

catches the drainage of the slopes around it. The moist ground, cool shade, and northern exposure of this basin, forms an ideal spot for a fernery.

Thus there were provided a meadow and a grove, two very necessary adjuncts of a wild garden.

Crossing an intervening open space toward the south after leaving the grove, the top of the hill is reached. Here stands an aged white pine, the only survivor of a fire which swept over the place some years before. The blackened trunk, and upper branches extended imploringly, tell of its struggle for life. On this knoll the soil is dry and poor, covered with a growth of small trees and heath plants. This is called Heath Hill. On the continuation of this knoll to the east stands a small summer cottage overlooking the St. John river and the Nerepis hills to the north. Sloping from the cottage toward the river is a cultivated field in which and along its borders may be placed those plants requiring full exposure to sunlight.

In this garden there have been about five hundred native species of flowering plants and ferns, many of which were *in situ*, while others have been planted during the last ten years; of these about ten per cent. have disappeared, or failed to grow through lack of proper conditions or the perils incident to long transportation, as the transfer of plants has been made chiefly in the summer months; so that not quite one-half of the flowering plants of the province can be seen in this space of nearly two acres. But little progress has been made in planting the grasses, sedges, rushes, and aquatic plants. The results in regard to the latter are especially disappointing, although considerable labor has been expended on them. The (at times) turbulent little stream has shown no disposition to be led into quiet ponds or stretches of pool. It has even carried away—root, stem and branch—the plants placed too confidently within the limits of its bed, and all attempts to secure its co-operation, or at least a passive non-resistance in the scheme, have resulted in failure.

There is a larger representation of ferns in the garden than any other class of plants. Nearly all of the forty species and varieties found within the limits of the province were living and flourishing during the past summer. The trees and shrubs are also very well represented. Out of the eighty species found in the province, more than sixty are growing and in good condition, and in a short time I hope to have a complete representation of our forest trees and shrubs