;
The wilding race was her peculiar care,
Her dearest music was the foxglove's bell,
When the wild bee with his transparent wings
Stirs the sweet air, and makes believe he sings.



COREOPSIS.

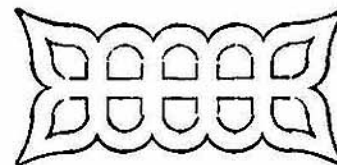
COREOPSIS. *Class 19. — Order 3.*

This is a bright yellow flower, much cultivated in modern gardens. It continues in bloom from June till autumn.

Always cheerful.

LOVELY thou art, ay, lovely;
And sorrow shared with thee,
As if magician-changed, becomes
A pleasure unto me.
Life's sky, though clothed with tempest clouds,
Grows bright when thou art nigh,
And tears e'er turn to smiles beneath
Thine angel-gifted eye.

MRS. SCOTT.



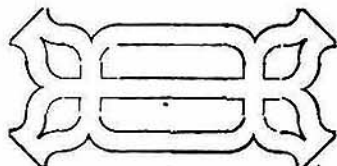
CORIANDER.

CORIANDRUM. *Class 5 — Order 2.*

This has a fragrant, spicy seed, formerly much esteemed by housewives and confectioners.

Concealed Merit.

NONE know thy goodness. Like the fragrant mint
Hid in the umbrage of some lowly glen,
Thy virtues lie concealed; and only love
In its deep research, can unlock the wealth
Of thy benignant soul, and bring to light
Its hidden jewels. The lone, suffering heart,
The humble poor, the sorrowing and forlorn,
These know thy worth. Oh, is not fame like this
Beyond the praises of a heartless world?



CYPRESS.

CYPRESSUS. *Class 21. — Order 16.*

Disappointed Hopes.

THEY came and went like shadows,
The blessed dreams of youth,
And they left behind no impress
Or record of their truth.
Then the future was all sunshine,
In gorgeous robes arrayed;
But ever as I've reached it,
Its sunshine turned to shade.

I've seen the colors fading
From all that I could prize,
Like day's departing glories
From out the sunset skies.
And full roughly I have ridden
The stormy tide of life,
And long years have passed in struggling,
In bitterness and strife.

T. B. THAYER.



DAHLIA.

DAHLIA. *Class 19. — Order 2.*

This is a Mexican plant, much cultivated by modern horticulturists. The flowers are of all colors, and very showy; growing often to the height of six or eight feet.

Elegance and Dignity.

It is worth much in this dull world of strife
And foolish vanity, to meet a heart
Serene and beautiful like thine! The praise
And selfish flattery of the heartless crowd,
Falls idly on thine ear, whilst thou, unmoved,
And with a lofty purpose in thy breast,
Retain'st thy elevation o'er the herd,
No less by that calm majesty of soul
Which shrinks from adulation, than by gifts
Of lofty intellect, and outward grace.
Thy form hath elegance that indicates
The beautiful refinement of thy thoughts;
And there is dignity in thy firm step,
That speaks a soul superior to the thrall
Of petty vanity and low-born pride.



DAISY.

BELLIS. *Class 19. — Order 2.*

This is a common European flower, but belongs to us only by cultivation. Colors, blue, pink and white.

Beauty and Innocence.

LOVELY thou art! ay, lovely,
In spirit and in form;
A sunbeam glancing o'er life's tears,
A rainbow through the storm;
A snow-drop 'mid earth's darker hues,
Unwarmed by flattery's breath;
A harp-tone flung from cherub hands,
Wringing out joy from death.

MRS. SCOTT.



DANDELION.

LEONTODON. *Class 19. — Order 1.*

This is a naturalized European flower, and one of the earliest that greets us on the return of Spring.

Coquetry.

I KNOW I share thy smiles with many,
Yet still thy smiles are dear to me;
I know that I, far less than any,
Call out thy spirit's witchery;
But yet I cannot help, when nigh thee,
To seize upon each glance and tone,
To hoard them in my heart when by thee,
And count them o'er whene'er alone.

