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FLOWERS

FROM

BOMBAY.

The Floweret Symbol of the Highest Hope.

Within a spacious garden, Long time before the flood, A grand and stately Temple Adorned with beauty stood. More than mere mortal wisdom Was his — the builder sage, That he might leave rare models To each succeeding age. More than mere mortal power Was given him to invent, Such mingled grace and grandeur, Such wealth of ornament. Leaves, tendrils, fruits and flowers Upon its walls had grown, Festooned each arch and pillar, And then — had turned to stone. Firm as the aye enduring hills, They could not know decay, They perished only when the flood Had swept the earth away: All but their memory perished, And mortals strove to trace On other shrines faint shadows Of their enchanting grace.

The Gloriosa Superba, the purple and small yellow flowers and the Thunbergia alata are indigenous to India; the golden Chumpa, the lilae Hybiscus and the pink flower, through common in Indian gardens, were introduced from China.

20000



Flowers from Bombay.

FROM MAJHABULIESHWUR. 100 mg 55%

And in that spacious garden
A lovely Lady strayed,
A more than earthly beauty
Her mien and air betrayed;
"Ye Flowers", she said, (sweet music
Breathed in her silvery tone,)
"Our Temple bears your symbols
Of every grace save one;
That one through all life's changes
Has power to soothe and cheer,
Has Heavenly Hope no emblem?
Or shall I find it here?"

The Elephantine Creeper
Exclaimed "T will be my pride
To climb the highest mountain,
And deck its rugged side
With leaves and buds and blossoms,
And thus to lone hearts preach,
What lot is there so lonely
That comfort cannot reach?"

Then said the graceful Lily,

"I also will declare

From the waste, dreary mountains,

'Hope blossoms every where'."

All the flowers that form the group on the opposite page, grow wild on the Mahabuleshwur ghants, with the exception of the Berberis, which grows on the hills of China.



From Mahabulashwur.

POLIANTHUS TUBEROSA.

100 of 5000

"Both just and kind your wishes,"

The lovely Lady cried,

"Henceforward from the hill tops
Proclaim ye far and wide,

(As on waste lands grow blossoms
So delicately fair,)

All spots, however lonely,
In God's great goodness share!

But Hope's best, highest emblem —
The flower for which I seek —

Must of a greater mercy,
And deeper mystery speak."

"In hours of gloom and darkness,"

"In hours of gloom and darkness,"
The stately Tube-Rose said,
"My waxen flowers gain perfume,
And sweetest odours shed;
Soon as the sun has shaded
His fierce and garish light,
I reign as Hope's best emblem
The 'mistress of the night.'"

"Nay! nay!" the Lady answered,
"The Highest Hope has power
To brighten e'en the brightest,
And cheer the darkest hour."

Moore thus sings of the Tube-rose —

'That in the gardens of Malay
Is called the Mistress of the Night,
So like a bride, scented and bright
She comes out when the Sun's away.'



Polianthus Tuberosa.

LIRIODENIDRON GRANIDIFLORA. "T is vain and idle folly,"

Thus sighed the Tulip-tree,
"To deem when sorrow binds us

That Hope can set us free:
Behold my drooping branches,

And say, has Hope the power

One pallid leaf to brighten,

Or raise one fading flower?

Has Hope a touch of magic,

That can at once fill up

With all its fragrant petals

My desolated cup?

