



## ✧ The Garden and Lawn. ✧

### CANADIAN WILDFLOWERS.—IV.

#### The Buttercup Family—(Continued).

##### THE MARSH MARIGOLD—*Caltha Palustris*.



HIS showy, marsh-loving plant is very common in Ontario, growing in wet places and often so abundantly that the ground is fairly a sheet of gold during the time that it is in bloom, which is usually in the month of May. It has no petals, but the sepals, which vary in number from five to nine, and are broad oval in form, are of a brilliant yellow. The pistils also vary from five to ten, and the stamens are numerous. Its leaves are large and kidney-shaped or round, smooth and shining, and are often cooked as greens. It can be easily transplanted into any low, marshy ground. Whether it will flourish in common garden soil, the writer cannot say, not having tested it in such a situation long enough to decide the question.

THE THREE-LEAVED GOLDTHREAD, *Coptis trifolia*. This pretty, little, white-flowered, May-blooming plant, loves the cool shade and damp, mossy places. It is doubtful if we can coax it to grow in any other situation or soil, yet the writer is making the experiment of transplanting it to a shady border possessing conditions of soil and moisture approximating those of its native haunts, with what success time will show. Its three leaflets are sharply toothed and obscurely three-lobed, evergreen, but often in the spring with an almost purplish hue. The sepals are from five to seven in number, and there is the same number of small, club shaped petals. It has numerous stamens, and from three to seven pistils. The root is a long, bright yellow thread, very bitter, which is often used to make a wash for sore mouths, with good effect.

THE COLUMBINE, *Aquilegia Canadensis*. Of all the varieties of columbine in cultivation we know of none more beautiful than our own wild Canadian species. The combination of scarlet and yellow in the flowers, nodding so gracefully on their slender stalks, is just charming. It is by no means particular as to soil or situation, and when once established continues to flourish for many years. Its five sepals are colored like the petals, which are also five, the latter being lengthened backwards into hollow spurs which are nearly straight. The