But why, oh why, on all thus squander
The treasures one alone can prize,—
Why let the looks at random wander,
Which beam from those deluding eyes?
Those syren tones, so lightly spoken,
Cause many a heart, I know, to thrill;
But mine, and only mine, till broken,
In every pulse must answer still.

C. F. HOFFMAN.

DEW-PLANT.

MESEMBRYANTHEMUM. *Class 12. — Order 5.*

An oriental flower, of a rich purple color. The plant itself is very green and beautiful.

A Serenade.

Look out upon the stars, my love,
And shame them with thine eyes,
On which, than all the lights above,
There hang more destinies.
Night's beauty is the harmony
Of blending shades and light;
Then, lady, up! look out and be
A sister to the night!

Sleep not! — thine image wakes for aye
Within my watching breast:
Sleep not! — from her soft sleep should fly,
Who robs all hearts of rest.
Nay, lady, from thy slumbers break,
And make this darkness gay
With looks, whose brightness well might make
Of darker nights a day.

E. C. PINKNEY.

ELDER.

SAMBUCUS. *Class 5. — Order 3.*

Flowers, white. Berries, dark purple. Whole shrub medicinal.

Compassion.

OH, let me wipe
The tears from thy too mournful eyes, and make
Thee happy, dearest, by my own true love.
I will console thee by the earnest truth
Of a confiding heart; by kindly deeds
To those who mourn; by patient love and hope
For those who go astray from the high path
Of duty; by a gentle watch o'er thee
When thou art sick and weary; and by still
And secret chastening of my own wild heart
In the dear presence of my God. Thine eye
Smiles on me while I promise; — 't is enough!



EGLANTINE.

ROSA. *Class 12. — Order 13.*

This is a sweet-scented shrub, with delicate pink flowers.
Grows often to a great height.

Poetry.

Thy spirit has a gift, a secret gift,
Which answers only to the far, bright stars,
When through the greenwood's high and change-
ful rift,
Streams down the light of Venus and of Mars;
Which answers only to the winds and streams,
The sweet wood-blossoms and the moon's pale
beams.

Thou seest strange beauty in the silent things
That others idly pass. The small, wild bird
That flutters o'er the rose his bright blue wings,
The singing brook by careless ears unheard,
The wild flower, swinging in the lonely dell, —
All bind thee with a strong and wondrous spell.



EVERLASTING.

GNAPHALIUM. *Class 19.—Order 2.*

This is a common wild flower. Blossoms pearly white, and unwithering.

—
Always remembered.
—

I THINK of thee when the bright sunlight shimmers
Across the sea;
When the clear fountain in the moonbeam glimmers,
I think of thee.

I see thee, if far up the pathway yonder
The dust be stirred;
If faint steps o'er the little bridge to wander
At night be heard.

I hear thee, when the tossing waves' low rumbling
Creeps up the hill;
I go to the lone wood, and listen, trembling,
When all is still.

GOETHE.



EVERGREEN.

Class 10.—Order 1.

There are several genuses of Wintergreen, but nearly all belong to the same class. Among these are the *Chiraphila*, *Pyrola* and *Gaultheria*.

—
Poverty and Worth.
—

FAIR child of Poverty! thy only dower
Is thy transcendent beauty, and the gift
Which nature throws but seldom in a vase
Of such exquisite workmanship, — a heart,
Pure as the wreath round Apennines' cold brow,
And true and gentle as the constant dove.
Thy dress is coarse and simple, and thy hands,
Though small and delicate, are sparkling not
With many costly diamonds. On thy brow
No band of woven brilliants tells the tale
Of lavish partiality. Thy hair,
In its dark flowing richness, boasteth not
Of pearl, or ornament, save one wild flower,
Plucked from the sterile borders of a rock —
Fit emblem of thy lowliness and worth.

MRS. SCOTT.

FIR.**PINUS.** *Class 21.—Order 16.*

A genus consisting of near forty species, found in Europe,
North America, Barbary, India and China.

Time.

