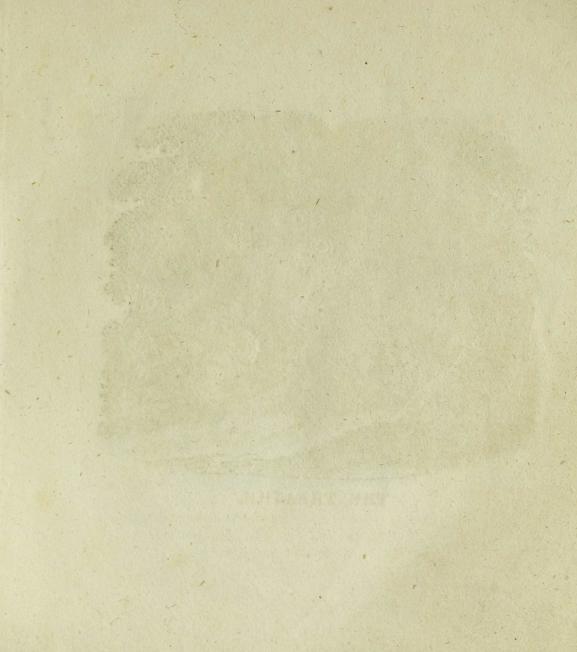


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Mr. F.A. Warren





La Fete de la Rose:

OR, THE

Dramatic Flowers.

A Holiday Present, for young People.

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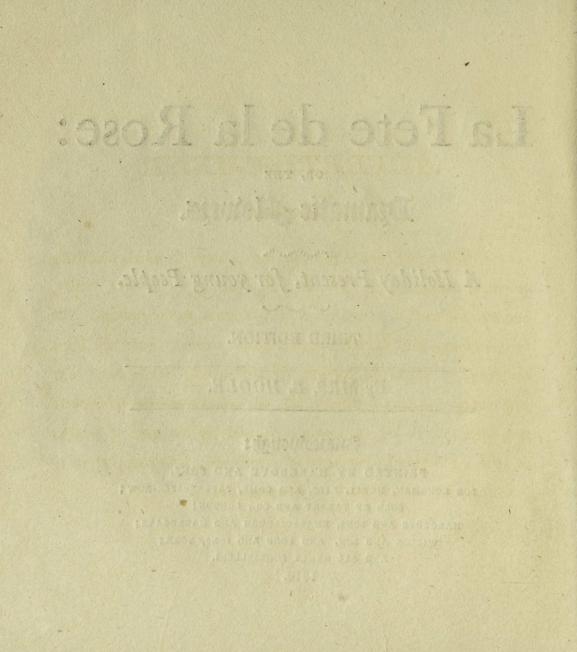
THIRD EDITION.

By MRS. B. HOOLE.

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PRINTED BY HARGROVE AND SONS, FOR LONGMAN, HURST, REES, AND ORME, PATERNOSTER-ROW; SOLD BY TABART AND CO., LONDON; HARGROVE AND SONS, KNARESBROUGH AND HARROGATE; WILSON AND SON, AND TODD AND SONS, YORK; AND ALL OTHER BOOKSELLERS.

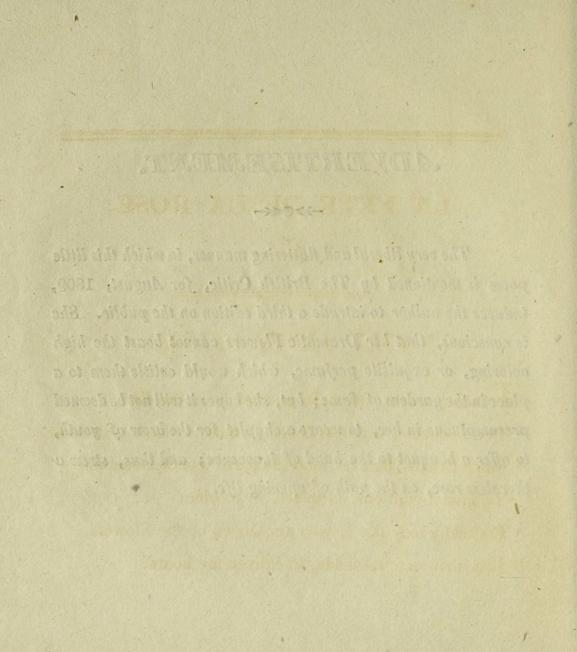
1810.



