

**THE POEMS OF THOMAS
BAILEY ALDRICH.
ILLUSTRATED, PP. 1-252**

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THOMAS BAILEY ALDRICH

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ALDRICH'S POEMS



J. B. Albright.



THE POEMS
OF
THOMAS BAILEY ALDRICH

ILLUSTRATED
BY
THE PAINT AND CLAY CLUB



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1882

FLOWER AND THORN.

FLOWER AND THORN.

TO L. A.

I.

AT Shiraz, in a sultan's garden, stood
A tree whereon a curious apple grew,
One side like honey, and one side like rue.

Thus sweet and bitter is the life of man,
The sultan said, for thus together grow
Bitter and sweet, but wherefore none may know.

Herewith together you have flower and thorn,
Both rose and brier, for thus together grow
Bitter and sweet, but wherefore none may know.

II.

Take them and keep them,
Silvery thorn and flower,
Plucked just at random
In the rosy weather —
Snowdrops and pansies,
Sprigs of wayside heather,
And five-leaved wild-rose
Dead within an hour.

FLOWER AND THORN.

Take them and keep them :
Who can tell? some day, dear,
(Though they be withered,
Flower and thorn and blossom,)
Held for an instant
Up against thy bosom,
They might make December
Seem to thee like May, dear !

I.
CLOTH OF GOLD.