

at their own quarters, and imagining themselves in safety, they soon recovered from their surprise and fright, and as we climbed the hill we saw here and there above a rock a head apparently watching us. Soon the animals themselves appeared, and by degrees returned to the agreeable occupation of fattening themselves for the long hibernation of the coming winter. The whistling went on at intervals, but the note of fear was changed to one that savored ever so slightly of impudence. Our minds were now at rest. Here was food in plenty, and although we discovered afterwards that the flesh of the whistler is neither very tender nor very palatable, it was easily procured and furnished us with several good meals when nothing better had been shot; but at no other time did we attempt to take them. Only a few days before, the surrounding hills had been entirely covered with snow, but on many exposed places it had melted away and we ran up a grassy slope dotted with spring flowers. There was the beautiful *Erythronium giganteum*, a larger and much more handsome species than its brother the familiar Adder's Tongue or Dog-toothed Violet of our Ottawa woods, beside it grew *Anemone occidentalis*, the western mountain Anemone, a far larger and more attractive flower than any of our eastern forms of this genus. The little arctic buttercup *Ranunculus Eschscholtzii* was everywhere in profusion, and in the little rivulets running from the snow *Epilobium alpinum* grew in dense clumps, its delicate pink flowers massed together to attract attention. *Claytonia Caroliniana*, var. *sessilifolia*, was abundant too, but is not nearly so pretty as our Spring Beauty, of which it is a variety. Merely glancing at these as a foretaste of what was in store for us, we lost no time in climbing to the summit of the hill, which we soon reached, and from which we had a magnificent view of the surrounding country. Due north of us lay Shuswap Lake, and it was not difficult to trace with the eye the course of the creek from our feet to where it entered it. Far to the north and northeast were snow-capped mountains, and one glacier could be seen glittering in the sun. Towards the south the prospect was brighter. A mountain prairie, about three miles across, stretched from where we stood to a higher mountain. Further inland, a few groves of trees and frequent dashes of brilliant color, where the flowers of one species predominated, gave the whole an appearance of an im-