An intricate black and white engraving of a floral wreath. The wreath is composed of various flowers, including roses, and is adorned with two cherubs. One cherub is on the left, looking down, and the other is on the right, looking towards the center. The wreath is set against a background of dense foliage and vines. The text is centered within the wreath's frame.

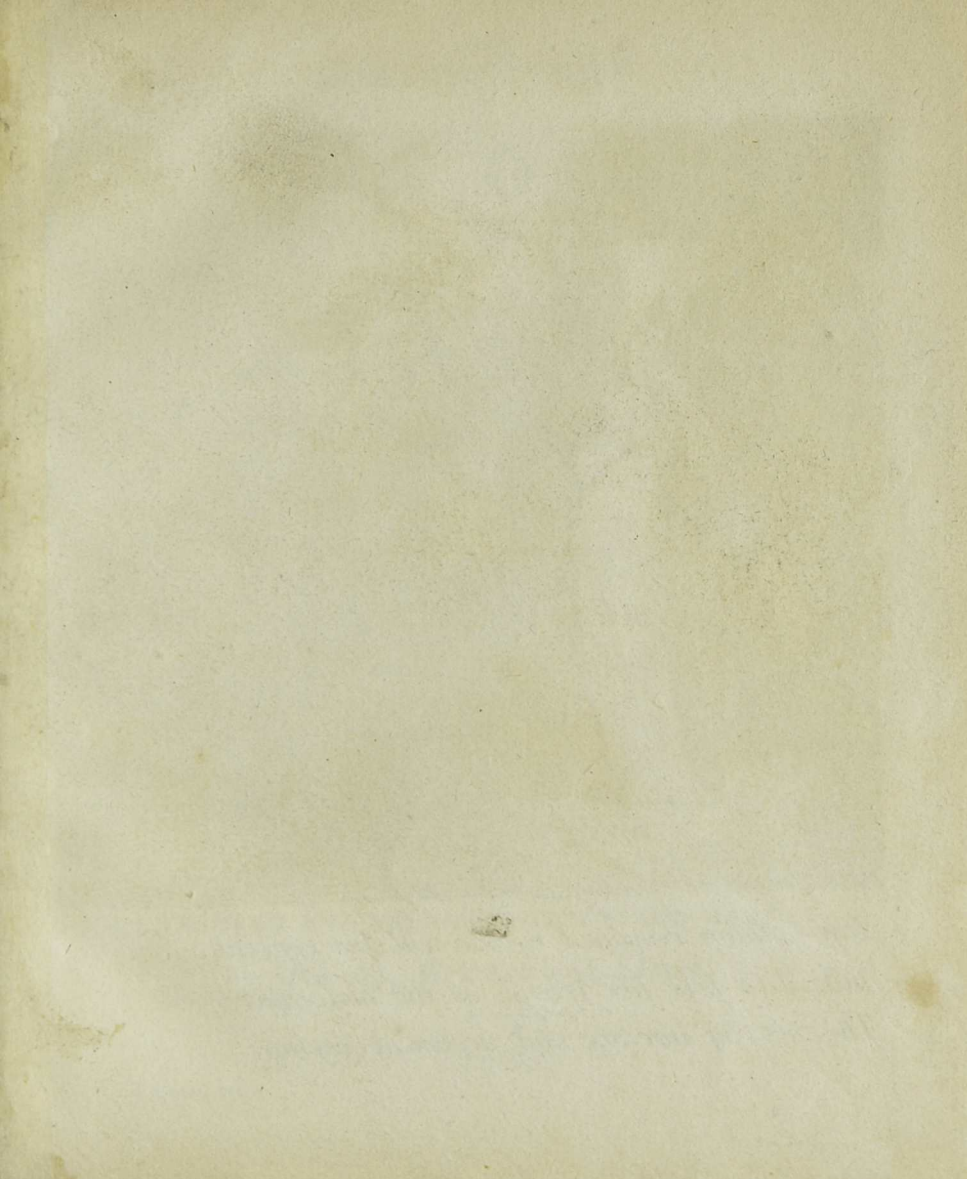
The
WEDDING
of the
FLOWERS.

1850

to the

of the

of the



FRONTISPIECE.



*Now nothing remained but^m to win her consent,
And Miss Iris her friend as the messenger went,
The arts of intreaty and argument trying.*

See page 5.

THE
W E D D I N G

AMONG

THE FLOWERS.

