

This troublesome and expensive custom of changing the capital every four years pleased no one, but, as the Government could not agree, Queen Victoria was asked to decide, and in 1858 she named Ottawa.

The supporters of the other rival cities were disappointed, and put forth a resolution in the assembly disapproving of the choice, but it was put down.

The Parliament Buildings at Ottawa were completed in 1866, and ever since it has been the capital, it being a place well situated for the political affairs of our Dominion to be carried out.—*Ex.*

### The Flowers of Early Spring.

May is the month for early spring flowers. The weather was so cold in April that only a few flowers appeared and these were found chiefly on trees and shrubs—the alder, birch, willow, maple and others. In May the coltsfoot, mayflower, hepatica, fawn-lily (adder's-tongue) spring beauty, violets and others which are the best prized flower treasures of the year, may be found on sheltered hillsides facing the sun, and other haunts so well known to the children of the neighborhood. If the teacher is a stranger to the locality, let her put herself under the guidance of the children who know so well the chosen places where their treasures may be found.

Make a flower calendar and keep a record of the date of finding each plant in bloom with the name of the finder. If any of these plants are unknown to you, send specimens to the REVIEW or to some other friend who will be glad to tell you the names. Keep a bouquet or two of these brave early bloomers in water in the schoolroom for study, where all may see and enjoy them. But remember to leave plenty of them in the haunts where they love best to stay and where other people may see and enjoy them and children may continue to find them in seasons to come. Pick the flowers gently, being careful to disturb as little as possible the roots or other growing parts.

Everybody knows the trilliums—the painted trillium and the purple trillium or birth-root; but the nodding trillium or wake-robin is not so common. It is usually found on low grounds along streams as the freshet becomes lower. Its flower nods or is bent over under one of the leaves or between two leaves. A name that will apply to all the trilliums is the Trinity flower, because

the leaves and parts of the flower are in threes, except the stamens which are twice three, and one pistil with its three cavities in which the seeds are ripened.

Another beautiful flower of spring time is sanguinaria or blood-root, so called because of the red juice that oozes out from its underground stem when cut or bruised. It may be looked for in rich, open woods. The flower rises gradually from the ground through the tightly twisted leaf in which the bud has been protected through the winter.

The dandelion, mayflower, violets and fawn lily are too well known to need any description here. Read the descriptions that the poets have given these early spring flowers in "Thoughts and Flowers for Empire Day" on another page.

### The School Spring.

ALEXANDER LOUIS FRASER, Great Village, N. S.

The City's brow was fever-hot!  
I heard the home-call loud and clear;  
Toil's respite won, I quickly sought  
Haunts,—none to me so dear.

A friend was there from far Cathay:  
In youth our homes were side by side,  
So 'mong old scenes we made our way  
With mem'r'y for a guide.

Saw fields, (where oft, till eve's dew wet  
The grass, we played) the fir-clad hill,  
The hazel grove, the brook that yet  
Sings by the moss-crowned mill.

Then in the low school-house we read—  
Carved in the desks by restless hands—  
Names of our early friends, long dead,  
Or far in other lands.

Beside the spring, beneath the bank,  
Where beechen boughs still hold their shade,  
Where Youth's sweet, rosy lips oft drank,  
A fitting halt we made.

We stretched our limbs upon the grass  
And thought of vanished faces—then  
A lusty lad and lovely lass  
Went swinging by, as when.

In care-free days unto the wind  
We gave our voices in the shout  
Of children, once more unconfined—  
Glad that the school was out!

Then as we did in long ago,  
Upon the oft-pressed stone we knelt,  
We drank, and as we rose to go,  
A kindly kiss we felt!