**HIBISCUS.**

_Hibiscus._ *Class 16. — Order 13._

A kind of Malvacea. Flowers white and purple, or a faint straw-color and purple.

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**Beauty is vain.**

Seek for beauty if thou wilt,
But mark the quality; not that which shines
From human face divine, and gains applause
From gaping starters — that which fools admire,
And seek no other — but that higher kind
Which earth not only appropriates, but heaven;
Pure, bright, celestial! Beauty of the soul —
**BEAUTY OF HOLLINESS!**

J. G. Adams.

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**HOLLYHOCK.**

_Aלcea._ *Class 16. — Order 13._

A native of the East. Flowers of a variety of colors — single and double.

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**Ambition.**

My laurel-wreath with blood is stained —
How great hath been its cost!
What is the glory I have gained,
Compared with what I've lost? —
Earth's proudest ones have sought my shrine,
And offered incense there —
But gladly would I all resign,
_A quiet heart to bear!_ —

C. A. Filibrown.

Ah! peace is never found in pleasure's whirl,
Nor where Ambition's luring meteors burn.
These bring no lasting joy; in _humble worth_
Lies all the enduring glory of this earth.

S. C. E.
HONEYSUCKLE.

Lonicera. Class 5. — Order 1.

Flowers white, red, scarlet, and yellow. Very fragrant and beautiful.

Fidelity.

I go with thee! I will be thine
In weal, in woe;
Thy path, where'er it leads, is mine—
I go, my love, I go!

'Tis not for wealth I seek the shade
Of forest bower and tree;
To share the burdens on thee laid—
For this I go with thee!

HOP.


Flowers yellow-green. Grows very luxuriantly.

Injustice.

On, it was not the sordid fear
Planted in common minds that shook
His upright frame, and drew the tear
From his scarred brain: 't was not the look
Of ghastly death — ah, no! ah, no!
'T was wounded feeling, crushed and flung
All poisoned back, like drops that flow
The fatal Upas-tree among!

Mrs. Scott.
HOUSTONIA.

HOUSTONIA CERULEA. Class 4. — Order 1.
Venus' Pride.

A small, delicate spring-flower. White or pale blue.

Quiet Happiness.

Come to our cottage, love. How sweetly there
The rose-trees bloom! How the soft scented air
Plays round its shaded trellises, and floats
Through our own quiet rooms. The woodlark's
notes,
The sweetest in the choir of earth, awake
Our happy spirits to the day, and make
Our morning hymn of praise. The mellow beams
Of the rich sun shine gently on the streams
That murmur there; and thy pure, faithful love
Smiles on me ever!
ICE-PLANT.

Mesembryanthemum. Class 12.—Order 5.

Resembles the Dew-plant very much, but has a froster appearance. Flowers of a pale rose-color.

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Your looks freeze me.

Oh, turn away those rigid eyes!
My heart hath frozen 'neath their spell;
Such looks are not the meet replies
To one who loveth thee so well.

One smile—ah, one frank, tender smile:
Were than a thousand gems more dear,
If it but told my heart the while,
That I had power thy thoughts to cheer.

A Message.

Weras not thy spirit purified to look
Through all things beautiful to God and heaven,
Those gentle readings from love's holy book
Had not been given.

Were thine eye sealed to those sweet lessons,
taught
In the dim oracles of leaf and tree,
I had not made them messengers of thought,
Dear friend, to thee.

But take them now, for they will talk to thee
In the sweet accents of poetic lore;
Heed their soft pleadings—kindly 'think of me'—
I ask no more.
IVY.

HEDERA. Class 5. — Order 1.

Flowers green. Berries round and black.

I have found one true heart.

Long have I sought, and vainly have I yearned
To meet some spirit that could answer mine;
Then chide me not that I so soon have learned
To talk with thine.

Oh, thou wilt cherish what some hearts would spurn,
So gentle and so full of soul thou art;
And shrive my feelings in that holy urn—
Thine own true heart.

JASMINE.

JASMINUM. Class 2. — Order 1.

An Asiatic genus. Flowers, white and very sweet.
Plant climbing.

Amiability.

Thine is that excellent virtue
The pure-hearted only know;
Thine that unassuming goodness
Which in silent deeds doth flow.
Thou dost make the poor and needy
In thy presence to rejoice;
All the bowed and broken-hearted
Love thy peace-inspiring voice.

Mrs. Scott.
JONQUIL.


Flowers golden, emitting a pleasant but powerful perfume.

Affection returned.

That thou art loved, this flower my witness be!
In the bright morning, noon, or starry night,
One thought my bosom fills — it is of thee!
And thou dost make all hours and seasons bright.

To see thee, hear thee, know that thou art nigh,
Oh, this is joy unknown to me before!
All other thoughts are gone when thou art by —
Thou fill'st my heart — it can contain no more!

KING CUP.


A very glossy, yellow flower, common in our fields in June. It is sometimes found double, in gardens.

I wish I was rich.

Oh, had I wealth, upon thy shrine
I'd pour its lavish treasures forth,
And every jewel should be thine
That glistens in the sea or earth.

Oh, had I wealth, no want should come
To breathe its blight upon thy heart;
And round thy rich and beauteous home
Should cluster every gem of art.

Oh, had I wealth, I'd lay it all
With pride and pleasure at thy feet;
And thou shouldst shine in home and hall,
The fairest that the eye could meet.
LABURNUM.

