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The language and poetry of flowers

London, 1877

Dialogue of the Flowers.

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Miscellaneous.

DIALOGUE OF THE FLOWERS.

THE HELIOTROPE.

THROUGH all the changes of the day
 I turn me to the sun ;
 In clear or cloudy skies I say
 Alike—Thy will be done !

THE VIOLET.

A lowly flower, in secret bower
 Invisible I dwell ;
 For blessing made, without parade,
 Known only by the smell.

THE LILY.

Emblem of Him, in whom no stain
 The eye of heaven could see.
 In all their glory, monarchs vain
 Are not array'd like me.

THE ROSE.

With ravish'd heart that crimson hail,
 Which in my bosom glows :
 Think how the lily of the vale
 Became like Sharon's rose.

THE PRIMROSE.

When Time's dark winter shall be o'er,
 His storms and tempests laid ;
 Like me you'll rise, a fragrant flower,
 But not like me to fade.

THE GARDEN.

The bower of innocence and bliss,
 Sin caus'd to disappear ;
 Repent, and walk in faith and love—
 You'll find an Eden here. *G. Horne.*

FLOWERS OF SPRING.

THUS, in the train of Spring, arrive
 Sweet flowers ; what living eye hath view'd
 Their myriads ? endlessly renewed,
 Wherever strikes the sun's glad ray ;
 Where'er the subtle waters stray ;
 Wherever sportive breezes bend
 Their course, or genial showers descend !
 Mortals, rejoice ! the very angels quit
 Their mansions unsusceptible of change,
 Amid your pleasant bowers to sit,
 And through your sweet vicissitudes to range !
Wordsworth.

THE BOWER OF ADAM AND EVE.

THUS talking hand in hand alone they passed
 On to their blissful bower ; it was a place
 Chosen by the sovran Planter when He framed
 All things to man's delightful use ; the roof
 Of thickest covert was unwoven shade,
 Laurel and myrtle, and what higher grew
 Of firm and fragrant leaf ; on either side
 Acanthus, and each odorous bushy shrub