entirely unfounded but very general belief that special scientific training is essential before one may begin the study of plants has deterred many a lover of flowers from attempting to learn the names of species with which he has been familiar from child-hood.

In recent years, however, several books of a more or less popular character have been published and their effect is already noticeable in the increased interest that is being taken in the study of flowers. Mrs. Trail's " Plant Life in Canada " was one of the first, as it is still one of the best, books of this kind published in America. It is, however, more a record of the author's own observations, than an aid to the study of plants and has perhaps for that reason not had so large a sale as its literary quality and the information it contains merit. " How to know the Wild Flowers," by Mrs. Dana, and a more recent book by the same author " How to know Ferns " have had a large sale in Ottawa and are doing much to popularize Botany.

The latest and most attractive book on flowers is Miss Lounsberry's " A Guide to Wild Flowers" illustrated with sixty-four coloured and one hundred black-and-white plates. In Mrs. Dana's book the usual general key to genera gives place to an artificial arrangement by means of which flowers of one colour are grouped together in of their date of blooming ; Miss Lounsberry has adopted a new arrangement and has divided the species included in her book into eight groups according to their habitat. Plants growing in water are first described, then those growing in mud and so on until the uplands are reached. Though some difficulty must have been experienced in deter-mining the group into which some species of general distribution should be put, the author seems, to have been able to place each species just where one would expect to find it and the arrange-ment she has adopted will enable many who know nothing of botany to name the common plants met with in their rambles.

As should be the case with books of this kind, the common English names are given first in heavy type, then follows the Latin name, below which comes in a single line the family, colour,