**Cyrtisum. Class 17. — Order 4.**

Flowers purplish, or yellow.

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**Pensive Beauty.**

Thought, like a bird of drooping wing,  
Sits hushed upon thy brow;  
While from thine eyes' deep, shaded spring,  
A thousand feelings flow.

Thou art like some lone, brilliant star,  
Some planetary light,  
That glitters, radiant and afar,  
Within the depths of night.

Thy beauty has a twilight grace,  
Half-shadowy and half-bright—  
A curtain o'er thy radiant face  
Of intellectual light.

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LADY'S SLIPPER.

**Cypripedium. Class 20. — Order 2.**

A small genus, of which six species are found in North America. Flowers purple, pink, yellow, etc.

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**Capricious Beauty.**

Changing over, who can dare  
Trust her feelings to thy care?  
Smiling now, and now so vexed,  
Who knows what to look for next!  
Who can love thee if they would;  
Or could love thee if they could?  
What but agony and fear,  
First a smile and then a tear,  
Could attend a true devotion  
To a heart of such commotion?  
Nay, capricious one! believe me,  
Thine no more the power to grieve me!
LARKSPUR.

DELPHINIUM. Class 13. — Order 3

Flowers blue, white and pink. A very handsome, showy blossom, easy of cultivation.

Inconstancy.

Thou art not what thou wast,
Farewell, and may God bless thee!
My heart with strength is girt
Once more to say, God bless thee!

Thou hast forgot thy vow —
I gave thee back its token;
'Tis but a memory now
Of pledges lightly broken.

Farewell! we meet no more;
And though I now regret thee,
My grief will soon be o'er;
I can, and will, forget thee!

LAUREL.

KALMIA. Class 10. — Order 1.

A magnificent American shrub. Foliage a deep, glossy green; flowers beautiful, mostly white, though often of a delicate carmine, or rose-pink color.

Virtue is true Beauty.

Oh, not in the outward world alone,
May the beautiful be to the soul made known;
In its own far depths, in its inner life,
Silent and pure is its spirit rise.

Seen in the Love that is still the same
In the captive's dungeon, the martyr's Flame,
As it is in the hour of joy and light,
When life is unclouded, and hope is bright.

Seen in the Mercy, gentle and high
To the destitute's mom, the sufferer's sigh;
In the tear of Repentance; the widow's wail;
The Truth that is firm to the good and right;
In Meekness, Forgiveness, Humility, Prayer,
In Hope that can suffer, and Faith that can bear,
In deeds and in motives untold by the tongue,
By chisel uncarved, by poet unsung,

The Beautiful lives in the depths of the soul!

E. H. Chapin.
LAVENDER.

LAVENDULA. Class 14. — Order 1.
Flowers blue, and white. Delightfully aromatic.

Acknowledgment.

Ah! must I tell thee? Well, I fear
The die is surely cast;
That I am thine, and only thine,
Beloved, to the last!

I could not see thee, hear thy voice,
Or look upon thy brow,
Nor fail to love thee tenderly—
My heart must break or bow!

LEMON.

CITRUS. Class 13. — Order 1.
A native of warm climates. Flowers small, white.

Discretion.

'T is better, far, than beauty, or the grace
That captivates the eye, that sober charm
Of thine, which o'er thy words and deeds
Keeps constant vigilance. A steward, thou,
Faithful to the best riches of thy soul;
And he who puts his trust in one like thee,
'Mid all his cares will find unbroken rest.
LILY — WHITE.

LILYUM CANDIDUM. Class 6. — Order 1.

A native of Palestine. Very fragrant.

Purity.

Ask me not why I should love her:
Look upon those soul-fall eyes!
Look while mirth or feeling move her,
And see there how sweetly rise
Thoughts gay and gentle from a breast,
Which is of innocence the nest—
Which, though each joy were from it fled,
By truth would still be tenanted!

C. F. HOFFMAN.

LILY OF THE VALLEY.

CONVALLARIA. Class 6. — Order 1.

Flowers small and white, with greenish veins. Pendulous.

The heart withering in secret.

Are, fare thee well, thou loved and worshipped one!
For death is at my heart; such death as steals
To the young leaf, when autumn frost and sun
Tinge all its veins with beauty which conceals
Neath radiant dyces the wasting of its heart.—
So shall I, too, in quiet smiles depart.
LOCUST.

ROBINIA. Class 17.—Order 10.

A very handsome ornamental tree or shrub. Blossoms white and fragrant.

Affection beyond the grave.

What though the loving heart is wrong
By chilling words of cold farewell?
And o'er its dying hopes is flung
Their echoing knell?

Shall we not meet in that bright land
Where parting words are never spoken?
And love is not a brittle band
So lightly broken?

Shall we not all meet there to love,
With love that has no trembling fear?
In that dear home, far, far above
This land of tears?

LUPINE.

LUPINS. Class 17.—Order 4.

Flowers white, blue, yellow and rose-colored. The common wild Lupine is of a purplish-blue color.

Dejection, Sorrow.

I would not stay forever here
In this sad world of cares and pain;
I would not have life linger on,
Or give my thoughts to earth again.
I long to close my tearful eyes,
Recline my weary, aching head
Upon the couch where all is peace,
And rest among the early dead.

In wove with many a darkening thread
The texture of my life appears;
How vain were all its sweetest hopes,
How more than bitter were its tears!

