

THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS

(Richard L. Metcalfe in the Omaha Nebraskan)

HENRY WARD BEECHER said that flowers are the sweetest things God ever made and forgot to put a soul into. But we doubt if they are soulless when we remember how fully they meet certain necessities of men. There are some things too deep for words; some things too sacred for language; and so where griefs are voiceless we use flowers to give expression to our thoughts. And just as a note of music serves to stir the souls of men, so the perfume of the flower finds the perfume of the human heart coming to meet it more than half the way.

Men are only boys grown tall, for hearts don't change much after all; and even the grown folks take kindly to the legends of the flower garden. When we look at the modest violet with its heavenly blue, we are prepared to accept the children's story that when God cut the holes in the heavens to let the stars shine through and the scraps fell down to earth, men picked them up and called them violets. We can not be real skeptics when we are told that the Father of us all thought purity for every creature, and the unspotted Rose of White blossomed at the feet of men; that He thought of mothers, and the royal-hearted Rose of Red sprang into being; that He thought patience, and the humble Pansy, purple with Love's wound, turned its gentle face to the smiles of little children; that He thought of mercy, the quality that falleth like the gentle rain from heaven, and the Verbena, flower of pity and consecration, blossomed at Calvary, serving to render soft for blessed feet the path of thorns, and hunted out the waysides of the world to cheer the hopeless hearts of men; that He thought of never-failing Love Divine, and the sweet Forget-me-not, humblest and most faithful of all the buds that bloom, knelt at His feet and gave to men a song that rang round all the world.

WON ALL THE SCHOOL PRIZES

Eight Thousand Negroes Attended Graduation Exercises at Convention Hall Last Night.

Kansas City, Mo., June 8, 1917.—Kansas City's Negro population—eight thousand strong—was out last night to witness the graduation of fifty-one seniors from Lincoln High School. The exercises were held in Convention Hall and no admittance fee was charged. There were thirty-eight girls and thirteen boys in the class. The girls were dressed in white and the boys wore their cadet uniforms.

The school orchestra, directed by N. Clark Smith, furnished music, and orations were given by the following seniors: Helen Mae Brown, Ora A. Bond, Doris Wells and Cecelia Ethelena Smith. The anniversary alumni address was given by the Rev. Charles A. Williams of Denver, Colo., a member of the class of 1892. James A. Nugent of the board of education presented the diplomas.

The presentation of prizes was a one-student affair, Cecelia Ethelena Smith being awarded all of them, two \$50 scholarships and two gold honor pins. Miss Smith is an orphan girl and has worked her way through school. One scholarship prize was awarded by the Kansas City Medical Society and the other by the alumni. The money will be paid to the institution to which Miss Smith goes for further education.

Eudell Johnson, a graduate, demonstrated a motor car, a product of the motor training department of the school. The parts of the machine were bought from junk shops for less than \$100 and put together at the school. Johnson drove his rebuilt car from the back of the hall onto the stage.—Kansas City Times.

Mrs. Ed Cannady, editor of The Portland Advocate, en route to her home in Texas, will stop over in Omaha next week as the guest of Mrs. Alphonso Wilson.

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