WAIT thou for Time — the slow-unfolding flower
Chides man's impatient haste with long delay ;
The harvest ripening in the autumnal sun —
The golden fruit of suffering's weighty power
Within the soul — like soft bells' silvery chime
Repeat the tones, if fame may not be won,
Or if the heart, where thou shouldst find a shrine,
Breathe forth no blessings on thy lonely way !

Wait thou for time — it hath a sorcerer's power
To dim life's mockeries that gaily shine,
To lift the veil of seeming from the real,
Bring to thy soul a rich or fearful dower,
With golden tracery on the sands of life,
And raise the drooping heart from scenes ideal
To a high purpose in the world of strife.
Wait thou for time !

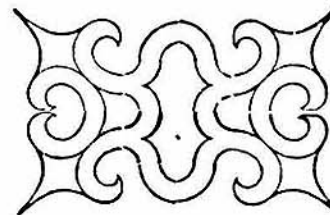
MISS LUCY HOOPER.

FLOWERING REED.**CANNA AUGUSTIFOLIA** *Class 1 — Order 1.*

Found in the Southern States.

Confidence in Heaven.

OH, there is solemn peace, and strength sublime,
And holy fortitude, and deep sweet rest
In all our thoughts and visions of that clime
Where dwell the spirits of the loved and blest.
In every hue of gladsome beauty drest,
They come across our hearts like gleams of
light,
Fraught with a mission, at God's high behest —
A mission to relieve our mental sight
By glimpses of a life where all is calm and bright.



FORGET-ME-NOT.

VIOLA CUCULA. *Class 5. — Order 1.*

A very pretty, but minute flower, growing by the brook-sides. Color, sky blue.

True Love.

GIVE not to weary thought the love
That should be solely mine ;
Nor tire thee of the shrinking dove
Thou call'st so fondly thine.
I know my words are weak and small —
For mind like thine, unmeet ;
But I have love beyond them all,
To lavish at thy feet.

Nay, heed it not, this foolish tear
That trembles in mine eye ;
It always comes when thou art here ;
I know not how, or why.
It is not grief, or pain, or joy ;
It comes of love, may be ;
Then do not thou the spell destroy —
'T is bliss to weep for thee !

FOXGLOVE.

DIGITALIS. *Class 14. — Order 2.*

Flowers crimson, purple, white and yellow.

I am not ambitious for myself, but for you.

THOU callest me the glorious Sun ;
Then thou the *Moon* shalt be ;
For idle all the fame I've won,
Unless conferred on thee.

I only covet dazzling light,
That I may see *thee* shine ;
And gladly hide myself from sight,
To leave the world all thine !

Then think not I forget thee, love,
Though high my course may be ;
Not mine the laurel wreath they've wove —
I won it, love, for thee !



FUCHSIA.

Ladies' Ear-drop. *Class 8. — Order 1.*

Flowers pendulous—red, with a blue centre.

Humble Love.

I LOVE thee. Yes, as flowers love light and air,
As night its stars, or earth the glorious sun,
As the crushed heart loves lone and earnest prayer,
So love I thee, thou true and earnest one!
And this is life—the life that thou canst give—
'Tis but one thing to love thee and to live.

Deal gently, then, and suffer me to feed
The vestal flame I vainly sought to quell;
It shall not wrong or pain thee; but, in need,
Shall be thy comfort, and shall serve thee well.
Though timid as the fawn that loves the wood,
I w'll defy all powers to do thee good.



GENTIAN.

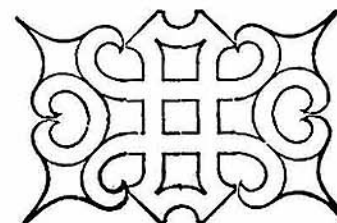
GENTIANA. *Class 5. — Order 2.*

A very beautiful autumn wild flower, of a deep blue color, with delicately fringed petals.

Virgin Pride.

ALONE and pure my life shall be,
A vestal flame from passion free;
Unwon, unwooed by human love,
My heart shall fix its hopes above.

