

# IF I SPEAK TO THEE IN FRIENDSHIP'S NAME.

WRITTEN BY

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Arranged for the Piano Forte by M. R. Bishop.

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Moderato.

VOICE.

If I speak to thee in friendship's name, Thou think'st I talk too coldly; If I mention love's de - vo - ted flame, Thou

Piano Forte.

say'st I speak too boldly. Be - tween these two un - e - qual fires, Why doom me thus to hover? I'm a friend, if such thy

Ad Libitum. Piu Lento. A Tempo.

heart re - quires ; If more thou seek'st, a lover. Which shall it be? How shall I woo? Fair one, choose between the two, Fair one, choose between tho

Colla voce. pp

two.

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2.  
 Though the wings of Love will brightly play,  
 When first he comes to woo thee,  
 There's a chance that he may fly away,  
 As fast as he flies to thee:  
 While Friendship, though on foot she come,  
 No flights of fancy trying,  
 Will therefore oft be found at home,  
 When love abroad is flying.  
 Which shall it be? How shall I woo?  
 Dear one, choose between the two.

3.  
 But if neither feeling suits thy heart,  
 Let's see, to please thee, whether  
 We may not learn some precious art,  
 To mix their charms together:  
 One feeling, still more sweet, to form  
 From two, so sweet already,  
 A Friendship that, like love is warm,  
 A love like friendship, steady.  
 Thus let it be, thus let me woo;  
 Dearest, thus we'll join the two.