

beautiful verses, but without acknowledging the fact. In the present volume, however, we have thought it better to refer to the books from which the designs are taken, whilst reserving to ourselves the right of putting what interpretation we pleased upon them, and even of modifying and altering the motto if it seemed good to us. This will sufficiently account for the frequent discrepancies betwixt the two mottoes. These foreign books contain disquisitions upon the difference between devices and emblems; but we have classed all under the latter name as having a more general signification.

Simple devices are of very ancient origin; Moses is supposed to have borrowed the idea of them from the Egyptians, and they were