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*Anemone nuttaliana*

[Synonyms : *Pulsatilla nuttaliana*, *Pulsatilla nuttaliane*]

**AMERICAN PULSATILLA** is a perennial. Native to the bed of the Mississippi River in North America it has camphor smelling pale purple flowers.

*Nuttaliana* commemorates an English printer, botanist, plant collector and ornithologist, Thomas Nuttall (1786-1859), who attracted the title ‘the father of Western American botany’. He collected plants in the United States from about 1808 until just before the outbreak of the Anglo-American War of 1812-1815 which enabled a brief return to England with many plant species which had until then evaded the scientific community. Returning to the United States at War’s end he again collected plants and from 1825-1834 was curator of the botanical gardens at Harvard University. At the same time he published works on plants, his travels, and ornithology. But Nuttall had itchy feet. He joined another expedition going out West under the leadership of the American explorer, Nathaniel Jarvis Wyeth (1802-1856), then visited Hawaii and returned to explore the Pacific Northwest. From 1836-1841 he worked for what is now the The Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia and then he finally returned to England to accept an inheritance following an uncle’s death and there published, in particular, a work on North American trees.

Medicinally, the plant has been used to ward off colds and also to treat rheumatism in the knees.