BY ONE OF THE AUTHORS OF ORIGINAL POEMS,
RHYMES FOR THE NURSERY, &c.

LONDON:

PRINTED AND SOLD BY DARTON AND HARVEY,
No. 55, Gracechurch-Street.

1808.

W E D D

THE KNOWLEDGE

OF THE STATE OF THE UNION

FOR THE YEAR

1850

AND FOR THE YEAR

1851

THE

W E D D I N G, & c.

IN a grand convocation which Flora enacted,
Where the bus'ness of all her domain was transacted,
'Twas hinted, there yet remain'd one regulation
To perfect her glorious administration.
To some, strength and masculine beauty were giv'n,
Majestical air, and an eye meeting heav'n;
Hidden virtues to many, to others perfume,
Through each variation of sweetness and bloom :
'Twas therefore suggested, with Flora's compliance,
To unite ev'ry charm in some splendid alliance.

—The royal assent to the motion was gain'd,
 'Twas pass'd at three sittings, and duly ordain'd.

'Twas now most amusing to traverse the shade,
 And hear the remarks that were privately made:
 Such whispers, enquiries, and investigations!
 Such balancing merits, and marshalling stations.
 The nobles protested they never would yield
 To debase their high sap with the weeds of the field;
 For, indeed, there was nothing so vulgar and rude,
 As to let ev'ry ill-bred young wildflow'r intrude:
Their daughters should never dishonour their houses,
 By taking such rabble as these for their spouses!

At length, my Lord SUNFLOWER, whom public opinion
 Confess'd as the pride of the blooming dominion,
 Avow'd an affection he'd often betray'd,
 For sweet Lady LILY, the queen of the shade;
 And said, should her friends nor the public withstand,
 He would dare to solicit her elegant hand.

A whisper, like that which on fine summer eves
 Young zephyrs address to the frolicsome leaves,

Immediately ran through the whole congregation,
 Expressive of pleasure, and high approbation.
 No line was degraded, no family pride
 Insulted, by either the bridegroom or bride;
 For in him all was majesty, beauty, and splendor,
 In her all was elegant, simple, and tender.

Now nothing remain'd but to win her consent,
 And Miss IRIS, her friend, as the messenger went,
 The arts of entreaty and argument trying,
 Till at length she return'd, and announc'd her com-
 plying.

Complete satisfaction the tidings convey'd,
 And whispers and smiles dimpled over the shade.
 The COCKSCOMB, indeed, and a few POWDER'D BEAUX,
 Who were not little vain of their figure and clothes,
 Look'd down with chagrin which they could not disguise,
 That *they* were not fix'd on to carry the prize.
 At length the young nobleman ventur'd to name
 The following spring, and supported his claim,

By duly consulting a reverend scer,
DANDELION, who augur'd the wedding that year,
 Mov'd to give his opinion by breath of perfume,
 And nodding assent with his silvery plume.

For licence, his lordship in person applied
 To the high **CROWN IMPERIAL**, whose court he descried }
 By the **GOLDEN ROD**, ensign of state, by his side: }
 Returning from thence in the course of his journey,
 He order'd the deeds of **JONQUIL**, the attorney;
 And, anxious a speedy conclusion to bring,
 Set **LOVECHAIN** and **GOLD-DUST** to work on the ring.

Now April was dimpled with smiles, and the day
 Was fix'd for the first of luxuriant May:
 Along the parterre, in the shade or the sun,
 All was bus'ness, and bustle, and frolic, and fun;
 For, as **Flora** had granted a full dispensation
 To ev'ry gay tribe in her blooming creation,
 By which at the festival all might appear,
 Who else were on duty but parts of the year,

THE CONSULTATION.

Page 6.



*He having consulted a reverend Seer,
Dandelion who augured the wedding this year,
Moved to give his opinion by breath of perfume.*

There was now such a concourse of beauty and grace,
 As had not, since Eden, appear'd in one place;
 And cards were dispers'd, with consent of the fair,
 To ev'ry great family through the parterre.

There was one city lady, indeed, that the bride
 Did not wish to attend, which was Miss LONDON PRIDE;
 And his lordship declar'd he would rather not meet
 So doubtful a person as young BITTER SWEET.

Sir MICHAELMAS DAISY was ask'd to appear,
 But was gone out of town for best part of the year:
 And though he was sent for, NARCISSUS declin'd
 Out of pique, and preferr'd to keep sulking behind;
 For, having beheld his fine form in the water,
 He thought himself equal to any flow'r's daughter;
 And would not consent to increase a parade,
 The hero of which, he himself should have made.

