

but awaits the advent of warm weather from *our* Mayflower in preferring a knowing full well that the warm days rich and moist soil, and its stem is soft of early spring are deceptive; and that and succulent like its ally the Purslane (*Portulaca*); while the stem of the chilling winds from the Gulf of *our* Mayflower is strong and woody, Saint Lawrence and the snow-clad hills of Labrador, will, later on, chill and its leaves thick and hard.

the air and interfere with the development of its tiny tubular blossoms, protected though they are by enveloping scales and sepals without, and by a fluff of woolly hairs within. On Lake Superior and the inland region generally the Mayflower has greater confidence in the sun's power, and as soon as the snow is gone, confidently opens its petals to the vernal breeze.

The family to which the lady belonged, who spoke of the Spring Beauty as the true Mayflower, came from Connecticut; and it is easy to see why our Mayflower was not theirs. In the region where they had lived, before removing to St. John, the *Epigæa* would blossom in April and the term "Mayflower" would be inappropriate to it; hence some other blossom would with them have borne the name of "Mayflower." The name and the associations connected with it were dear to those New England colonists; with what object more attractive could they have associated the ideas and the name, then the delicate Spring Beauty—a plant which abounds in the rich woods covering the mountains and hills of Western New England and New York. To the Loyalists of Connecticut, therefore, the word "Mayflower" carried a different meaning from that which it bears with us.

But the purpose of these remarks is not so much to describe the mayflower and its habits as to enquire whether this flower of ours was the Mayflower of the Loyalists. The writer was very much surprised, many years ago, on being told by an old lady who came here with the Loyalists, that our plant (*Epigæa repens*) was *not* the Mayflower. Among wild flowers that were afterwards shown to her she at once recognized one as the true Mayflower. This was the plant which is now called the Spring Beauty (*Claytonia Caroliniana*), a delicate little plant with two opposite leaves, which are not unlike an Indian's canoe-paddle in shape, and having a cluster of nodding pink flowers between the leaves. The short stem which the Spring Beauty annually sends up comes from a little brown tuber, buried deep in the rich mould of the hardwood forest. The plant differs

And to the Loyalists of New York and New Jersey, where the *Epigæa* was known as the Trailing *Arbutus*, the idea of "Mayflower," as applied to this plant, was equally foreign. Their name for our Mayflower, however, was not happily chosen, as the *Arbutus* was one of those European plants, which casts its leaves in