

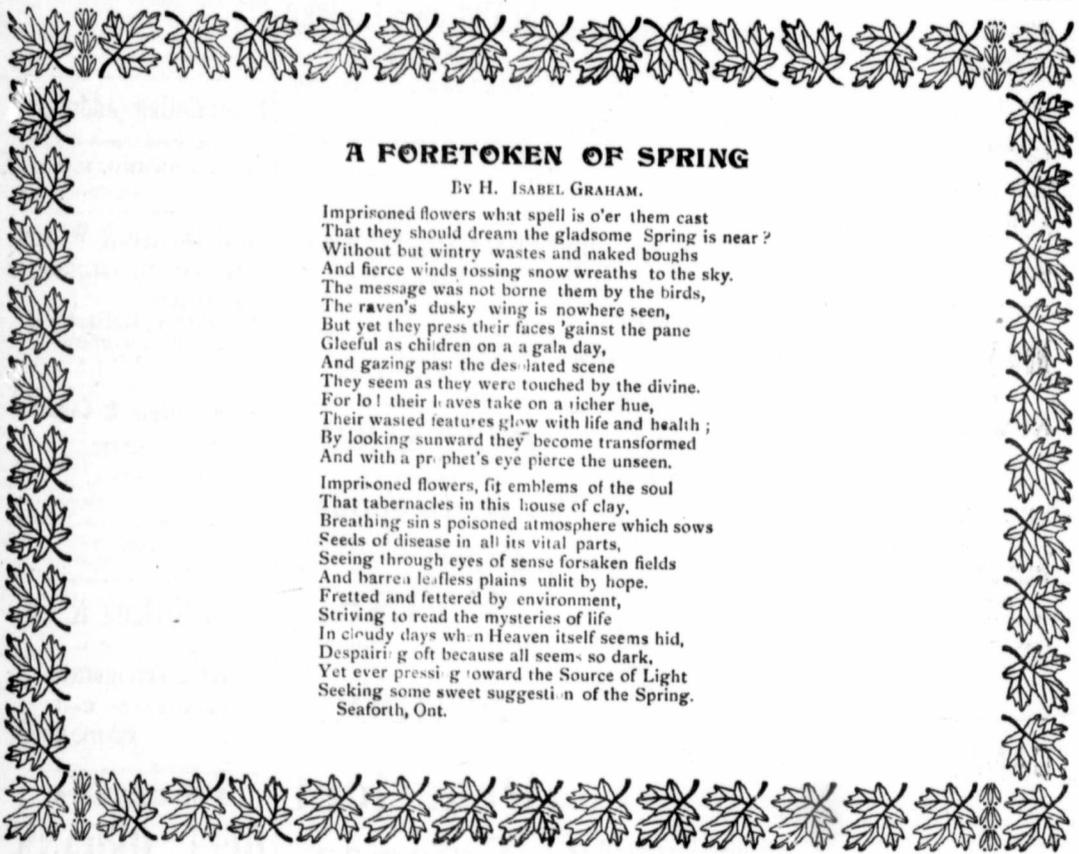
# Dominion Presbyterian

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## A FORETOKEN OF SPRING

By H. ISABEL GRAHAM.

Imprisoned flowers what spell is o'er them cast  
That they should dream the gladsome Spring is near?  
Without but wintry wastes and naked boughs  
And fierce winds tossing snow wreaths to the sky.  
The message was not borne them by the birds,  
The raven's dusky wing is nowhere seen,  
But yet they press their faces 'gainst the pane  
Gleeful as children on a gala day,  
And gazing past the desolated scene  
They seem as they were touched by the divine.  
For lo! their leaves take on a richer hue,  
Their wasted features glow with life and health;  
By looking sunward they become transformed  
And with a prophet's eye pierce the unseen.

Imprisoned flowers, fit emblems of the soul  
That tabernacles in this house of clay,  
Breathing sins poisoned atmosphere which sows  
Seeds of disease in all its vital parts,  
Seeing through eyes of sense forsaken fields  
And barren leafless plains unfit by hope.  
Fretted and fettered by environment,  
Striving to read the mysteries of life  
In cloudy days when Heaven itself seems hid,  
Despairing oft because all seems so dark,  
Yet ever pressing toward the Source of Light  
Seeking some sweet suggestion of the Spring.  
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