

## FRAGRANCE.

Can I draw from the depths of my heart  
 Any fragrance of loyalty and truth ;  
 Can I frame it in words of such worth  
 As will nourish the hearts of the youth ?  
 Can it be brought into power  
 To work as a lever for good ?  
 Can it be clothed and dressed up  
 In the beautiful language of love ?  
 Can it be bought, or can it be sold  
 For rubies, diamonds or gold ?  
 Oh, no, methinks this fragrance sublime  
 Is the essence of *love*, which none may define.  
 A heart ache, a tear drop, may enhance its rich  
 flow,  
 But naught but this fragrance impels us to go  
 Through brambles, and briars, and rough-  
 trodden ways  
 All through our lives, to the end of our days,  
 In hope of inhaling this fragrance divine,  
 For every good deed at the end of our time.  
 How precious it is to be clothed with this  
 power,  
 Which renders inactive all else at this hour.  
 It softens the feelings, and brings us to love,  
 Not only the great and exalted of earth,  
 But teaches us gently and kindly to say  
*All* creatures we love of an *humbler's* birth.  
 And thus in sweet harmony God's laws we  
 abide,  
 Looking upward and onward for strength not  
 our own,  
 Never doubting or thinking God's goodness  
 He'll hide,  
 For surely the faithful will receive the glad  
 crown. C. W. C.  
 Mendon Center, N. Y.

Now that the time for closing our Literary Circles is near, I am led to think of the benefit they have been to us. I would hope that we all are incited to the perusal of the higher classes of literature. Literature is in its effects one of the highest and most powerful of those influences that have been appointed to rule the social and moral life of man. Then let us avail ourselves of the opportunity to prompt

active thinking and to awaken refined sentiments. We can satisfy ourselves to the importance of these benefits by looking back to the consequences which followed from the want of them years ago. There is an intimate connection between literature and all the elements of society, although the links are often but dimly perceptible. The influence of literature does in itself tend to do good ; we are lifted upwards by all that prompts us to meditate. There are kinds of literary composition which raise us very little above the dust we live in. Their real worth is small. We ought to remember in the selection of our literature that every choice we make may modify our future character. Let us not lose interest in this matter. We may be made better as well as wiser by an occasional hour of well-selected reading, and thus add to our store of knowledge. L. T.

Bloomfield, March 20th, 1887.

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