Miss M. A. Dodd.
LONDON PRIDE.


A tall, scarlet flower. Resembles the Catchfly, of which it is a species.

Frivolity.

Life should have higher, nobler aims
Than mirth, and song, and dance;
Oh then from sport and idle games,
To higher deeds advance.
Throw by thy foolish wit and songs,
Thy graceful tricks of art,
And far from fashion's heartless throngs
Add wisdom to thy heart.

MALLOWES.


This is a very delicate, but scentless garden flower.
Flowers white or bright pink.

Sweet Disposition.

The friend we love is youthful and fair,
And gentle and pure as the angels are;
Sincerity dwells in her earnest eyes,
And her soul is warm as the Southern skies!
Oh! the friend we love is a friend indeed,
She's ever true in the hour of need!

Mrs. Scott.
THE FLOWER VASE.

MAPLE.

ACER. Class 8. — Order 1.

Eton mentions eight species of the maple, five of which are large trees, and valuable both for timber and saccharine matter.

Reserve.

A veil is round thee, — and thy heart
    Is like a hidden flower;
But could we see thee as thou art,
    We should confess thy power.

Oh, throw that modest screen aside,
    And let us read thy heart;
Thou canst not all its goodness hide—
    Oh why, then, veil a part?

THE FLOWER VASE.

MARIGOLD.

CALENDULA. Class 19. — Order 4.

A brilliant yellow flower—very common.

Contempt.

Leave me to my lot!
Be it or death or slavery, it were bliss
To what thy love would proffer! I am free!
Talk to the wild bird battling with the storm,
Of shelter in the cage; or woo the kid
From the bluff rocks to nestle at thy feet;
But mock not me with bribes!
MIGNONETTE.


Flowers very fragrant. Color white, with yellow stamens.

Moral and Intellectual Beauty.

Beauty consists not in the sparkling eye,
The damask cheek and lip, or forehead high;
Not in the graceful form, or glistening hair,
Or melody of voice! Oh no! not there.
But in the soul, which every glance displays
Basking forever in affection's rays,—
Speaking in love's soft tones, with sunlight smile,
Which can an aching heart from wo beguile!
It dwelleth there in majesty supreme,
Sweeter than music's voice, or seraph's dream!

Miss H. J. Woodman.

MIMOSA.


Flowers pale purple, contracting when touched.

Sensitivity.

Your heart is a music box, dearest!
With exquisite tunes at command,
Of melody sweetest and clearest,
If tried by a delicate hand;
But its workmanship, love, is so fine,
At a single rude touch it would break:
Then oh! be the magic key mine,
Its fairy-like whispers to wake!

Mrs. F. S. Osgood.
Moss.

Sycopodium. Class 22.—Order 2.

Mosses are too obscure and irregular for ordinary distinction; yet are greatly admired for their verdure and beauty.

Maternal Love.

Number thy lamps of love, and tell me now
How many canst thou re-light at the stars,
And blush not at their burning? One—one only—
Lit while your pulses by one heart kept time,
And fed with faithful fondness to your grave—
(Though sometimes with a hand stretched back from heaven)
Steadfast through all things—near when most forgot—
And with its finger of unerring truth
Pointing the lost way in thy darkest hour—
One lamp—thy Mother's love—amid the stars
Shall lift its pure flame changeless, and before
The throne of God burn through eternity—
Holy—as it was lit and lent thee here.

N. P. Willis.

The Flower Vase.

Myrtle.

Myrtus. Class 12.—Order 1.

A beautiful tree, held in high estimation by the ancients.
Flowers white.

Love in Absence.

I miss thee each lone hour,
Star of my heart!
No other voice hath power
Joy to impart.
I listen for thy hasty step,
Thy kind, sweet tone;
But sorrowing silence whispers me,
Thou art alone!

Darkness is on the hearth—
Nought do I say;
Books are but little worth—
Thou art away!
Voices, the true and kind,
Strange are to me;
I have lost heart and mind,
Thinking of thee.

Mrs. Scott.
NASTURTIUM.

Tropaeolum. Class 8.—Order 1.


Patriotism.

Hail to the land whereon we tread,
Our fondest boast!

********

There is no other land like thee,
No dearer shore;
Thou art the shelter of the free,
The home, the port of liberty,
Thou hast been, and shalt ever be,
Till time is o’er.

Ere I forget to think upon
My land, shall mother curse the son
She bore.

J. G. Percival.

NIGHTSHADE.

Solanum. Class 5.—Order 1.

More than one hundred species of this plant are found in America. Flowers yellow, blue, white and purple.

Dark Thoughts.

March—march—march!
Earth groans as they tread!
Each carries a skull,
Going down to the dead!
Every stride, every stamp,
Every footfall is bolder;
’Tis a skeleton’s tramp,
With a skull on his shoulder!
But ho! how he steps
With a high-tossing head,
That clay-covered bone,
Going down to the dead!

A. C. Cox.
OAK.

QUERCUS. *Class 21. — Order 13.*

The Oak embraces about eighty species. Only one is found in the Southern hemisphere.

**Hospitality.**

Thanks for the kindly courtesies
Beside thy hearthstone shared;
Be every joy that round it lies,
And every blessing spared!

The roof that over me hath spread
A shelter kind and warm,
Oh, may it shield thy generous head
From every chilling storm!

