PRESENTING JEWEL TO RETIRING WORTHY MATRON
WITH FLOWERS

There's a beautiful story, a legend of old,
   Of an angel who waits at the portals of gold,
   The outermost gates of The City;
And list'ning to prayers of mortals below
   Petitions of sorrow and anguish and woe,
   His heart swells with infinite pity.

So, taking these prayers as they rise, in his hands,
   Love's subtle alchemy, which he commands
   Transmutes them to beautiful flowers.
Transforms them to beauty and fragrance and bloom
   Relieving earth's sorrow and darkness and gloom
   In beautiful rose tinted bower's.

And taking our cue from this angel of prayer
   We too have assembled a symphony fair
   Of flowers of eloquent meaning.
And bound with the petals of flower and vine
   Soft tendrils of love and allegiance entwine;
   These also are flowers of our gleaning.

Fidelity speaks in the flowers of blue,
   In the gold of the harvest shine's Constancy true
   The green speaks of Faith strong, confiding.
Blossoms of white gleam with Purity's light,
   The red tells of love all abiding.

Our Sister:— all these we have given to you
   In the year of our service together,
And you in your turn have been faithful and true
   In all kinds of fortune and weather.

The flowers will fade and their fragrance depart,
   And time all things finite will sever,
But the light of the love 'twix your heart and our heart
   Shall be dimmed or extinguished, no, never.

So we proffer this emblem, and set in its fold
   You will find if its center yon scan.
Yours forever and ever to have and to hold
   The badge of your office emblazoned in gold.

N. B.    A ring may be presented instead of pin,
in which case omit last verse and substitute one below.

So we proffer this emblem, and set in its fold
   Where its colors fraternally blend,
Whose impress on each of our hearts is enfascled
   You will find if you seek it a circlet of gold;
   Symbol of love without end.
PRESENTATION, WITH FLOWERS, OF PIN OR OTHER SMALL GIFT TO RETIRING MATRON FROM HER OFFICERS-

I

To "say it with flowers" may seem trite,
Yet what more expressive may prove
That these blossoms so dainty and bright,
The eloquent language of Love.

II

They tell of the homage we bear,
Of our joy in the year that has passed;
No shade of regret lingers there,
No thought of a sky overcast.

III

'Tis true these sweet flowers will fade,
That their fragrance too soon will depart,
So we've sought more material aid
To pin our love tight to your heart.

IV

And deep in the heart of these blossoms you'll find
A gift more substantial their import to bind.

SUBSTITUTE ADAPTATION FOR DIFFERENT GIFT

III

'Tis true these sweet flowers will fade,
So sentiment gives place to thrift;
And our officers call to their aid
A little material gift.

IV

With the hope that your heart will respond
To the tribute of love which they bring,
Just a strand in the sisterly bond
Round which may fond memories cling.
PRESENTING GIFT TO GRAND OFFICER VISITING
HOME CHAPTER (With or Without Flowers)

"Noiseless falls the foot of time"
   And still the years roll by;
The bells peal forth their rhythmic chime
   As swift the moments fly.

Filling life's measure of the brim
   With joys and sorrows blending,
But ever through the shadows grim
   Love's sun the cloud is rending.

Within the garden of our hearts
   One flower we fondly cherish,
FRIENDSHIP shall bloom till life departs
   And all things sordid perish.

Our Sister:— in our hearts today
   For you that flower is blooming,
God grant from you to never stray
   All weeds and waste consuming.

Rejoicing in your broader gains
   We yet may feel with rapture
The homing instinct still obtains
   And ours your homestead chapter.

You live in our fraternal heart,
   And in fraternal token
E'en let this gift express in part
   The things we leave unspoken.