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The very liberal and flattering manner, in which this little poem is mentioned by The British Critic, for August, 1809, induces the author to intrude a third edition on the public. She is conscious, that her Dramatic Flowers cannot boast the high coloring, or exquisite perfume, which would entitle them to a place in the gardens of fame; but, she hopes it will not be deemed presumptuous in her, to weave a chaplet for the brow of youth, to offer a bouquet to the hand of innocence; and thus, strew a thornless rose, on the path of opening life.



LA FETE DE LA ROSE, Ec..

THE INVITATION.

TO her cousin, the Lily, one day, said the Rose, "I've a scheme, my dear friend, which to you I'll disclose: "Since BIRDS, BEASTS, and INSECTS, together combine "To give invitations, to dance, or to dine; "Pray why may not I, who am Queen of the Flowers, "Just invite a few friends, to enliven my hours? A 3

" Though the Snowdrop, so puny, has fainted away, " And the Crocus retired, from the sun-shine of May; " Though the Violet's so modest, we ne'er shall be able " To bring her, or the valley's sweet Lily, to table; "Yet, I think, if we look round about, we shall find " Great plenty of Belles and of Beaux, to our mind ; "Who, drest in new suits, of most splendid apparel. "With a treat, from their Queen, will not venture to quarrel. " So I'll instantly order my footmen, the Bees, " To assemble my company under the trees, "Where the gentle Acacia still smiles o'er the plain, " And the Willow, though weeping, forbears to complain : " My handmaid, the Woodbine, shall twine round the place, "Her curtains festoon'd, with an exquisite grace;

"While my sweet Mignonette her soft carpet shall spread, "And my Passion-flower flourish, high over my head."

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" By your leave," said the Lily, "I'll put in a word,
" If you will not conclude my proposal absurd;
" Could we make a snug Theatre here, on the lawn,
" And perform a deep Tragedy, properly drawn,
" With a Pantomime following, all in a hurry,
" —Processions and Witches, and whim wham, and flurry:
" The whole to conclude with a supper; no doubt
" Twould exceed both the Ball, and the Feast, and the Rout."

Her Majesty heard the gay *Lily's* oration, She vowed that it met with her full approbation; And, courteously owning her Queenship outwitted,
The care of the FETE, to her cousin committed:
Who, instantly bade the bold Sunflower proclaim
This royal design, in her Majesty's name;
And, invite all the plants, who had any pretension
To talents dramatic, or taste and invention.
Now, so many there were, who thought well of themselves,
The lawn was soon crowded with beautiful elves;
Who each claimed a place, in this charming rehearsal,
And proved the play-mania, in Flowers, universal.



THE THEATRE.

AT length, the first morning, when JUNO display'd The Ether's pure azure, untinctur'd by shade; The Lily drew out her sweet corps dramatique, Who had liv'd a whole month, and rehears'd a whole week; But ere we describe all their various perfection, Let us open the Theatre first, for inspection.

On a hill, near the lawn, with pale Violets o'ergrown, The Queen, in full Majesty, sat on her throne; In a robe of pink-satin, this Venus was drest; And a diamond of dew, glittered bright on her breast:

A mantle of green moss around her was borne, To soften the radiance it could not adorn; Behind her, as guards, the tall Hollyhocks stood-The Carnation sat near her, a prince of the blood; The white Rose, and damask too, claim'd their high stations, As peers of the realm, and as royal relations; For supporters, the Lilac, and Jessamine came, And the flexile Laburnum bow'd low to the dame; But Geranium declar'd, it was his place to stand Earl Marshall, by heirship, at Majesty's hand; And the Myrtle, with blossoms all white as a bride, Plac'd herself, with great modesty, close by his side: Then powder'd Auricula headed his cousins, Cowslip, Primrose, and Polyanth, walking by dozens:

The flaunting Ranunculus, yellow and red, By the gentle Anemone softly was led; Rich Stocks, of all ages, behind them were plac'd, Gay Pinks intermingled, with infinite taste; Convolvolus open'd her eyes on the scene, And Monkshood, a moment, forgot all his spleen; The Marygold gaudy, and Love in a Mist, With Larkspur and Hyacinth, shone in the list; Mezereon was there, in his jacket of red, And pining Narcissus, still hanging his head; His dashing relation, the Daffodil, came With sprightly Miss Jonquil, a sweet-scented dame; Poor Charity too, in a bodice of blue, And low-bred Nasturtiums, whom nobody knew.