Dr. CAMOMILE was to have been of the party,
 But was summon'd to town, to old Alderman Hearty.
 Old ALOE, a worthy, respectable don,
 Could not go in the clothes that just then he had on,

And his taylor was such a slow fellow, he guess'd
 That it might be a century before he was dress'd.
 Excuses were sent, too, from very near all
 The ladies residing at Great GREEN HOUSE HALL,
 Who had been so confin'd, were so chilly and spare,
 It might cost them their lives to be out in the air.
 The SENSITIVE PLANT hop'd her friend would excuse her,
 It thrill'd ev'ry nerve in her frame to refuse her,
 But she did not believe she had courage to view
 The solemn transaction she'd summon'd her to.
 WIDOW WAIL had a ticket, but would not attend,
 For fear her low spirits should sadden her friend:
 And, too wild to regard either lady or lord,
 HONEY-SUCKLE, as usual, was gadding abroad.
 Notwithstanding all which, preparations were made,
 In the very first style, for the splendid parade.

One CLOTH-PLANT, a clothier of settled repute,
 Undertook to provide ev'ry beau with a suit,
 Trimm'd with BACHELOR'S BUTTONS, but these, I
 presume,
 Were rejected, as out of the proper costume.

MISS SATIN FLOW'R, fancy-dress maker from town,
 Had silks of all colours and patterns come down;
 And long LADIES' RIBBON could hardly prepare
 Her trimmings, so fast as bespoke by the fair.
 Two noted perfumers, from Shrubbery Lane,
 Messrs. MUSK-ROSE and LAVENDER, essenc'd the train;
 And ere the damp weather of April expir'd,
 The whole blooming band was completely attir'd.

At length the bright morning, with glittering eye,
 Peep'd o'er the green earth from the rose-colour'd sky;
 And soon as the lark flitted out of her nest,
 The bridal assembly was merry and drest.
 Among the most lovely, far lovelier shone
 The bride, with an elegance purely her own:
 Her tall, slender figure green tissue array'd,
 With di'monds strung loose on the shining brocade:
 A cap of white velvet, in graceful costume
 Adorn'd her fair forehead—a silvery plume,
 Tipp'd with gold, from the centre half negligent hung,
 With strings of white pearl scatter'd loosely among.

The last, (such as fairies are fancied to wear,)
Aurora herself had dispos'd in her hair.

To meet her, and welcome the high-omen'd day,
The bridegroom stepp'd forth in majestic array.
A rough velvet suit, mingled russet and green,
Around his fine figure, broad flowing, was seen;
His front, warm and manly, a diadem grac'd,
Of regal appearance, resplendent as chaste:
The centre was pucker'd in velvet of brown,
With golden vandykes, which encircled the crown.
Since Nature's first morning, ne'er glitter'd a pair,
The one so commanding, the other so fair!

Many ladies of fashion had offer'd to wait
As bridemaid, the honour was reckon'd so great:
These fam'd for their beauty, for fragrancy those,
ANEMONE splendid, or sweet-smelling ROSE;
But, gentle and free from a tincture of pride,
A sweet country cousin was call'd by the bride,
Who long in a VALLEY had shelter'd unknown,
Or trac'd to the shade by her sweetness alone.

THE PROCESSION.

Page II.



*Young Heartsease in purple & gold run before,
To welcome them in at the great Temple door.*

She, timid appear'd in the meekest array,
 Like pearls of clear dew on an evergreen spray.

Now mov'd the procession from dressing-room bow'rs,
 A brilliant display of illustrious flow'rs:
 Young HEART'S-EASE in purple and gold ran before,
 To welcome them in at the great temple door,
 Where old Bishop MONK'S-HOOD had taken his stand,
 To weave and to sanction the conjugal band:
 The TRUMPETER-SUCKLING, with musical air,
 Preceded as herald, and then the young pair;
 With little Miss LILY, as bridemaïd, behind,
 Alone, her fair head on her bosom reclin'd.
 The old Duke of PIONY, richly array'd
 In coquelicot, headed the long cavalcade;
 Duchess Dowager ROSE leading up at his side,
 With her daughters, some blooming, some fair as the bride.
 My lady CARNATION, excessively dashing,
 Roug'd highly, and new in the Rotterdam fashion,
 Discoursing of rank and of pedigree came,
 With a beau of distinction, VAN TULIP by name.

