

Preface

"Each affluent petal out-stretched and uncurled
To the glory and gladness and shine of the world."

and that at evening offered up sweetest fragrance in their chalice-cups, are given a new charm by the cool showers from above.

"The paths, the woods, the fields, the hills,
Are not a world to-day,
But just a place God made for us
In which to play."

So we may wander in search of the mountain wild flowers, following the trails which lead to the alpine meadows and wrapt in the perfect peace of the hills remember that we are walking

"In the freedom of the garden wild"
with

"God of the open air."

As this book is intended for the use of the general public rather than for that of botanists, the flowers herein described are classified according to colour, and without special reference to their scientific relationship; for the first attribute of a plant which attracts the traveller's eye is invariably its colour, his first question usually being: "What is that red flower?"—or "blue flower," or "yellow flower," as the case may be. Of Order, Genus and Species he probably knows little, and therefore the descriptions given in this guide to mountain wild flowers are so simply and clearly worded, that any plants indexed may be readily located in one or other of the Colour Sections, together with its name and chief characteristics. The general Key at the beginning of the book will be of use to botanists.

The nomenclature followed throughout this work is