Though none were invited, some Coxcombs were there, And London-pride simper'd, to see them appear; The Sweet-briar and Hawthorn, united to screen From vulgar intrusion, the throne of their Queen; But, in spite of their thorns, 'twas beset at all hours, By elegant Creepers, and Parasite Flowers.



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Poor tharity too, in a value of thing

THE TRAGEDY.

Now, when all were arrang'd, in this grand exhibition, With many more beauties, of rank and condition, Which, barely to mention, would take so much time, That you all would be tired of my gossipping rhyme; So the Boxes and Pit, we no longer display, The *Blue-bell* has rung!—and now opens the Play.

The Ivy-green curtain is gently withdrawn, And, lo! the fair Actors step forth, on the lawn;

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A Stage justly fitted, by Nature and Art, For Flowers of great talents, to act a great part; There clothed in bright crimson, and carried in state, The Piony comes, ALEXANDER the GREAT-By crowds of Sweet-Williams the Prince is upborne, In uniform doublets, as gay as the morn; -Twelve Mountain Ranunculi, spotless as snow, The Sun's lovely virgins, are first in the show; Four captive Kings follow'd, bewailing their fate, Crowns Imperial they wore, the last remnants of state; HEPHESTION, the Friend, was a Poppy so bright, As a Sedum LYSIMACHUS tower'd to the sight; Snap-Dragon in CLYTUS was thought very fine,

And Lupin allow'd in CASSANDER to shine-

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(Alas! poor Snap-Dragon was fated to feel,
In the moment of madness, the Piony's steel:
For, the old fellow fancied, because he was drunk,
That the King, in the bottle-companion, was sunk:
So he told him the truth, (a most terrible blunder,)
And got himself stabb'd for't—no very great wonder!
Since all the world knew 'twas the Conqueror's fashion,
To play madman, or butcher, when put in a passion.)

But the Ladies excell'd, beyond all expectation, Proving Siddons, herself, not alone in the nation: A fine *China-Aster*, in purple array'd, As Queen Sysigambis her glories display'd, While the Pansey so rich, with so modest an air, Look'd charmingly in PARISATIS the fair; With colors just stole from the Rainbow on high, And stretching her neck, while she gaz'd on the sky; The Tulip appear'd, in a state of much splendor, ROXANA was she, and had guards to attend her. But the Lily, herself, all majestic and white, Whose sigh is perfume, and whose smile is delight, Play'd the beauteous STATIRA, so pensive and mild, That the Audience, with ecstasy, almost were wild. ROXANA first open'd this exquisite scene, Crying, "Pray, Madam Pale-face! what is it you mean? "To suppose, for a moment, your pitiful charms " Can regain the World's Conqueror back, from my arms;

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"Remember my courage—my beauty behold! "Roxana, the fair! is Roxana, the bold! "So tremble, rash girl! for, as no one is nigh us, "I may murder thee—daughter of fallen DARIUS!"

The Lily repli'd, as she wav'd her fine form, "Be decent, young lady! nor scold thus, and storm; "Remember the manners to royalty due, "And reflect—I'm a princess, much greater than you; "And though, as to beauty, you flaunt very well, "They say, Ma'am, at SUSA, you've got a bad smell! "Nor to BABYLON is it discreet thus to wander—

"Know I am sole Queen of the great ALEXANDER !!"

" Then die like a Queen! thou fond fool," cried the vixen, And pull'd out her dagger, (a Holly, with pricks on;) It tore the soft skin of the Lily so silky, And made her pale cheeks still more pale and more milky, She sunk on the grass, and cried out for her lover, Who instantly ran, the dread deed to discover; But, who shall relate, how he rages and grieves, And shakes his red toppin, and scatters his leaves? His gory locks witness how dreadful his trouble, He sighs like a furnace !- he froths like a bubble ! Calls out for Bucephalus, makes such exertions, As rouse all the Greeks, and alarm all the Persians; 'Till, nature exhausted, he falls in a lump, And the grass-plot all trembles, beneath such a bump.

THE INTERLUDE.

NOW, the Tragedy clos'd, and the stage swept quite clean, A *Blackbird* step'd in, to enliven the scene; He sung "Rule Britannia," (though gratis) so finely, Catalani, herself, could not charm more divinely. An address was then spoke, by a fine *Fleur de lis*, Part English, part French, a *Pic Nic*, *Jeu d' Esprit*.

* The Charleng.

The Pantomime.

