

**GARLAND
OF SONG**

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Garland of song by Mary E. Griffin

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MARY E. GRIFFIN

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Music

1956

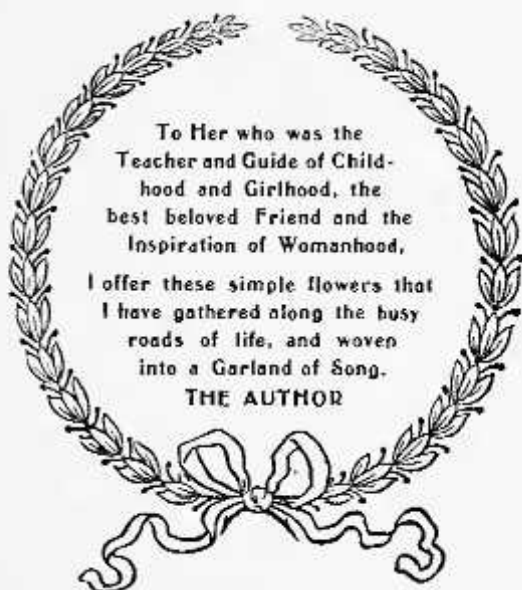
GARLAND OF SONG



BY
MARY E. GRIFFIN

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1905

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To Her who was the
Teacher and Guide of Child-
hood and Girlhood, the
best beloved Friend and the
Inspiration of Womanhood,

I offer these simple flowers that
I have gathered along the busy
roads of life, and woven
into a Garland of Song.

THE AUTHOR

ONE YEAR AGO.

The wreath of song I bring, Beloved,
Is twined with lowly flowers,
But all were gathered, fresh and sweet,
In Love's immortal bowers.
And nestling close to every bud
Are benisons from me,
As pure as sheen of morning dew
On blossom-sprinkled lea.

O, chain of love that ever clasped
My brother's heart to mine,
Through days of calm and days of storm,
Through shade and fair sunshine,
A year ago, this sunny May,
Another link you found,
Strong and enduring as the first,
And *three*, not *two*, it bound.

My sister! 'Tis a holy name
I gave thee on that day,
Replete with music as the birds
That carol through the May.
For his dear sake I loved thee then,
But now 'tis for thy own,
The portals to Love's inner room
Are widely open thrown.

Spring's promises are all fulfilled
When May bids earth rejoice,
And Nature chimes in sweet accord
With her entrancing voice.
The buds that ope, the birds that sing,
Breathe out, "The Summer day"
With its rich hoard of precious stores
Will follow beauteous May.

O well Beloved! Life's days to you
Forever be the May!
With hope and peace and trusting love
The flowers along the way!
And let those blossoms speak of lands
Beyond the changing skies,
Where hope is lost in endless peace
And love in Paradise!

Full well I know, my precious ones,
Those lines but ill reveal
The sister's heart, so fondly true
To you in woe or weal.
But to thy care, O Virgin Queen,
My dear ones I commend!
Guide, bless, and love them evermore!
From every ill defend!