For kind, indeed, have been thy cares
Since 'neath its shade I came;
I've shared in all thy household prayers—
Thou shalt in mine the same.

OLEANDER.

NERIUM. *Class 5. — Order 2.*

A beautiful flowered exotic. It grows to the size of a small tree.

**Beware!**

I know they have pleaded, the friends that are round thee;
I know they have warned thee, entreated and wept;
They have shown thee the guile in the spell that hath bound thee,
And the serpent whose coils round thy spirit have crept.
Yet still the grim cavern yawns wide to receive thee,
And now while no terrors thy spirit oppress,
I urge this last prayer, not to frighten or grieve thee,
Oh, no! but to save thee, redeem thee, and bless.
I pray thee, beseech thee, if e'er thou hast loved me,
By all our past sorrows, and trials, and tears,
By all the caprices with which thou hast proved me,
Return to the truth of thine earlier years!
ORANGE FLOWERS.

CITRUS.  Class 12. — Order 12.

Native of Asia. Flowers white and odoriferous.

Woman's Worth.

This, oh this, is woman's lot—
To be a friend when others fail;
To look on death and fear it not;
To smile when other cheeks grow pale;

To trust 'mid danger and 'mid care;
To love when love seems almost dead;
To hope when other hearts despair;
And pray when love and hope are fled.

Mrs. Munroe.

PANSY.

VIOLA TRICOLOR.  Class 5. — Order 1.

This flower has three colors—purple, yellow and blue. It is much cultivated, and highly esteemed.

Tender and pleasant thoughts.

I have sweet thoughts of thee!
They come around me like the voice of song;
They come like birds that to the South belong,
And wear a gayer wing, and brighter crest,
Than those that on the roosttree build the nest;
They come more tender, beautiful, and bright,
Than any thoughts that others can excite;
They tell me gentle tales of thee and thine,
Of gems of truth that in thy spirit shine,
Of goodness, purity, and holy zeal,
That can for others earnest pity feel;
Of all things beautiful in soul and heart,—
And such they tell me, dearest, that thou art!
PASSION FLOWER.

PASSIFLORA. Class 16 — Order 2.

Indigenous to America. At the South, the flowers are bright red. Those of the North are generally pale blue or yellow.

Religious Fever.

How should the soul with adoration glow,
   To that great Power, eternal and supreme,
Who gives us faculties for joy and wo,
   And hope and reason guarding each extreme;
Who paints on sorrow’s clouds the rainbow-beam
   That cheers our spirits through sad mists of tears,
And bids the heaven-lit taper brighter gleam,
   As down the dark declivity of years
We seek the better clime, where Truth her temple rears!

MRS. BROUGHTON.

PEA—EVERLASTING.

LATHYRUS LATIFOLIA. Class 17. — Order 4.

Flowers, of the native kind, purple; the exotic, crimson.

Wilt thou go?

One moment o’er my chequered path
   Thy smile hath shed its gladdening ray;
A rainbow on a cloud of wrath —
   And wilt thou, also, go away?

Thou’rt going! Well, thou knowest
   What prayers arise for thee;
And wheresoe’er thou goest,
   Bear gentle thoughts of me.

MRS. BROUGHTON.
PEA—SWEET.

LATHYRUS ODORATUS. Class 17. — Order 4.

Very beautiful, and possessing much of the fragrance of the pink. The flowers are variegated with blue, lilac, rose, white, etc.

Departure.

UNNOTICED fell the sere and yellow leaf,
Unheeded swept the moaning breezes by;
The fading flowers awoke no throb of grief,
There was no sadness in the wind’s low sigh;
Could gloom or sorrow cloud the dying year,
When shaw, the summer of my heart, wert here?

One hour hath passed—and o’er the deep blue sky
A dimness hangs, whose chill is in my heart;
The wind with funeral moans goes sweeping by,
And asks in every whisper where thou art;
The sunshine hath gone with thee and the flowers,
And frost hath chained the fairy-footed hours.

PEACH BLOSSOM.

AMYGDALUS. Class 12. — Order 1.

Flowers beautiful rose or pink color.

I am your captive.

Oh, is it sin to love the very air
That once hath rested on thy beaming brow?
To gaze in fondness on thy vacant chair,
And on thy books and flowers deserted now?
Or turn in worship on that pictured face,
Whose sweetest looks the heart alone can trace?

Is it a sin to live again each hour
Passed in thy presence? To recall thy tones,
Thy playful words, thy serious thoughts, whose power
Thrills every nerve my quickened spirit owns?
Is it a crime to worship and adore
What is so good the Ideal asks no more?
PETUNIA.

_Grade 5._— _Order 1._

A beautiful procumbent plant, blossoming through the season. Corolla funnel-form; color white or purple; the latter sometimes edged with green. The white species is very fragrant.

Thou art less proud than they deem thee.

They say that thou art proud; I know
Meek thoughts oft o'er thee stealing;
I know the silent, generous flow
Of fervent, kindly feeling
Thy heart yields — by these and many a token
I know thou 'rt less proud than thine eye hath spoken.

_Rose of Sharon, 1844._

PEONY.

_Paeonia._ _Class 13._ — _Order 3._

_Superb double flowers._ Colors crimson and white. Root perennial.

_Ostentation._

I grieve to see thee vain and proud — I grieve
That this world's honors have enticed thy heart,
Such haughty airs become thee not. For me,
I better love a modest mien and look
Than all the gaudy tinsel wealth can buy,
Or vanity display. Put by thy pride,
And by a holy life earn nobler praise
Than such as pomp and idle show can win.
Phlox.