Field-officer POPPY, in trim *militaire*,
 An unfortunate youth, HYACINTHUS the fair;
 With MAJOR CONVULVULUS, fresh from parade,
 And his son, though a MINOR, in purple cockade.
 A pair from the country, affecting no show,
 PRETTY BETSY the belle, and SWEET WILLIAM the beau,
 Succeeded; and next, in the simplest attire,
 Miss JESSAMINE pale, and her lover SWEET BRIAR.
 AURICULA came in puce velvet and white,
 With her spouse POLYANTHUS, a rich city knight:
 Messrs. STOCKS, from 'Change Alley, in crimson array,
 The twin-brother LARKSPURS, two fops of the day;
 With light-hearted COLUMBINE, playing the fool,
 And footing away like a frolic from school.
 Then a distant relation, 'twas said, of the bride,
 WATER LILY, a nymph from the rivulet's side:
 And last, hand in hand at the end of the train,
 VIOLETTA and DAISY, from Hazelnut Lane.

MEZEREON had fully design'd to be there,
 But was only half drest, and oblig'd to forbear;

And the EVENING PRIMROSE was pale with chagrin,
 That her cap did not come till the day had clos'd in :
 So each remain'd pouting behind in the shade,
 As winding along mov'd the brilliant parade.

At length, the fair temple appear'd to the view,
 All blushing with beauty, and spangled with dew :
 Tall Hollyhock pillars encircled it round,
 With tendrils of Pea and sweet Eglantine bound :
 The roof was a trellis of myrtle and vine,
 Which knots and festoons of Nasturtium combine :
 Surmounting each pillar, the cornice display'd
 The Midsummer Starwort, relieving the shade ;
 And, wreath'd into loops of the tenderest green,
 Antirrhinum wav'd loose to the zephyrs between.
 The Passion-flow'r fond, to the portico clung,
 And Guelder-rose glitter'd the foliage among :
 A mossy mosaic the pavement display'd,
 With tufts of Hepatica richly inlaid ;
 And high in the centre an altar was rear'd,
 Which wreathen with net-work of flowers appear'd ;

Where a sunbeam each herb aromatic consum'd,
 Condens'd by clear dew-drops the dome that illum'd:
 Above were suspended the merry BLUE BELLS,
 Holy rite to enliven with musical swells.

And now the train enters, the altar burns bright,
 Sweet odours escape from the central light;
 Before the green shrine, the young couple await
 Each form ceremonious ordain'd by the state;
 And mystical rite, understood but by flow'rs,
 Which elude observation of eyes such as ours:
 'Twas only perceiv'd, that the Bishop profound,
 Clear dews from his urn sprinkled thrice on the ground;
 And zephyr, or some such invisible thing,
 Thrice flutter'd the air with his butterfly wing.
 At length the rite clos'd in a grand benediction,
 And merriment burst without any restriction.

Now blush'd in the banquet, along the parterre,
 Each dainty, that nature or art could prepare.
 DAMASK ROSE on the lawn had a tablecloth spread,
 The FLESH PLANT provided the dish at the head,
 And CORNBOTTLE furnish'd the table with bread.

THE WEDDING.

Page 14.



*Before the green shrine the young couple await,
Each form ceremonious ordain'd by the state.*

Housewife BUTTERCUP sent a supply from her churn;
 The SNOWDROP ic'd dews in a white crocus urn;
 And CANDY TUFT, skill'd in the arts of preserving,
 A splendid dessert had the honour of serving.

ROSE BURGUNDY, Vintner, the goblet supplied
 With neat foreign wines, and made COWSLIP beside;
 Campanula cups, fill'd with gentle spring rain,
 Were serv'd to the ladies who wish'd for it plain.
 And all was so elegant, splendid, and rare,
 That I could not name half the fine things that were there:
 When finish'd, SNAPDRAGONS produc'd a good joke,
 And ROCKETS went up to amuse the young folk.