Approach me not with tempting wiles—
My lip denies thee while it smiles;
In virgin liberty and peace,
I will live out my mortal lease.



GERANIUM—ROSE.

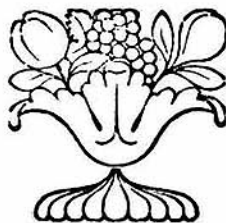
PELAGORIUM CAPITATUM. *Class 16. — Order 7.*

Leaves rose-scented. Flowers purplish pink.

Preference.

OTHERS may wear a gayer smile,
And speak in richer tones ;
But ah ! my heart, my heart, the while,
Each spell, save thine, disowns.

Dearer to me one word of thine
Than all that others speak ;
My heart I lay upon thy shrine —
Accept it ere it break.



GERANIUM—SCARLET.

P. INQUINANS.

Leaves round, velvety. Flowers a rich scarlet.

Thou art changed.

'THOU lovest me not as thou lovedst me of old,
Ere I suffered one throb of keen anguish for
thee ;
The fire on the shrine of thy heart hath grown
cold,
Or if burning, it burneth no longer for me.

Thou shouldst not grow weary of one so allied
To thy destiny, dearest, as I am to thine ;
Whose love, like the ivy, long planted and tried,
Grows greenest and best on a mouldering shrine.



GERANIUM—OAK.

P. QUERCIFOLIUM.

Flowers pale blue.

True Friendship.

THERE are some spirits fitly strung
To echo back the tones of mine ;
And those few, cherished souls among,
I dare, dear friend, to number thine.

Angels attend thee ! May their wings
Fan every shadow from thy brow ;
For only bright and loving things
Should wait on one so good as thou.

And when my prayers are pure and strong,
As they in my best hours *can* be,
Amid my loved and cherished throng,
I'll count, and pray for—*thee* !



GERANIUM—LEMON.

P. ACERIFOLIUM.

Leaves palmate, serrate. Flowers white.

Tranquillity of Mind.

THOU art more blest, I deem,
Than in thy gayer hours, though grief hath laid
Its surgeon hand upon thy heart, and left
Some aching wounds. Oh, truly blest alone
Are they, who, by the wondrous deeds of time,
Gentle or stern, have learned the holy peace
Which dwells with God ; who have been taught
to seek
A deeper love from Him ; a love more pure
And firm than that which dwells in human hearts,
And throws a transient glory o'er the earth.

Peace with thee
Makes its abiding home ; and though the world,
With its consuming pleasures, comes not here,
Yet Faith, and Hope, and Charity are thine,
With all their sweets. Such peace as theirs, this
world
Can neither give, nor can it take away.

GERANIUM—SILVER-LEAVED.

P. ARGENTIFOLIUM. 𐄂

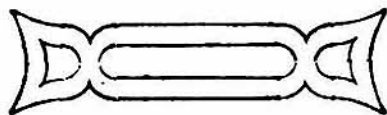
This has a beautiful silvery leaf.

Recall.

COME back, oh come! The past shall be
A cloud fore'er removed;
Come back, and in my welcome see
How thou art still beloved.

I strove in vain to bid my heart
Forget its early dream;
For ah! the dream would not depart,
And thou wert still its theme.

Come back, and never more shall doubt
Or cold distrust be mine;
My heart hath cast those demons out,
And now is wholly thine.



GILLY FLOWER.

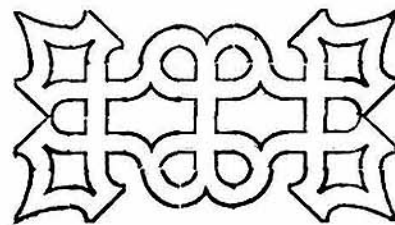
CHEIRANTHUS. *Class 15.—Order 2.*

Flowers bright red, purple or white. The white gilly flower is very fragrant.

Lasting Beauty.

OH faint, indeed, are outward hues
Compared with thy rich mental light;
Each day thy thoughts their rays diffuse,
Yet grow each added day more bright.

