



Trillium Grandiflorum in Mr. Alexander's Garden

they are still excellent in cultivation, and their foliage is attractive at all times. It is best to plant them in groups of from 6 to 10 plants if possible, where they will not be disturbed.

SANGUINARIA CANADENSIS

The next plant I would commend, as deserving a place in the garden, is the blood-root, *Sanguinaria Canadensis*. This flower has the purest white color of any plant known. Each flower comes out of the cold, moist earth wrapped securely in its own pale green leaf, and this leaf is not unrolled until the flower is strong enough to bear the light and winds. The flower falls apart so easily that when in full bloom it will scarcely bear transportation, but with a touch the stem stands naked—a bare, gold-tipped sceptre, amid drifts of snow. It is one of the most shy of wild plants, easily banished from its locality by any invasion, but it takes to the garden with the most perfect readiness, doubles its size, blossoms earlier, repudiates its love of water

and flaunts its great leaves in its unnatural confinement. I have two colonies of this flower in my garden, planted about 15 years ago, and it has increased both by ordinary increase of the roots, and by seed, and in a dry and sandy soil, the very opposite of that in which it seems to thrive best in a wild state. It seems throughout a contradiction, the purest white flower, from a root so bloody red, that the Indians use it for staining their baskets; and it was used in old times for staining their faces.

CLAYTONIA VIRGINICA

The wild flower I would next speak of is the spring beauty, *Claytonia Virginica*. This plant has a tenderness and delicacy of expression that is very charming. It is very delicate, and as soon as picked it fades. I have had it blooming in a shady nook of a rockery for years. It rises from the ground by a stem like a thread, connected with a tuber about the size of a pea several inches below the surface. The color of the flower is a pale pink with deeper colored veins. It is the Indian *Miskodeed*, and was said to have been left behind when mighty Peboan, the Winter, was melted by the breath of Spring. Unlike most of the early wild flowers it bears its blossoms in clusters, and opens in succession each white and pink-veined bell. It grows in moist places, and prolongs its career from the middle of April to the end of May.

TRILLIUM GRANDIFLORUM

The white trillium, sometimes called the wood lily, is so well known that little need be said about it. Too much cannot, however, be said about its peculiar

adaptability to the perennial flower border. If the tubers are dug up in late summer, or early fall, and planted in soil as recommended above, a good crop of flowers will delight you. The next spring, and year after year, they will increase in number and size. A single tuber planted many years ago near a cedar hedge has so increased that last year there was a dense cluster of 10 flowers. All these early wild flowers are most satisfactory when several are planted in a group. In a circular space of, say, two feet in diameter, 10 or 12 tubers might be planted. In a few years these would appear as shown in the illustration, which is reproduced from one of several groups in the garden.

ANEMONE THALICTROIDES

Another very sweet little flower is the Rue anemone, which is found growing around the roots of large trees in open woods, and often in company with the wood anemone or wind flower, *Anemone nemorosa*. Unlike its companion which bears only one flower, the Rue Anemone has a cluster of flowers at the top of a slender stem, with a whorl of leaves under them like the leaves of meadow rue. Its root is a cluster of small tubers, and looks like a very miniature dahlia root.

ANEMONE PENNSYLVANICA

The Pennsylvanian anemone is a very common one, and is found growing at the borders of woods, and on the sides of railway embankments and ditches. It is usually found in patches, and forms a very showy addition to the hardy garden. It spreads by underground runners, and if allowed will soon monopolize the surrounding area. It continues to bloom for two or three weeks, and is a very striking object. The cut represents only a section of the mass, all from a single root planted a few years ago. It requires no looking after except to keep it within due bounds.

All the above, if planted as indicated, will be a source of pleasure for years to those interested, and will be admired by all flower lovers. It is not difficult to start them and very little work is entailed in looking after them.



Anemone Pennsylvanica



Spring Beauty