An Easter Legend

WORTHY MATRON:

There is an old legend which tells that all the alleys through which Jesus carried His cross to Calvary were soon covered with flowers which sprang up between the cobblestones, and filled the air with their sweet fragrance. Even so today when the teachings Jesus passes through our hearts, however dark or stony they may be, the blossoms of love and faith burst forth.

When Spring trips across the land, it brings the beautiful and oft repeated message that "Spring shall never fail." All about us, we see the resurrection and rebirth of things which just a short while before seemed evidently dead.

To every understanding heart, there comes the same feeling which Charles Hanson Towne expressed so beautifully in these words:

"In every bursting bloom that cleaves the earth like a flowery sword, I see Thee come from out the tomb, Thou risen Lord."

The flowers that are symbolic of the heroines of our Order have their own special Easter message for us, --

The Violet, the Jasmine, Lily, Fern, and Rose
Will remind us of the attributes of Him,
Who was crucified, of Him, who rose.

ADAH rises and says:

If I had been permitted to bloom on that long and toilsome road
I'd have wafted my fragrance on the air, to tell of the Faith of my Lord.

RUTH rises and says:

His priceless gifts of patience and understanding I'd proclaim
As I blossomed on the pathway over which my Saviour came.

ESTHER rises and says:

I'd stand up straight and slender and to the world I'd tell
My Master bore with Kingly mien, the evil that befell.

MARTHA rises and says:

"Though ye die, if ye believe, yet shall ye live",
That is the message of nature's green.
I'd wave my fronds in the path He trod
'Til all the Truth was seen.
ELECTA rises and says:

The blood from His wounds has colored my heart,
For all the world to see; No greater love hath anyone
Than He who died for me.

WORTHY MATRON:

Let us pray.

(Soft organ music, "Lead Me To Calvary" or other suitable Easter hymn, as Chaplain goes to altar.)

CHAPLAIN:

Help us, O Father, to bear our cross,
This blessed Easter day;
Teach us that spring will always come
That clouds will roll away.
May we forget each trial,
Each hurt, each hate, each loss,
And find the faith to conquer all
In the shadow of His cross.

Soloist or choir may sing as Chaplain retires.

WORTHY PATRON rises and says:

May we have faith like flowers,
Deep rooted, fragrant, and strong.
Let us trust and wait for Springtime,
After the winter that seems so long.
Oh, may we follow after The pathway that He trod; Like the flowers in the legend
Let us bloom for the Son of God.

THE END