

shrubby, if the practice is not carried too far. Such clumps always present a novel appearance. They are vigorous, clean, shapely. The sprouts may be cut back nearly to the ground every two or three years, allowing new ones to spring up, thus maintaining the desired size of growth. Most of our rapid growing forest trees are excellent for this purpose upon large lawns. We have good specimens of white ash, basswood, the European field maple (*Acer campestre*), and others, grown in this way. The principle can also be applied to the growing of coppices upon large grounds, or about borders. For such purposes the beech and the oaks are preferable.

Many trees and shrubs are more attractive when grown in this way than when allowed to assume their ordinary forms. Examples of such are the alanthus and the sumacs. The ordinary wild, smooth sumac (*Rhus glabra*) is one of the finest of decorative shrubs when grown in this manner.

Some of the tender exotics, also, may be managed in this way, especially such as make strong growths and bear large or conspicuous leaves. The paulownia and some of the magnolias may be cited as examples. Such plants should be given rich soil and good culture to enable them to make a long growth.—*L. H. Bailey, in Bulletin 31, Mich. Agric. College.*



LILY OF THE VALLEY (CONVALLARIA MAJALIS).

BY HERMANN SIMMERS, TORONTO.

A GENUS of plants of the natural order Liliaceae, having terminal racemes of flowers, a white bell-shaped perianth, and a succulent fruit. Of all the subjects that I have taken up in reference to bulbs and roots, there are but few that the amateur has not a slight knowledge of, but the present subject is probably thoroughly known as regards the flowers; but in reference to their general culture some may not be so well acquainted, and I will endeavor to give some practical points in order to encourage the growth of this extremely popular plant. In the amateur's garden, we will always find a shady place, where nothing can be grown with any degree of success; therefore, if the amateur chances to have such a spot, this will exactly suit the growing of the Lily of the Valley. Should this spot happen to be a soil

of sandy loam, the better the chance of success; as in Europe, where some gardeners raise these by the acre, the soil is generally of such a nature; in fact, the plants sometimes received from Europe are surrounded by a thoroughly sandy soil, and this would lead one to inquire how they could raise them with any success; but the ground is heavily fertilized with well rotted-manure and thoroughly worked before planting. In a like manner then, the amateur may proceed. If the soil has not been dug or fertilized, for a few years apply a liberal supply of manure in the fall about the middle of October, and if not ready to plant at that date, they may be planted any time before extreme frost, as they do not make much growth in the fall.

Take the plants, or pips as they are termed, and plant them in rows twelve