

However, Strathroy was indicated as one of the small towns, and from such, good botanizing is apt to be found at the end of very short walks. Also, according to the map a river—the Sydenham—seemed to course near this town; an augury of more diversity in the flora and silva than strictly prairie or mere upland districts are favored with.

Landing at the railway station of this pleasant village a half-hour before noon of June 12th, less than two hours later, portfolio in hand, I walked forth on my first herborizing stroll in Ontario. Having reached within a few minutes the furthestmost and half meadowy outskirts of the town, I beheld close at hand a depression in the open landscape, out of the midst of which arose the familiar narrowly cone-shaped heads of larches and arbor vitæ. No prospect could have pleased me more; and within a very few minutes I was in the midst of this tamarack marsh. The arboreal vegetation of this I found to be quite different from that of such tamarack swamps of southern Wisconsin as I had been familiar with long years ago. There the larches had been the only trees, and these so closely set as to form a thicket hard to penetrate. Here there was no density of arboreal growth. The larches stood somewhat apart from one another, and there was arbor vitæ freely interspersed; and there was no dearth of deciduous trees, red maple, ash, basswood and some others; but these small for their kind and slender; and the habitat of them all was subaquatic; for everywhere one had to pick his way along tufts of sedge, and the superficial roots of trees, to avoid sinking over shoe in water.

Between the dry bank that encircles the swamp and its wooded portion one crosses in most places a narrow belt or rim of Carices without shrubs or even much other herbaceous vegetation; usually more or less of marsh marigold and skunk cabbage. Here the ground is firmer and less aqueous.

Another treeless and shrubless portion of the tract is central, and consists of a somewhat sinuously outlined shallow pond, occupied mostly by yellow pond lilies, the muddy shore of it beset with *Calla palustris*, this not yet in flower in the middle of June.

Bounded on the outside by the narrow rim of the caricetum, and within by the considerable expanse of the calla-nymphæa pond, the main body of the marsh, where grow the hydrophile trees already listed, is the really paradisiacal part of it, as viewed by the botanical eye; for here, the woods being quite open, the open spaces are filled with a rich diversity of herbaceous plants,