

abounds, and blossoms in May, it very appropriately bears the name of Mayflower, not only on account of its beauty and its fragrant flowers, but because it blooms in the spring. It is rightly chosen by the descendants of the Loyalists as a fitting emblem of those who, on this day 100 years ago, first set foot on the shores of New Brunswick. Its home is in that region of the North American continent which extends from the Atlantic coast of Nova Scotia, through New Brunswick and Maine, to Eastern Ontario, Lake Superior and the rocky wilds of the North West. In Ontario and the Maritime Provinces of Canada is the home of the Loyalists, and when the first detachment of these people landed on the rocky shores of St. John harbor, in the spring of 1783, there can be no doubt that they found the Mayflower (*Epigaea*) blooming around them. In its leaves, fresh and green from beneath the winter snows, they would have seen an emblem of their own preservation through adversity in the past; and in its modest and fragrant blossoms an omen of content and prosperity in the future.

In conclusion it may be added that our reflections upon the Mayflower lead to the following result:—

The Mayflower of the Pilgrims was not the Mayflower of all the Loyalists.

The Mayflower of the Loyalists was not the Mayflower of the Maritime Canadians.

The Mayflower of certain of the Loyalists was the Spring Beauty.

The Mayflower of the Maritime Canadians may very fittingly be dedicated to the Loyalists.

Or, to consider the matter from a chronological standpoint, it may be said that 260 years ago the Hawthorn was the Mayflower. 100 years ago the Spring Beauty was to some Loyalists the Mayflower.

Now the *Epigaea* is to the descendants of the Loyalists, the Mayflower.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., May 13, 1883.

## Botanical Department.

### AMONG THE CRYPTOGAMS.

BY PROF. A. H. MCKAY,

PAPER V.—USES OF LICHENS, (*Continued.*)

"Little Lichen ondy clinging  
In the wild wood to the tree;  
Covering all unseemly places,  
Hiding all thy tender graces,  
Ever dwelling in the shade,  
Never seeing sunny glade."

In addition to its geological functions the lichen subserves other purposes, and notable among these are its uses as

#### FOOD AND FODDER.

Many of them contain a large amount of a starch-like substance called *Lichenine* and *Inuline*. The latter is found in the roots of some flowering plants, the