

There is no other white flowered perennial of its season of bloom which approaches it for beauty. It has a comparatively long season of bloom for a spring flower, quickly becomes established and multiplies rapidly. A clump of about three roots planted ten years ago, now produces more than fifty flowers annually, most of very large size. These could be used with splendid effect in parks or private grounds if massed.

The Virginian Cowslip, *Mertensia pulmonariodes*, or, as it used to be called, *Mertensia virginica*, is another spring flowering herbaceous perennial which should have a place in every garden. The flowers which open at Ottawa during the second week of May are of a lovely shade of pale blue and when in bud are pink at the base. This plant soon withers after blooming and by early summer is not seen above ground.

Another charming wild plant which does well under cultivation is the Wild Sweet William or Blue Phlox, *Phlox divaricata*. This blooms at Ottawa from the middle of May to June 10th, and is one of the most admired plants at that time. The flowers vary from soft tints of lilac to mauve, and a white variety is found in western Ontario which is very beautiful.

A dwarf phlox native of south-western Ontario is the Moss Pink, *Phlox subulata*, blooming early in spring and particularly useful for rockeries. It can be had now in many varieties.

Although some of the best of the later blooming Columbines are not natives of Canada, yet two of the best early species are *Aquilegia canadensis*, and *A. coccinea*, which, if not so common, would be more appreciated.

Among the first flowers to open after the snow goes is the Prairie Anemone or Prairie Crocus, *Anemone patens*, var. *Nuttalliana*. This is common in the prairie provinces. It is very showy, even in small clumps, but if massed would be very effective in early spring and be a contrast to the early flowering bulbs, which are in bloom at the same time.

One of the showiest native plants we have and particularly attractive on account of its odd but pleasing colour, is the Butterfly Weed or Pleurisy Root, *Asclepias tuberosa*. The flowers are a bright orange and the plant remains in bloom from early in July to early in August.

The Oswego Tea or Bee Balm, *Monarda didyma*, is a native which is considerably used in planting in the United States and could be used much more in Canada with good effect. The plant being from three to four feet high and the flowers being bright crimson or scarlet, it is a striking object wherever planted. It blooms from early in July to September. While mentioning scarlet flowers one must not forget the Cardinal Flower, *Lobelia*