To scatter charms so rich as thine,
In vain time's surging billows roll;
The pearls that on thy forehead shine,
Are gathered, daily, from thy soul.



GOLDEN ROD.

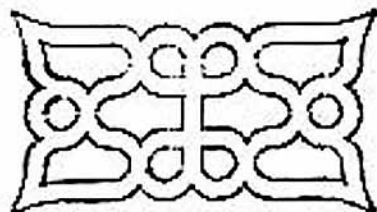
SOLIDAGO. Class 19. — Order 2.

A North American genus. Flowers bright yellow, and very showy.

Encouragement.

I WILL not chide thy love,
Nor crush its budding flower;
But it must look above,
For fostering sun and shower.

May be, when months are o'er,
This heart may be all thine;
Oh, wouldst thou ask for more
From lips reserved as mine?



GRAPE.

VITIS. Class 5. — Order 1.

Flowers numerous, light green. There are many species of wild grape in North America — some very fine.

Charity.

SPEAK kindly, oh speak soothingly
To him whose hopes are crossed,
Whose blessed trust in human love
Was early, early lost;
For wearily — how wearily!
Droops life, if love depart;
Oh, let the balm of gentle words
Fall on the smitten heart!

Go gladly, with true sympathy,
Where want's pale victims pine,
And bid life's sweetest smiles again
Along their pathway shine.
Oh, heavily doth poverty
Mute's nobler instincts bind;
Yet sever not that chain to cast
A sadder on the mind.

Mrs. CASE.

GRASS.

GRAMINEÆ. Class 3. — Order 2.

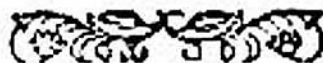
There are more than three hundred species of Grass.
Some have very pretty flowers.

Submission.

I am resigned. Whate'er my fate may be, —
Or storms or sunshine, to Thy will I bow;
And be the fruit that hangs on life's green tree
Or sweet or bitter, it is welcome now.
All things are equal to the heart that bears
A faith unblenching through earth's thousand
changes.

I am resigned. In holy hope and trust,
I wait the coming of a brighter day;
And though but thorns, and rocks, and scorching
dust

Lie all along my melancholy way,
Yet with a fervent heart and willing mind,
I can look up and say, *I am resigned!*



HAWTHORN.

CRATÆGUS. Class 12. — Order 6.

Principally a North American genus. Flowers white.
Berries scarlet.

Hope.

Hope on, hope ever!
Dark o'er us now the clouds of grief are brooding,
Hear'st thou the streamlets murmur at our feet;
Bright birds of song, our eager grasp eluding,
Far from our tree of love and life retreat.
But oh! not yet, my gentle friend, shall leave us
The fervent hope of sunshine and of joy;
And whatsoever of wrong may come to grieve us,
Let there be one thing grief can ne'er destroy —
Hope on, hope ever!



HAZEL.

CORYLLUS. *Class 20. — Order 13.*

This shrub is well known to children for its sweet palatable nut. The shrub, itself, is green and pretty.

Reconciliation.

We have been friends together — it cannot all be
o'er!

Oh, let us nurse the smothered spark, till it shall
blaze once more!

Here, take this hand; as once you deemed, its
grasp is warm and true,

And in my heart a gushing fount of love still
springs for you.

Oh, bless that beaming smile! it comes all sor-
row to dispel:

We 're friends once more together — I will not
say farewell!

MRS. SAWYER.



HELIOTROPE.

HELIOTROPIUM. *Class 5. — Order 1.*

Flowers white or faint purple. Very sweet scented.
Turns toward the sun.

Devotion.

Ah, I would sit for long, long hours

And let thee read my heart —

Its Greek, and poetry, and flowers,

And words of cunning art,

And never think, with all thy skill,

That thou couldst make a plain,

For something thou wouldst find there still

To study o'er again.

Deep graven upon its secret leaves

Are mysteries so rare,

That all the aid thy mind receives

From books, would fail thee there.

But I, yes I, with simple pride,

Could soon explain the key;

Here, take this sentence for thy guide —

My love for God, and THEE!