

THE WILD FLOWERS.

Awakening of an Interest in Them Has
Brought Destruction in Its Train—
Plea for Their Protection.

It seems an unfortunate rule that the first awakening of an interest in nature and her ways prompts unthinking destruction. Perhaps it is a necessary stage on the road to knowledge, still we should strive to avoid it if possible, and at least to leave it behind as speedily as we may. The indiscriminate collector has disappeared from among the bird lovers. He may have served a good purpose in his time, but his work is done. Such destruction of bird life as the scientific investigators have found necessary has been fully atoned for by their work in the cause of preservation, both by legal and moral restraints. The work of examining the tissues of dead birds has been completed. The food of every species at all seasons of the year has been determined by examination and analysis. Complete collections of skins at all stages of development and conditions of plumage have been made. The naturalist must turn from a study of the dead to a study of the living, and there a fascinating and inexhaustible field awaits him. The laboratory has done its work, but the more enticing secrets of the woods, the marshes, the shores, and the fields await the diligent investigator.

As nature's sylvan treasures begin to recede there is a sudden awakening of interest and keen appreciation of their manifold charms. The lover of wild flowers is no longer alone, but finds kindred spirits on every hand. Familiar and once lonely routes through the woods and along the streams and marshes are changing to worn pathways. And this new awakening of interest brings destruction in its train. Many of the familiar wild flowers are disappearing from their usual haunts, and it remains for their steadfast friends to save them from further destruction. Man's interference helps the coarse and the commonplace to push aside the fragile and delicate. In the struggle for existence the encroaching grass crowds out and kills off the most delicate and beautiful flowers of the suburban woods. In parks where the leaves are raked up and burned the destructive grass takes immediate possession and the wild flowers are doomed. And where grass is not aided by such vandalism the continuous depredations of flower lovers is a slower process of extermination.

To protect and preserve our native flora demands a higher degree of altruism than the preservation of bird life. The ever-potent appeal to selfishness can be advanced on behalf of almost all our feathered visitors, and he who is not moved by their glad message of spring nor their happy activity in the weary summer will give heed to their value in protecting the farm, the garden, and the orchard. Their fine, sensitive organism gives them a higher claim, for it appeals to a human sympathy that recoils from the infliction of pain. But to see the beautiful ultramarine flower of the fringed gentian and the bright scarlet tuft of the painted cup, and leave them that they may produce seed for the next season, requires an altruistic perfection of mind to which poor humanity can seldom attain. These and other annuals are suffering severely, and will be exterminated in the vicinity of cities and towns unless their admirers can be made to realize that the supreme test of love is renunciation. Annuals are plants that die after filling their mission in the production of seed, and they suffer most from their admirers. Plants with perennial roots, that send up new growth with each succeeding spring, survive

depredations. The trailing arbutus, though possessing a perennial trailing rootstock and hardy, evergreen leaves, has been exterminated in some localities through the carelessness of admirers. The perfume of its early flowers is irresistible, and the stems are so tough and strong that the careless gatherers tear up long trailers from the ground. A little care will save its life without sacrificing any of the pleasures of early spring. The violets and fly flowers survive because their most fruitful flowers are hidden under ground. The daisies of summer and the asters and golden rods of autumn may be gathered by the armful. But true lovers of nature must prove their worthiness by leaving the annuals to fulfill their mission. Abnegation is its own reward.

RAINING AGAIN!

How's Your RAINCOAT or UMBRELLA?

The balance of that tremendous purchase of Rain Coats for Ladies and Gentlemen that we talked so much of, goes on sale this week. Every garment must be cleared out.

Men's MacIntosh Rainproof Coats with Capes,

A few only left, to clear at \$2.50. Men's Waterproof Coats, black and colors, Raglan style, good coats to wear as a Spring Top Coat at \$2.95, \$3.75, \$4.50 and \$6.50

Men's Grey Showerproof Dress Coats,

Perfect fitting, the best garments to be found in the city. Sale price \$6.50, \$7.50 and \$10.00, sizes 34 to 48, chest measure.

Rain Coats for Ladies.

38 Ladies' Waterproof Coats, 52 to 60 inches long, one of a kind, choice of the lot \$2.50, regular prices \$4.00 and upwards.

Ladies' 3-4 Size Rain Coats.

Only a few left of the sample Coats, the highest priced ones are here. Garments worth \$7.00 to \$12.00, on sale this week at \$4.50, \$5.75 and \$6.50, sizes 34 to 42.

Ladies' Long Rainproof Coats,

Made up to wear and of the latest styles, in grey, light, fawn, dark grey, black, champagne and all other new shades, sale price \$4.75, \$6.00, \$7.50 and \$8.50. These garments cannot be bought elsewhere for 1/2 more. Cost nothing to see our range of Showerproof Coats.

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For Ladies and Gentlemen, from 50c., 60c., 75c., \$1.00, \$1.25 up to \$3.50. Every price is a leader. Try us.

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PENITENTIARY SUPPLIES.

SEALED TENDERS addressed "Inspectors of Penitentiaries, Ottawa," and endorsed "Tenders for Supplies," will be received until Friday, 24th June, inclusive, from various districts of contracting for supplies, for the fiscal year 1904-1905, for the following institutions, namely:

- Kinross Penitentiary.
 - St. Vincent de Paul Penitentiary.
 - Dorchester Penitentiary.
 - British Columbia Penitentiary.
 - Regina Jail.
 - Prince Albert Jail.
- Separate tenders will be received for each of the following classes of supplies:
1. Flour (Canadian Strong Baker's).
 2. Beef and mutton (fresh).
 3. Forage.
 4. Coal (anthracite and bituminous).
 5. Cordwood.
 6. Groceries.
 7. Coal oil (in barrels).
 8. Dry Goods.
 9. Drugs and Medicines.
 10. Leather and Findings.
 11. Hardware, Tinware, Paints, etc.
 12. Lumber.

Details of information as to form of contract, together with forms of tender, will be furnished on application to the Wardens of the various institutions.

All supplies are subject to the approval of the Warden or Jailor.

All tenders submitted must specify clearly the institution, or institutions, which it is proposed to supply, and must bear the endorsement of at least two responsible sureties.

Papers inserting this notice without authority from the King's Printer will not be paid therefor.

DOUGLAS STEWART,
GEO. W. DAWSON,
Inspectors of Penitentiaries.
Department of Justice,
Ottawa, May 31, 1904

Leaves of Knowledge

Mrs. Elma MacGibbon wishes to notify the reading public that her book, *Leaves of Knowledge*, is meeting with an exceptional sale and is spoken of in the highest terms. The book is presented in an attractive cover design of white purple and gold, with author's crest and coat-of-arms. It is a description of several years in the Northwest, with a trip to some of the larger cities in the East. One chapter is devoted to Fredericton and St. John exclusively. This book will be sent prepaid to any person sending their name and address, with \$2.00, to the author.

Address,
MRS. ELMA MACGIBBON,
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Mr. R. H. Sampson's, Sydney, N.S.,

Advice to all Sufferers from Nerve Trouble is

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Dec. 31, 1903,	2,386,617.13	10,204,727.03	563,565.59	57,385,198.00
Increase,	\$1,124,686.62	\$3,751,417.47	\$334,272.63	\$21,470,781.00

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