



The Garden and Lawn.

CANADIAN WILD-FLOWERS.—I.



WE have many beautiful flowers growing in our woodlands and meadows that can be used to adorn our homes, both in town and country. They can be transplanted from their native localities at no other expense than a few hours of the children's time, and will thrive in cultivation as well as in their woodland haunts, many of them better. The expense of procuring flowering plants deters some from planting them about their dwellings, and hence many, especially of our rural homes, are so devoid of attractiveness in their surroundings. Now, this need not be, and, in truth, should not be. The influence of the home in which the children are reared remains through life, and oftentimes, nay, usually, shapes all their after years. If the influence of the home of our children is refining, stimulating thought and observation, thus leading on to useful reading, and intercourse with thinking minds, we may reasonably expect that when they become men and women they will be persons of intelligence, and therefore of influence. Our farmers, some of them at least, complain that they are looked down upon by those in other walks of life, that they do not enjoy the consideration and influence which their position, as producers of the wealth of the country, entitles them. In some measure this may be true; for the writer has more than once heard it remarked that the farmers of Canada, as a class, were at once the most suspicious and the most gullible of men. But in whatever measure the farmers fail of enjoying the consideration and influence which they should possess, it is wholly their own fault. As a class they have been prone to confine their attention to the mere routine of the farm, content to go on in the methods of their ancestors, never enlarging their mental vision by excursions into other fields than their own, or by indulging in studies or investigations of natural science related closely to their daily pursuits. There is nothing more true than that ignorance begets conceit. The ignorant man is the man that thinks he knows it all, and those who attend the January meetings of the Farmers' Institutes will testify that those who stand most in need of information are conspicuous by their absence. When the farmers of Canada lay aside