

## A STRIKING COLOR FORM OF VIOLA PEDATA.

A. LOUISA SANDERS.

IN many of the towns of eastern Massachusetts are places locally noted for the profusion of *Viola pedata* to be found there. One such place in Wayland is on Reeve's Hill. About twelve years ago my attention was particularly drawn to the place by the discovery of a single deep colored specimen which was then pronounced dark red. Although the spot has been watched carefully no recurrence of this form has been seen.

While gathering some of the delicately fragrant blossoms of the species there recently, I found two plants whose flowers did not have the usual pale-violet color. Instead, the petals of each were a beautiful pale magenta. This made the specimens so different from the common form that they may be proposed as

VIOLA PEDATA L., forma **rosea**, forma nova, habitu var. *linearilobae* simillima differt solum petalis omnibus laete roseis.—Sunny southern exposure of a rocky hillside, Wayland, Massachusetts, May 14, 1911.

The plants were about 5 cm. apart, growing in somewhat loose, but not sandy soil, at the edge of a clump of huckleberry bushes. One had four blossoms and the other three, each perfectly formed and of the usual size and shape. Even the white part of the lower grooved petal was not lacking although it was not crossed by the customary dark veins. One of the specimens may be seen at the Gray Herbarium; the other is still living, but unfortunately has formed no fruit.

It was interesting to find on the same day and not ten rods from the above forms, two specimens of the rare white bird-foot, *Viola pedata*, forma *alba* (Thurb.) Britton, and to note that each had fruited. It recalled the pleasure experienced about ten years ago of finding the white ones for three successive seasons in the same locality.

WAYLAND, MASSACHUSETTS.

*Vol. 13, no. 150, including pages 93 to 108, was issued 5 June, 1911.*



Sanders, A. Louisa. 1911. "A STRIKING COLOR FORM OF VIOLA PEDATA."  
*Rhodora* 13, 172–172.

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