How can she then to mourners

With her soft balm restore, One of the least, lost treasures,

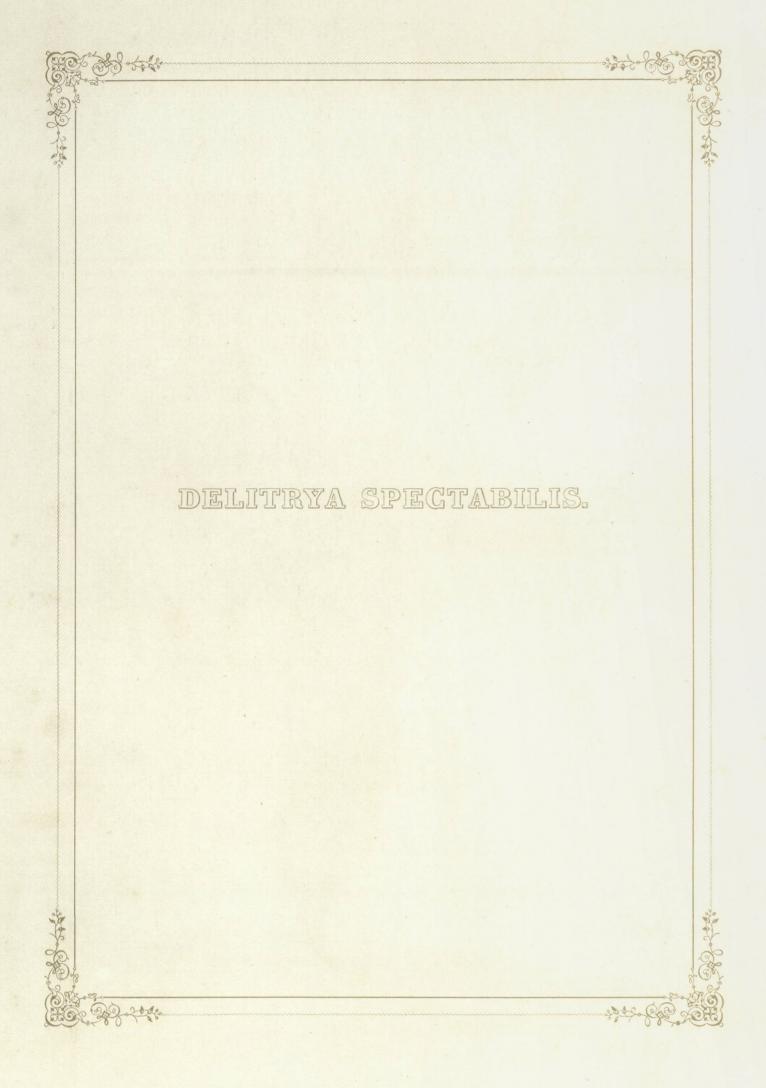
That gladdened them of yore?"

"She grants them greater blessings,"
The gracious Lady cried,
"For highest Hope is ever
With Love and Faith allied,
And ills she cannot banish
She gives them strength to bear,
She stems the floods of anguish,
And reigns above despair!"

This variety of the Tulip tree forms an apt representation of Melancholy from the sallow hue of its flowers and the pale tint of its large drooping leaves. It is indigenous to the East-Indies.



Liriodendron Grandiflora.



10 mg - 10 mg

"We'll make our home in marshes, Midst bog and swamp and fen," Thus cried the fair Delitrya, "And thence we'll speak to men Of Hope, with voice of power, And bid them do and dare, Though lowly be their station, Though crushing be their care. We'll say, if fragile blossoms Can spread their lovely show, And flourish midst the vapours Of spots so vile and low, Should fate or adverse fortune Have power to mar or chill Man's proud, aspiring spirit, Man's firm, determined will." "E'en flowers," exclaimed the Lady, "That seek a source so low, Shall bear its noxious odour Wherever they may grow: True Hope is pure, and finds not With evil to abide, She shuns degrading influence, She flies presumptuous pride!"

The native haunt of the beautiful Delitrya Spectabilis is the swamp and fen, its leaves and flowers emit a rank odour. It is now well-known in English gardens having been introduced by Mr. Fortune from China.



Delitrya Spectabilis.

IXORA GOCCINEA.
THEVATIA NERHIFOLIA.

