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### **The language and poetry of flowers**

**London, 1877**

III.-Flower Language in Bouquets.

**urn:nbn:de:hbz:466:1-33126**

## FLOWER-LANGUAGE IN BOUQUETS.



**A** BOUQUET may be made to express hopes and fears and aspirations as plainly as spoken language itself ; the only indispensable condition being that the sender and recipient should, to some extent, be adepts in the language and sentiment of flowers.

It will be easily seen that the sentiments themselves can be expressed by the flowers of which the bouquet consists, the connecting links being supplied by certain particulars of arrangement, of which the following are the chief :

A flower bent towards the right signifies " I "—one inclined towards the left means " you." Thus, a red rosebud, bent towards the left, means " you are pure and lovely ;" a snowdrop turned towards the right, " I hope."

Leaves also signify hopes, and thorns dangers. A rose with the thorns plucked off, and the leaves left, would signify hopeful love and confidence. When a flower is reversed, the meaning is reversed also.

A folded ivy leaf round a bouquet means " I have ;" a laurel leaf folded signifies " I am ;" a leaf of Virginian-creeper means, " I give ;" a tendril of ivy expresses a wish.

The following may serve as examples of language-bouquets ; and a reference to the Vocabulary will enable the reader to produce any number of letters with alterations and modifications of various kinds :

## Bouquets.

### I.

Geranium (Oakleaved), Gillyflower, and Heliotrope (with a leaf of Virginian-creeper), though the latter may be omitted. Meaning: *I offer true friendship, affection, and devotion.*

### II.

Monkshood, Mountain-ash, Blue violet. Meaning: *Danger is near. Be prudent. Be faithful.*

### III.

Vervain, Sweet Basil, Shepherd's Purse (wrapped in a laurel leaf). Meaning: *I am enchanted with you. I wish you well. I offer you my all.*

### IV.

Mistletoe, Hawthorn, Heliotrope (turned to the right when presented). Meaning: *I surmount difficulties. I hope. I turn to thee.*

### V.

Japan Rose, Purple Larkspur, Wild Tansy (turned to the left when presented). Meaning: *You are only beautiful. You are haughty. I declare against you.*

### VI.

Red Poppy, Clematis, Harebell (bound with Virginian-creeper). Meaning: *I offer consolation. You have mental beauty. I submit to you.*