Phlox. Class 5. — Order 1.


Our souls are united.

Where'er thou goest, I will go;
Where'er thou diest, die;
Together in one humble grave
Our senseless dust shall lie.

And I will love thy chosen friends —
Thy people shall be mine;
And we will kneel to praise one God
Before one common shrine.

Our souls — ah, what shall part our souls?
In ties of love entwined,
They will defy the spells and chains
That even death can bind.

Pine.


Found from Canada to Carolina. Leaves dark green and glossy.

Time and Faith.

Wait thou for Time, but to thy heart take Faith,
Soft beacon-light upon a stormy sea:
A mantle for the pure in heart, to pass
Through a dim world, untouched by living death,
A cheerful watcher through the spirit's night,
Soothing the grief from which she may not flee —
A herald of glad news — a seraph bright,
Pointing to sheltering havens yet to be.

Miss Lucy Hooper.
**Pink—White.**

**Dianthus albus.** Class 10. — Order 2.

Root perennial. Flowers very fragrant.

Lovely and pure Affection.

I never have loved thee — yet strange tho’ it be,
So soft are the feelings I cherish for thee,
That the wildest of passions could never impart
More joy to my soul, or more bliss to my heart.
They come o’er my breast in my happiest hours,
They come like the south wind that ruffles the flowers,
A thrilling of softness, a thrilling of bliss —
Say, is there no name for a passion like this?

It cannot be friendship — it cannot be love;
Yet I know the sweet feeling descends from above,
For it takes from my bosom no portion of ease,
Yet adds all the rapture, the pleasure of these;
For so soft the emotion my spirit hath nursed,
It is warm as the last, and more pure than the first;
For my heart when near thine grows soft as a dove —
Yet it cannot be friendship — it cannot be love.

*Mrs. Amelia B. Welby.*

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**Pink—Red.**

**Dianthus ruber.** Class 10. — Order 2.

The Dianthus has many beautiful varieties. The double red pink is one of its most beautiful.

**Woman’s Love.**

Man’s love lives but with hope; while woman’s heart
Still echoes to the music of the past.

* * * * *

A love all sacrifice and suffering; a star
That gathers lustre from the gloom of night;
A martyr’s fond idolatry; a faith
Baptized in tears, to sorrow consecrate.

*Mrs. Whitman.*
POLYANTHUS.

PRIMULA AURICULA. Class 5.—Order 1.

A native of the Alps. Originally yellow, but by cultivation assumes various colors. Perennial.

Confidence.

'Trust in thee!' Ay, dearest, there's no one but must,
Unless truth be a fable, in such as thee trust!
For who can see heaven's own hue in those eyes,
And doubt that truth with it came down from the skies?
While each thought of thy bosom, like morning's young light,
Almost ere 'tis born, flashes there on his sight!

C. F. Hoffman.

POTATO.

SOLANUM. Class 5.—Order 1.

Flowers white or purple, with yellow anthers.

Beneficence.

In deeds of charity thy soul delights;
In mercy, justice, and in human rights;
Thy liberal heart deviseth liberal things;
Thy hand o'er every path some sunbeam flings;
The poor look up with blessings on thy face,
The children rush to meet thy kind embrace,
The weak appeal to thee for just redress,
The sorrowing throng thy path to praise and bless,
And all, of every station, age and race,
Implore thy favor, and extol thy grace.
POPPY.

PAPAVER. Class 13. — Order 1.

Of this plant opium is made. Flowers scarlet, purple, crimson and white.

Forgetfulness.

LET the deep waters of oblivion roll
O'er all that irritates or grieves thy soul;
Let Time its drapery of ivy throw
O'er every painful monument of wo;
And in forgetfulness thy sorrows lose,
Since this is all the refuge thou canst choose,
Wherein to hide thy heart from Memory's pangs,
Or flee the cloud that o'er thy pathway hangs.

PRIMROSE.

PRIMULA. Class 5. — Order 1.

One of the earliest of our Spring flowers, and frequently passes under the name of Polyanthus, from which it widely differs. Flowers purple and yellow.

Modest Worth.

Thine excellence is of a rare degree;
Though praised by others 't is unknown to thee;
In humble deeds of love, and kindly care
To those who in earth's riches own no share;
By acts of mercy all unseen of men,
By silent victory over pride and sin,
By faith, and hope, and charity on earth,
Thou provest to others thy transcendental worth;
Whilst to thyself thy goodness is unknown—
Though virtue crowns and claims thee for her own.
PREMROSE—EVENING.

CENTAURIA ODORATA. Class 8. — Order 1.

This plant is two or three feet high. Flowers pale yellow, and open suddenly.

I am more faithful than thou.

I hast forgotten the days, love, the long-vanished days,
When our spirits communed through the bird and the flower;
When the stars linked our thoughts by their glittering rays,
In a chain that had more than electrical power?

Those days were the violet blossoms of love—
Young flowers that have faded and shrunk from thy view;
But though withered, forgotten, to thee they may prove,
They are pressed to one heart ever faithful and true.

ROSE-BUD.


The moss rose-bud is distinguished for its beauty.

Confession of Love.

I do believe that unto thee
Truth, honor, plain sincerity,
Are jewels far before
All that the others think are dear;
And yet far more than they I fear,
Because I love thee more.