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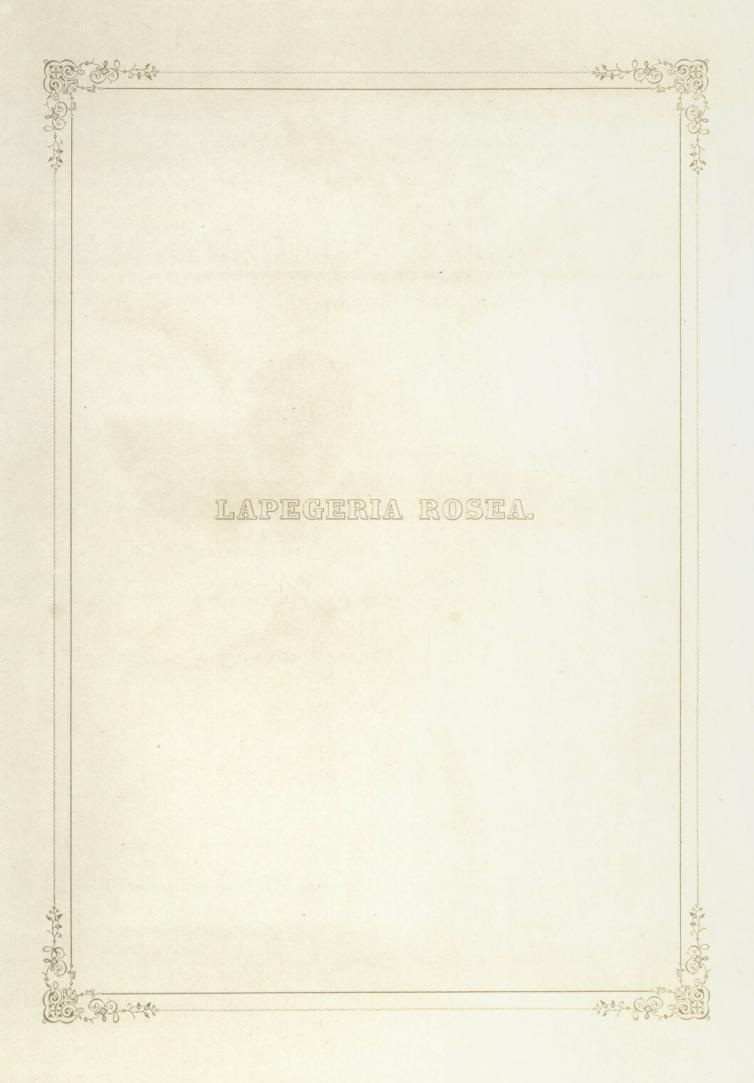
"I", sighed the pensive Exile, "Should never thus aspire, Earth has not one distinction For which I feel desire: In duty and in pleasure I feel no zest, no mirth, I pine for Eden's garden, The loved place of my birth." "But we" said the Ixoras, "Content with what is given Will gladly do our duty, And leave the rest to Heaven; We'll haunt the rocky lowlands, And beautify their scene With bright and starry blossoms And leaves of evergreen." "Wise hearts" the Lady answered, "Who on plain duty bent, Waste not life's precious moments In pining discontent — Yet should not rest contented With only earthly bliss, For highest Hope is nourished By nobler aim than this."

The Ixora spreads over many parts of waste land in India and flowers freely during the greater part of the year.

The Thevatia Neriifolia received the name of the Exile from the resemblance of its leaves to the weeping willow and the sickly hue of its pendant flower, suggesting the idea of one pining from home-sickness.



Ixora Coccinea. Thevatia Neriifolia.



Then said the Lapegeria, "The object of my theme Is the high-wrought aspiration That forms the Hero's dream: Who in the hour of danger With courage nerves his heart, Regardless of all peril To bear a noble part. And in the cause of duty, Without one selfish fear, Not only life endanger, But all that life holds dear. Inspired by stedfast purpose, Unmoved by praise or blame, To uphold his country's honour, And win a glorious name." "Most blessed" cried the Lady, "Those nerved by courage high To obey stern duty's summons To suffer or to die! But yet to be Hope's emblem, And win her highest crown, The heart must even vanquish All thought of earth's renown!"

The beautiful flowers, from which this drawing is made, are indigenous to Patagonia, not to the East Indies, but having been most kindly sent for the purpose of embellishing this work, the drawing is inserted.



Lapegeria Rosea.

