

## INTRODUCTORY NOTE

BY

DR. BURWASH

PRESIDENT OF THE MARGARET EATON SCHOOL OF LITERATURE  
AND EXPRESSION

THIS little booklet is both a poem and a parable. It is a poem of the beautiful in Nature and Art, a parable of the moods of the human soul seeking to find expression.

It was penned as an address to a class of girl graduates whose springtime aspirations had been cunningly linked to the flowers of the garden, and who thus could read a meaning in the address which was hidden from the uninitiated. His Honor, Sir John Gibson and Lady Gibson had favored us with their presence, and their wish with that of Mrs. Eaton and myself has led to its publication.

With the genius of the painter and the poet, the writer has given us a series of pictures in which the joys and sorrows of human hearts have wrought out their expression in a garden. It is not the first time that poetic genius has found a fitting theme for its choice work in a garden. But we cannot recall another instance in which history and humanity have been so skillfully and beautifully intertwined with the flowers of the garden as here. The little queens of the Canadian wild, the loving Victoria with heart ever true to her prince, the sad Elizabeth, the beautiful and beloved Alexandra, each has a mystery of the heart veiled from the careless common gaze but silently revealed to loving sympathy by the language of the flowers of the garden.