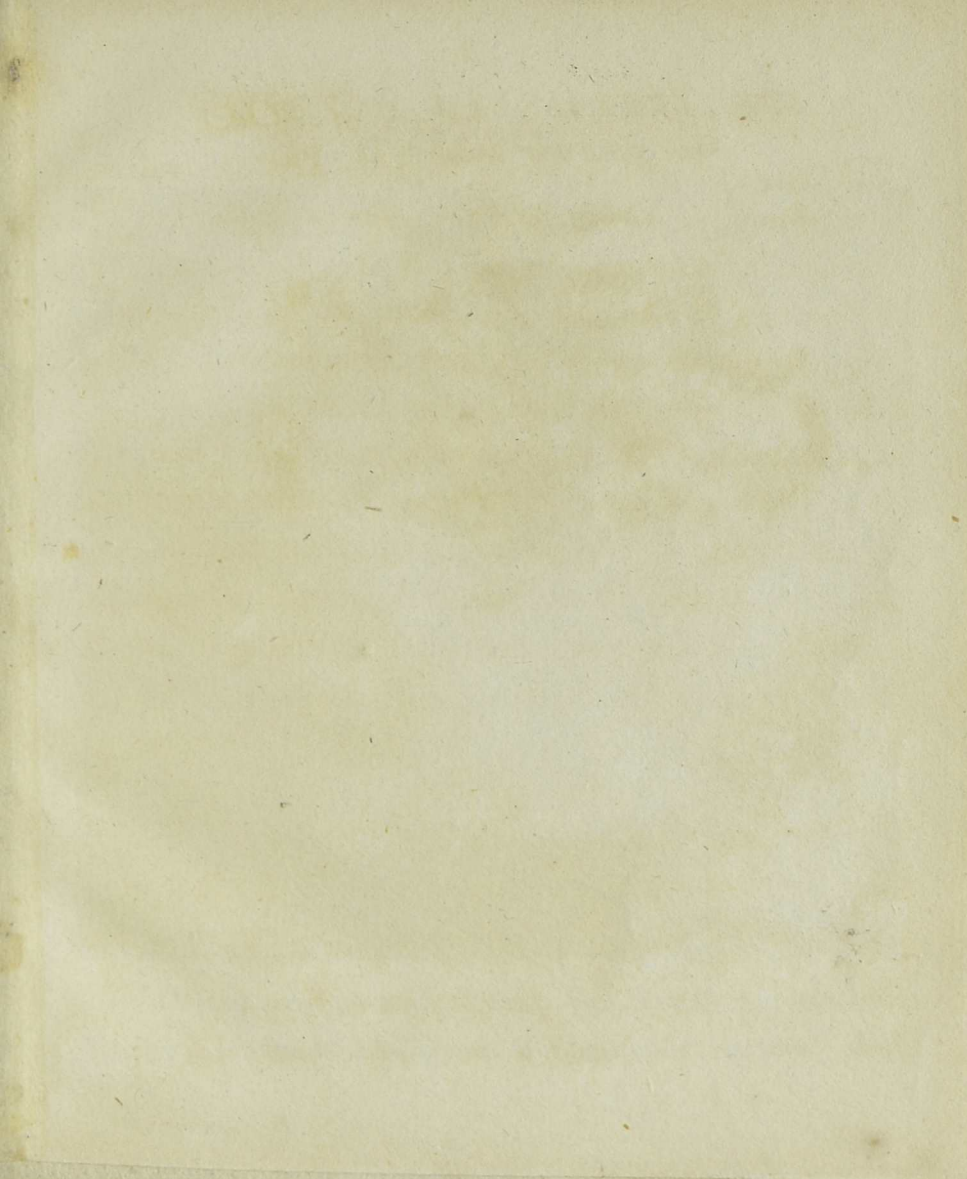
In return for past favours, a band of young bees
 Humm'd a sweet mellow air through the neighbouring
 trees;

And Linnet and Lark, as by accident, met
 And surpris'd the young pair with a charming duct.

And now mirth and revelry were at their height,
 The little ones crept to the shade in affright;

The ladies had danc'd in the heat of the sun,
 Till their dresses were limp, and their spirits outdone ;
 And Flora, who witness'd the scene with concern,
 Beckon'd forward to Vesper, to empty her urn.
 At once, as by magic, the merriment died ;
 Not a whisper was heard, not a gambol was tried !
 Return'd to their stations, in border or bed,
 Each shut up his eye, or hung graceful her head ;
 And those who had left foreign mountains and vales,
 Rode home, in snug parties, on zephyrs and gales ;
 So that ere the first star ventur'd out with a beam,
 They were all sound asleep, and beginning to dream !

A.



SIR INDIAN FIG & FAMILY

On their way home to Bengal.

Page



*And those who had left foreign mountains and vales,
Rode home in snug parties on zepthers and Gales.*



*And Flora who witnessed the scene with concern,
Beckon'd forward to Vesper to empty her urn.*

0.2 37131 062 397 443

