

are the main factors in giving beauty and expression to flowers.

The gay colors are thought to be for the purpose of making them more easily seen by the insect, however much man may cultivate them for his own use and appropriate them to his own pleasure.

The delicate perfumes they give off are also thought to be for the purpose of aiding insects in finding flowers and making their visitations more pleasant. We are led to this belief from the fact that the most highly colored flowers give off but little perfume, while the most highly perfumed flowers are of the duller hues.

Nature gives the calyx, with its sepals as a back ground for her jewels, which is nearly always a uniform color of green. This is the part we eat in the apple and pear, while the fruit proper is the seed. After the seed begin to form the petals wither and fall off, while the calyx grows over the seed till it makes the mature apple or pear. The calyx is only a modified leaf as proven by its color, structure and functions. Therefore what we eat in the pear and apple is a part of a flower, which in turn is nothing more than a modified leaf.

Man, somewhat imitating nature, seeks to appropriate her flowers and her perfumes to his own embellishment, using himself as a background, but not for the purpose of attracting insects, but for the purpose of attracting a more agreeable companion in the nature of a "help-mect," knowing full well her greater delight in and more appreciation of their varied hues and their most delicate perfumes.

Like nature, we are prone to use flowers in expression of our sentiment at any important event in our lives or in the history of a State or National govern-

ment. They are carried to the marriage altar as an emblem of purity; they are borne to the orator with our congratulations; they are sent to the President with best wishes for his happiness and the perpetuity of the Union. We send them to the bed side of the sick as a fit token of our deepest sympathy; they are carried to the graves of our friends and relatives when we pay our last tribute of respect to the dead. They bring sunshine to the hovels of the poor, and gladness to the palace of the rich. They deck the banquet hall as well as accompany the coffin. They are used to give relish to a breakfast, after one has with "great tribulation" arisen on a cold winter morning. (Of course only the wealthy can afford such a luxury.) The lady whose golden tresses bear stones of various hues, willingly places the "queen of flowers" among them when it is offered by her gentleman friend. Her hand may be decked with the rarest jewels, yet it will reach down to pluck a tiny violet just showing above the green sward in the early spring.

However beautiful a house may be and however furnished its halls, yet it does not respond to our kindest treatment, there is no manifestation of life. It is stated that the engineer often imagines his engine to possess life and that it sometimes does not feel well. However this may be, we know that flowers possess life, that they respond to our kind treatment, and that in their culture there is companionship.

After the business man, of a large city, has accumulated wealth and grown tired of business life, and the worried statesman grown tired of the perplexing problems of statecraft; they seek the shade of the trees and the companionship of flowers by the side of a lake or river,