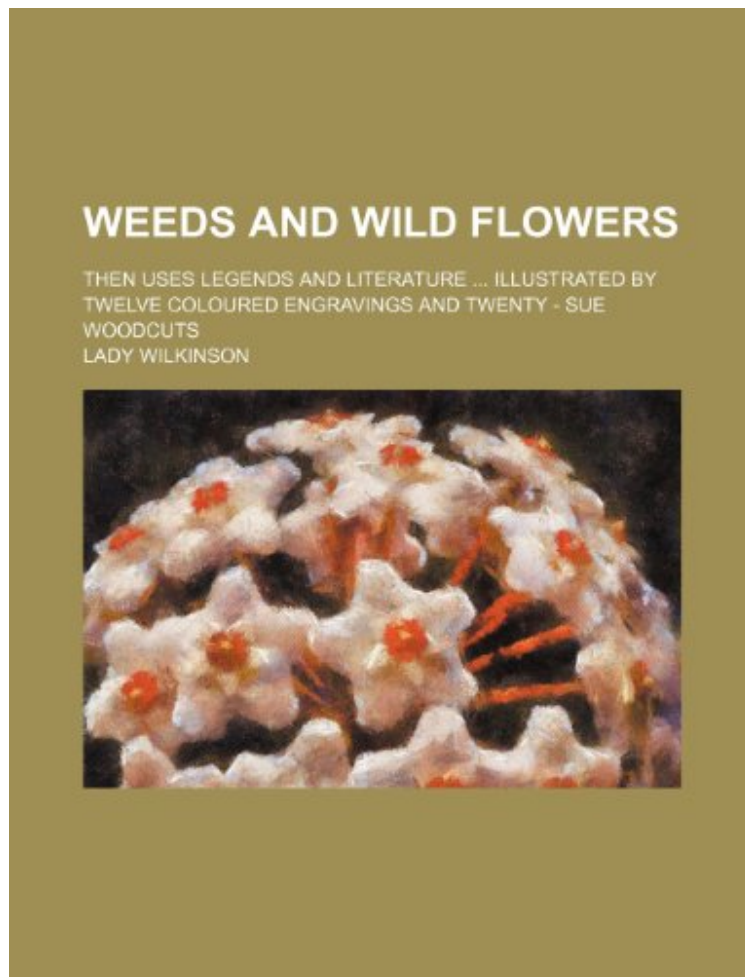


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## **Weeds and wild flowers; then uses legends and literature illustrated by twelve coloured engravings and twenty - sue woodcuts**

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when Minerva sprang from the brain of Jupiter, and "Venus simultaneously rose from the waves, the earth brought forth this flower--so much more beautiful than anything which had been before produced, to celebrate the double birth; and therefore, says Gerarde, the Easterns "can by no means endure to see the leaves of roses fall to the ground." This original rose was supposed to have been white, and the fable continues, that the first red rose was that, upon whose thorns Venus trod when flying to succour the wounded Adonis. "She treads upon a thornecl rose, And while the wound with crimson flows The snowy flow'ret feels her blood, and blushes." Far more beautiful, however, are the various Eastern versions of the tale, one of which relates, that, Eve, gazing in admiration on the white rose of Paradise, laid her rosy lips on its snowy blossom, which, receiving the impression of their colour, became the parent of all future red roses; while another, as related by Sir John Mandeville, affirms; that the rose never existed at all in the Garden of Eden, but that the first of the species ever seen, sprang up in a field called Floridus, on the eastern side of Ephrata. For there, a fair maid, unjustly accused, had been condemned to be burned; when, on the faggots being lighted, she prayed aloud that God would, "as truly as she was not guilty," make it known to all. At the conclusion of her prayer, she walked, in the full confidence of innocence, into the midst of the burning pile; upon which, the raging fire was immediately extinguished, and the faggots as suddenly turned to roses; those which were flaming, becoming red roses, while such as were not yet kindled, appeared as white ones. According to Basil, the ro...