And yet I hope, because I love
With thoughts that set thee far above
Vain Fortune's glittering store;
Others may deem thou canst be won
By things that sparkle in the sun,
But oh! I love thee more!

G. P. R. JAMES.
ROSE—BRIDAL.

RUBUS ROSAFOLIUS. Class 12.—Order 13.

This belongs to the Bramble family. The flowers are small, white, double, and very beautiful.

Happy Love.

It has been said that love doth bind the heart
More strongly to the fading things of earth;
Not so with us; our spirits have no part
With feelings which are but of mortal birth;
We love for heaven—let heaven become our home,
Ere yet the angel beckon us to come!

And are you happy? asks some gentle one
In low, soft accents and with thoughtful eye;
Yes, dear, and more than happy, though the sun
Is softly clouded, and the deep, blue sky
Grows deeper that it is not flushed with light,
Though all the clouds that shade it are of white.

ROSE—BURGUNDY.

ROSA PARVIFOLIA.

Leaflet fine. Flowers small.

Simplicity and Beauty.

Thy beauty wins my heart
By its unstudied grace;
There is no show of art
In thy sweet, radiant face;
But soft simplicity and youth,
And gentle love and sunny truth
Around thy face a spell have thrown,
That wins and makes me all thine own!
ROSE — DAMASK.

Rosa damascena.

Flowers white and red — brought from Damascus.

Bashful Love.

The blushing rose that hangs its head,
Or meets the sun with shrinking dread,
Conceals within its heart a flame
Which from that glowing noontide came.

So have I loved — but some strange spell
Forbids my heart its tale to tell;
Here, — take this simple rose, and feel
The love my lips dare not reveal.

ROSE — MOSS.

Rosa muscosa.

Flowers bright crimson — very fragrant. Sometimes the blossoms are white or pink.

Superior Merit.

I never saw a form before
Of such unrivalled loveliness,
Nor one who was of earth, who wore
The look of heaven upon her face.
I never knew a heart so kind,
Such tears for others’ misery flow,
Nor saw a hand so gladly bind
The crushed and bleeding heart of wo.

Her spirit was from sin so free,
Such gladness round her path she shed,
That all, who knew her purity,
Poured blessings on her bright young head.
In this cold world I never found
But one to whom my heart was dear,
But thousand chords of love had bound
Her being to this changeful sphere.

Miss Phoebe Carey.
ROSE—MULTIFLORA.

**Rosa multiflora.**

A shrub of luxuriant growth. Flowers pink, in clusters.

---

Grace.

---

Thy looks how lovely! and thy face
So eloquent with mental grace!
Thy motions are as light and free
As zephyrs o'er a summer sea!
Thou art, in truth, a wayward child,
Thy words so gay, thy steps so wild;
And none can see thee speak or move
Without some glow akin to love!

ROSE—WHITE.

**Rosa alba.**

One of the most fragrant of the whole genus *Rosa.*

---

Too young to love.

---

Thou art looking now at the birds, Genie,
But oh, do not wish their wing;
That would tempt the Fowler, Genie,—
Stay thou on earth and sing.
Stay in the nursing nest, Genie,
Be not soon thence beguiled;
Thou wilt ne'er find a second, Genie,
Never be twice a child.

**Miss Jewsbury.**
ROSE — RED-LEAVED.

Rosa rubrifolia.

The whole plant is more or less tinged with red.

——

Diffidence.

——

How many things I would confess,
But for this foolish bashfulness!
How often on my lips have hung
The tale from eager passion wrung,
While foolish diffidence and fear
Have chilled my lip and kept me here!
How oft I've yearned to seek thy side,
And tell thee all with joy and pride;
But when I sought thy loved retreat,
Distrust and doubt still chained my feet!

SAGE.

Salvia. Class 2. — Order 1.

Medicinal. Flowers blue.

——

Domestic Virtues.

——

How happy he, who to his hearth
Can woo domestic love and worth!
How sweet are fireside joys! How dear
The charms that please and soothe us here!
The gentle tone, the ready hand,
The smile so winning and so bland,
The noiseless step, the household grace,
The soft and bright, but thoughtful face,
The fireside virtues grave and still,
Neatness, and industry, and skill,—
Oh, do not these exceed in worth
The costliest jewels of the earth?
And do they not deserve man's pride
More than all earthly wealth beside?
SNAPDRAGON.

ANTIRRHINUM. Class 14. — Order 2.

The garden Snapdragon is a procumbent plant, with purple and yellow flowers.

You are dazzling, but dangerous.

I love thee not. I will not lay
One offering on thy shrine,
Though others their devotions pay
As though thou wert divine.

I love thee not. I know deceit
And guile are in thy heart,
That all thy words so soft and sweet,
Are tricks of woman’s art.

I love thee not. The simplest mind
Is dearer far to me,
(Though far less brilliant and refined,)
Than ever thine can be!

SNOW-BALL.

VIBURNUM. Class 5. — Order 3.


Thoughts of Heaven.

’Tis good
To be subdued at times; the heart is wooed
By these pure impulses to purer things.
Cherish within your souls whatever brings
Moments of sweet communion with high thought.
Joy hath its ministries, but griefs are fraught
With gentler blessings. Let them come, in soft
And tender eloquence, and bear aloft
Your faith on the white spirit—wings of prayer.
SNOWDROP.

