

any one not a botanist and close observer would not have doubted about as a part of the pristine prairie, began to show fine patches of *Smilacina racemosa*, at this time in fresh full bloom, while along the fences there was a continuous row of bloodroot, this of course long past flowering. These and a few other plants which by nature are strictly woodland plants, will maintain a foothold and even flourish in the open, long after their forest shelter has been removed, so long as neither the plow nor the ruminants disturb them.

The wooded belt when reached did not prove to be the wild woodland I had hoped to see; nor was there river or even any streamlet coursing through or near it. What I had come to was but a series of well kept groves of young trees, such as the farmers had with excellent economy not only permitted to remain, but had kept clear of woody undergrowths, permitting not much except the native herbaceous plants and a scattered growth of currant and gooseberry bushes, natives of the soil, to remain. The most common tree was beech, but also there was no dearth of red oak, some white oak and bur oak, an occasional ash, more than an occasional linden and black maple, besides such things of smaller stature as *Carpinus* and the hop hornbeam, besides a *Crataegus* species or two. In less elevated and rather damp places I noted the presence of *Dirca palustris* and *Enonymus obovatus*. Where the shade was deepest, chiefly under the beeches and maples, there was abundance of *Arisaema* and of bloodroot, besides yellow violets, and clustered between and upon the superficial root-arms of the beeches was a great abundance of *Unifolium canadense*. In places less shady, and where they were partly open to the sun, there were beautiful patches of *Geranium Robertianum* in full flower at the time; also here and there a tuft of scarlet columbine. I have observed scarlet columbines all the way across the United States from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and have long known them in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado, and in both the Coast Range and the Sierra Nevada. Botanists in Europe and in America have distinguished several species, and I doubt not most of them are valid. This one of western Ontario at once presented one mark that was new to me among this group. The basal leaves were more elegantly and narrowly cut than any I had observed either east or west, and also they were of an almost whitish glaucous hue, though all of a sudden the stem leaves all, even the lower, were of the usual green of columbine leaves. And this plant is certainly not *Aquilegia canadensis*, for the sure mark of that is that its follicles when grown and mature spread away from one another at the top, and are even almost recurved. In the plant of western Ontario the follicles closely cohere to the very tips, and are even then con-