LAGIERSTRIMIA RIEGINA.

"Are not the trees, fair Lady, The truest types of Hope?" Enquired the Lagerstrimia, "And show its fullest scope? When winds with raging fury Sweep through the wintry sky, And all our flowers and foliage Strip from us as they fly, We wait in faith and patience Till the wild storm is o'er, For well we know the springtide Our beauty shall restore; And thus when stern death cometh, We point amidst its gloom, To light that conquers darkness, To life that bursts the tomb!" "Yes" said the gentle Lady, "The Hope is true and high, That speaks to all the faithful Of life beyond the sky; But there is Hope far higher, That tells of errors stain Washed out - and in the contrite,

The Lagerstrimia Regina is a forest tree of great beauty indigenous to the East Indies.

An Eden formed again!"



Lagerstrimea Regina.

BENGAL FLORIDA ROSE.

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"Fair Lady" sighed Love's emblem, The red and blushing Rose, "The flower you seek we know not, On earth it never grows; If even in this garden It struggled to appear, It would at once be blighted, It could not blossom here. This air is far too deadly, Too full of poisonous taint To nourish such a floweret -E'en Faith grows cold and faint, And Love itself full often Is whelmed with doubt and pain, Its roses quickly perish, Its cruel thorns remain. This foul' soil must be cleansed By mighty floods from Heaven, The world's foundations shaken, The hard earth rent and riven; E're Life's eternal fountain Can ever be unsealed, And Hope's best, highest blessing On earth shall be revealed."

The Rose is said to be known in all lands as the floweret symbol of love and joy; and to have been thus designated also in the earliest ages.

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The Bengal Florida Rose.

TAMARINDICUS INDICA.

PASSIFLORA PRINCESSES.

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"Vex not thyself fair Lady" Cried the dark Tamarind tree, "As all things are, or have been, So shall they ever be; For nature's rules are stedfast, She changes not her plan, For any cause or purpose, For either God or man. Vex not thyself with gazing On mysteries such as these, This life is meant for pleasure, Eat, drink, and take thine ease!" "Thy branches forth thou spreadest," The gentle Lady cried, "Thou haughty tree, and boastest With unbelieving pride; And vauntest, in thy blindness, Of joys so mean and small, One single glimpse of Heaven Were more than worth them all! What canst thou know of wonders So far beyond thy scope, Though still in darkling shadow, Shown forth by Heavenly Hope!"

"The Tamarind tree is sacred to the chief of the devils — it is supposed by pundits that the scriptural simile of the wicked in great power spreading himself like a green bay tree, is an allusion to the tamarind tree. The wood is exceedingly hard and it never sheds its leaves."

Ed. Sullivan's visit to Ceylon.

The Passion flower, the floweret emblem of Faith, is introduced in contrast to that of Atheism, the Tamarind tree.



Tamarindicus Indica Passiflora Princesses.

NIELUMBIUM SPIEGIOSUM.

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Beside the crystal waters Of a secluded lake, The Lady sat in sadness, Entranced — and yet awake. Soft waves upon the surface Of the glittering waters played, And these the words prophetic. Their murmuring music made. "By us shall righteous judgment O'erwhelm this guilty earth, And when again it riseth, Restored in Second birth -Hope's mystic flower shall open In beauty on our breast, Blest type of full renewal That gives the weary rest; And blends with the dark record Of the avenging flood, The pledge of wondrous promise Of His, the Saviour's blood, Which cleanses all, and quickens, And gives them strength to cope, With every form of evil, With scarce one earthly hope! Regenerating waters Shall then bear seeds of power To raise in mortal bosoms, True Hope's immortal Flower!"

"The Lotus has been considered with religious veneration in India from the remotest antiquity; and makes a conspicuous figure in the mythology of that ancient country. It is a native of pools and recesses in the margin of running streams."

R. Wight's Indian Botany.

The Chinese Gods are frequently represented floating on the waters, on a Lotus flower, it is supposed as an emblem of the earth issuing from the bosom of the deep after the Deluge.

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