GALANTHUS. Class 6.—Order 1.

Flowers white—the earliest that appear.

I am not a summer friend.

And dost thou think, thou foolish youth,
That I shall say me 'Yea'
To any fate, or any chains
That bid me part from thee?

I will not. No, thy vow is here,
Deep graven on my heart,
Which reads—'Come want, come shame,
come death,
We, dearest, ne'er will part!'

Hast thou forgotten it so soon?
Then must I, too, believe
That what the proverb says is true,
'Men promise, to deceive.'

No, dearest; I've a heart too strong
To shrink from any strife,
Save that which would o'ermaster it
Were I another's wife.

STAR OF BETHLEHEM.

ORNITHOGALUM. Class 6.—Order 1.

Root bulbous. Flowers white, six-petalled, with no calyx.

Let us follow Jesus.

* * * * *

SHALL we not follow where his feet have trod,
And, by an humble love, and faith sincere,
Approach the likeness of the Son of God?
His Life is with us, and his quickening Word—
Shall these be hidden from our daily sight,
Or only 'neath the temple's arches heard,
Or dreamed of in the still, inactive night?
Oh, no! His holy lessons shall be learned
By wayside cunning in our daily walk;
And, as the hearts of his disciples burned
When listening, as they journeyed, to his talk,
So shall our hearts be thrilled, our souls subdued,
By the deep wisdom of his gentle speech,
Until with light, and peace, and love imbued
His kingdom, and its rest divine, we reach.
STRAWBERRY.

Fragaria. Class 12.—Order 13.

We have two native species of the Strawberry, which are capable of great improvement by cultivation. Flowers white.

Perfect Excellence.

Untouched by mortal passion,
Thou seem'st of heavenly birth,
Pure as the effluence of a star
Just reached our distant earth!

* * * * *

An inward light, to guide thee,
Unto thy soul is given,
Pure and serene as its divine
Original in heaven.

Type of the ransomed Psyche!
How gladly, hand in hand,
To some new world I'd fly with thee
From off this mortal strand.

J. Aldrich.

SUMACH.

Rhus. Class 5.—Order 3.

Flowers greenish. Berries in cone-like clusters—bright red.

Splendid Misery.

Oh, give me back my maiden haunt
Beneath the meadow brook;
I weary for the simple scenes
My foolish heart forsaketh.

A couch beneath our cottage-roof
Gave calm and sweet repose;
I never wakened then to weep,
Nor slept to dream of woes.

Now dwell I here, a slave 'mid slaves—
A kid within a fold;
Alas! I do not love my chains
Although they are of gold.

I do not love these gaudy rooms,
This incense-laden air;
How sweeter far the mountain-rocks
And wild winds breathing there.
SUN-FLOWER.

HELIANTHUS. Class 19.—Order 3.

This plant grows eight or ten feet high. Leaves and flowers very large. Flowers yellow, and turn with the sun.

Smile on me still.

The rose needs not the summer light,
The bird needs not the sheltering tree,
So much as I, in sorrow's night,
   Need smiles from thee.

Oh, never let thine eye grow cold,
Thy cherished voice grow rude to me;
But let thy lip, as oft of old,
   Still smile on me.

SWEET WILLIAM.

DIANTHUS BARBATUS. Class 10.—Order 2.

Root perennial. Flowers aggregate and brilliant.

Gallantry.

The knights of old might envy thee
Thy courtly grace of mien;
Thy noble daring, brave and free,
   In every dangerous scene.

To age how kind thy courtesy;
   To woman how sincere!
Alike removed from vanity,
   From artifice, and fear.
SYRINGA—CAROLINA.

PHIALDELPHUS INODORUS. Class 12.—Order 1.

A native of the Southern States. Flowers white, large and scentless.

Memory.

O, Memory! thou only wakener of the dead!
Thou only treasurer of the vanished past!
How welcome art thou, when bright hope is fled,
And sorrow's mantle o'er the soul is cast!
Back o'er those days, too beautiful to last,
Thy gentle hand will lead the saddened thought;
And though the tears may trickle warm and fast,
Yet thy sweet pictures with such peace are fraught,
The heart, beguiled, exclaims, 'This is the fount I sought!'
TULIP.

TULIPA. Class 6.—Order 1.

Corolla bell-shaped. No calyx. Color of the flower, in its natural state, crimson. By cultivation it has been made to assume every variety of hue.

Beautiful Eyes.

MELTING, dazzling, tender, bright,
Full of Love’s own gentle light;
Now downcast, and now uplifted,
With a world of beauty gifted,
Drooping now with silent thought,
Now with joy and gladness fraught,
Arch and mirthful, soft and pensive,
Now assailing, now defensive—
Filled with glory from the skies—
Ah! who can describe thine eyes?

VERBENA.

VERBENA. Class 14.—Order 1.

This is a tall, slender plant, that requires training like a vine. Flowers pink or scarlet—in bright, beautiful clusters. Blossoms profusely.

Sensibility.

Thine eye at others’ sorrow weeps,
Thy lip at others’ joy looks gay;
Thy heart’s deep fount of feeling keeps
In gentle, yet perpetual play.

The charms of nature thrill thy soul,
For nature’s own true child thou art;
And waves of earnest feeling roll
In ceaseless music through thy heart.
VIOLET.

VIOLET. Class 5. — Order 1.