Summer Innin Tempus

HE Pantomime follow'd,-and then, on my word, Whatever was beautiful, grand, or absurd, Appear'd in such style, there were many old flowers Declar'd, they had ne'er seen such sights, all their hours. The Lark-heel, so gay, variegated, and slim, Was an excellent HARLEQUIN-who could catch him? The COLUMBINE honor'd her name; for, her merit By none was disputed, she danc'd with such spirit. Hydrangea appear'd, like the wonderful LIZARD* Still changing it's hue,-a most excellent Wizzard! * The Cameleon.

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So great, in this line of enchantment, his fame, Circe, Proteus, and Merlin, must bow to his name. The Fuchsia was there, like a Sylph, light and airy, And Hepatica came, a benevolent fairy; Pantaloon by a *Scabious* was gravely pourtray'd; The Clown in a huge Guelder-Rose was display'd, Who tumbled so often, from quaking or quaffing, He kept the whole Audience dying with laughing, The Powder'd Beau shone, as a Lover profess'd, And oft on the heels of poor Harlequin press'd; Who, follow'd by him, Pantaloon, and the Clown, Through the wide-gaping mouth of a Poppy jump'd down; Made a somerset leap, o'er a Laurel so high, And he danc'd on the rope, from the Traveller's Joy:

At length the Sweet-pea, as a Venus, descended, By a beautiful Daisy, as Cupid, attended; (For, since this small flower has been sung by a poet, It's haughty relations, some honor will shew it.) A procession of *Batchelor-buttons* was made, Periwincles fell in, with the grand cavalcade; The whole form'd a group, on each side of a bower, Made by one Laurustinus, an ever-green flower. And there this sweet Venus with Cupid did join Poor HARLEQUIN'S hand, to his fair COLUMBINE; And, so the grand Spectacle gaily concluded, With a Chorus and Dance, from which none were excluded.

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THE BANQUET.

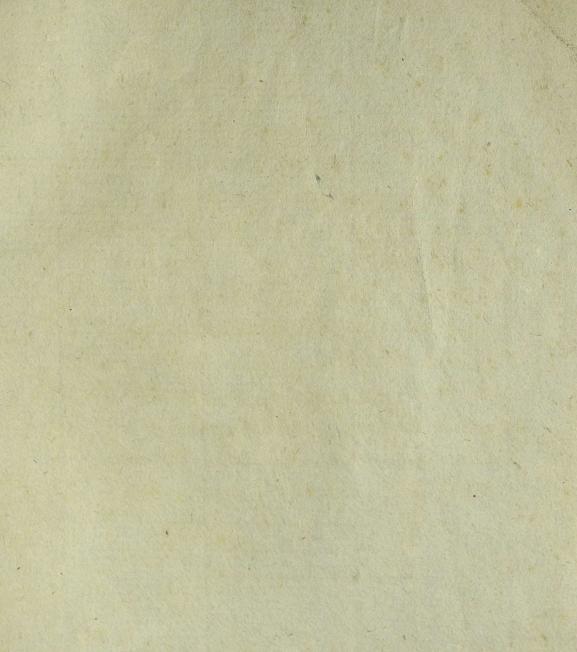
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BUT, how shall I tell of the Banquet so rare, Which the company blended were now called to share? Alas! though the Queen had provided a treat, Yet she could not prevail on one Floweret to eat; But, they all were agreed, as the day had been warm. In drinking a little there could be no harm; And the Actors, especially, weary and fainting, For cups of sweet chrystal, and dew-drops, were panting. So the Queen still attentive to subjects of worth, Call'd her Butler, the Gardener, speedily forth; Who saw, in the languor which dwelt in each eye, That the Queen and her courtiers, were all very dry,

And, anxiously wishing to comfort their sorrow. Rich Nectarean draughts, from the spring he did borrow, And swiftly dispersing them all o'er the table, The guests freely drank, while to drink they were able; E'en Royalty's self, 'tis with blushes I own, Fill'd her cup to the brim, and drank just like the Clown; Till tipsy and sleepy, she hung down her head,-The guests took the hint, and all march'd off to bed; Declaring, in words of sweet fragrance, no bliss Ever found in their lives, had been equal to this; And wishing some Bard, in strains truly Darwinian, Would sing this proud epoch of Rose's dominion.

FINIS.

FROM HARGROVES' OFFICE, KNARESBROUCH.



and the second A Holiday Present, Dan FOR Sam . YOUNG PEOPLE. Cam Campon