Flowers blue, white, yellow and tri-color. The blue Violet is most common in New England.

Faithfulness.

Oh, shame may come upon thy name,
And want and suffering dim thine eye;
But thou wilt find me still the same—
For love like mine can never die.

I will be thine through weal and wo,
Through days of joy and sorrow's night;
My faith like morning's beams shall glow,
My love shall be thy quenchless light.

VERNAL GRASS.

ANTHOXANTHUM. Class 3. — Order 2.

Native of Europe and India. Naturalized in America.
Sweet-scented.

Poor but Happy.

Men call us poor— it may be true
Amid the gay and glittering crowd;
We feel it, though our wants are few,
Yet envy not the proud.
The freshness of Love's early flowers,
Heart-sheltered through long years of want,
Pure hopes and quiet joys are ours,
That wealth could never grant.

W. H. BURLEIGH.
WALLFLOWER.

CHEIRANTHUS. Class 14. — Order 2.

This is a beautiful, fragrant flower, growing upon old walls, and among the ruins of castles and abbeys.

Fidelity in Misfortune.

An emblem true thou art
Of Love's enduring lustre, given
To cheer a lonely heart.

FLOWER of the solitary place!
Gray Ruin's golden crown,
That lendest melancholy grace
To haunts of old Renown:
Thou mantlest o'er the battlement,
By strife or storm decayed;
And fillest up each envious rent
Time's canker tooth hath made.

WATER LILY.

NYMPHÆ. Class 13. — Order 1.

Flowers white, with yellow germ and anthers. Very splendid, and deliciously fragrant.

Eloquence.

It wel leth up from brimming founts
Deep hidden in the soul —
And with a strong, resistless power
Its chainless waters roll!
It gushes out in words of fire —
It scorches with its breath —
And as the heart is pure or dark,
Its words are life or death!

In Justice' great and outraged name,
That giant voice doth crave
Redress for earth's down-trodden ones,
And freedom for the slave!
And it has softer, gentler tones,
To soothe the broken heart —
To bind its tender, bleeding wounds,
And hope and peace impart

MISS C. A. FILLERBROWN.
WILLOW.

SALIX. Class 21.—Order 2.

There are many species of the Willow, most of which have beautiful, tassel-like blossoms, very odorous.

Forsaken.

I had a heart! I had a heart!
’T was a gay and a happy thing;
And it danced about in my youthful breast
Like a lamb in the flowery spring;
But now it lies like a slaughtered lamb,
Its life-blood trickling out;
’T is a faithless heart to believe him false—
I told him it should not doubt!—
Doubt, doubt, doubt!
Oh, days pass on, long, weary days,
But they bring no end to doubt!

WITCH HAZEL.

HAMAMELIS VIRGINICA. Class 4.—Order 2.

Indigenous to America. Flowers yellow. The divining-rods used by money-diggers to discover lost or hidden treasures, are made of the twigs of this shrub.

A Spell.

Our witches are no longer old
And wrinkled beldames, Satan-sold,
But young and gay and laughing creatures,
With the heart’s sunshine on their features;
Their sorcery—the light which dances
When the raised lid unveils its glances,
And the low-breathed and gentle tone,
Faintly responding unto ours,
Soft, dream-like as a fairy’s moan,
Above its nightly-closing flowers.

J. G. WHITTIER.
THE FLOWER VASE.

WOODBINE.
Lonicera. Class 5.—Order 1.

There are many species of the Woodbine, all of which are luxuriant and beautiful.

Fraterntal Love.

I think of thee, my sister,
In my sad and lonely hours,
And the thought of thee comes o'er me
Like the breath of morning flowers.
Like music that enchants the ear,
Like sights that bless the eye,
Like the verdure of the meadow,
The azure of the sky;
Like rainbow in the evening,
Like blossom on the tree,
Is the thought of thee, dear sister,
Is the tender thought of thee!

JOHN KENyon.

YARROW.
Achillea. Class 19.—Order 11.


A cure for the heart ache.

Art thou forsaken? Cold and dark, indeed,
The fate unsoothing sympathetic tears! And well the stricken heart unstained may bleed,
With no soft, pitying voice to lull its fears.
‘Look up, thou poor forsaken!’ Jesus sped,
All trustful, through a lot as dark as thine;
And know’st thou not that whereaso’er he led,
The path tends onward to a rest divine?
Art thou reviled? Do foes ensnare thy feet?
Do proud ones mock thee, and thy friends betray?
I thou canst not drain the bitter from the sweet,
Nor pluck the rose and throw the thorn away.
But, like thy Saviour, turn the other cheek
When one is struck, and say, ‘Thou art forgiven!’
Let him be faithful, and like him be meek,
And speed, as he sped, hopefully to heaven!
THE FLOWER VASE.

ZINNIA.

ZINNIA. Class 19. — Order 2.

Flowers red, purple and yellow. The large scarlet Zinnia is most beautiful.

I mourn your absence.

The sun is bright — its golden rays
Gild mountain-top and flower;
O'er rock, and wave, and vale it play,
From morn till evening hour.
But, ah! no beauty in its beams
My weary heart can see,
While rocks, and vales, and glancing streams
Keep me away from thee!

The waves to others wear a light
More glorious than the sky;
To me earth's hues are only bright
Reflected from thine eye.
The world may deem me dull and sad —
I care not how that be;
I never can, nor will be glad,
My love, away from thee!

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