

clintonia, trilliums, smilacinas, jack-in-the-pulpit, twisted stalk, and many others that form one society, growing on moist shady banks. It is worth much to know where and when to look for any given flower. The making of a flower book, with dates, localities, drawings, notes, and poetical references would be valuable.

I meet many teachers who are much confused in their common names for common flowers. For example, the laurels and rhodora are not well known. Sheep laurel and lambkill are two names for *Kalmia angustifolia*; but neither of these names should be applied to rhodora. Pale laurel, which grows in peat bogs, is not well known to many of our teachers. Again, twisted stalk, bellwort, solomon's seal and *smilacina racemosa* are much confused.

Another interesting plant is the mitrewort (*Mitella nuda*). Very few, however, have seen it. The feathery, greenish petals on the long, naked stalk mark it as something out of the ordinary. It is common on wet, mossy banks of brooks where the ground is shaded by evergreen trees. Associated with it are such mosses as Schreber's, shaggy, and hair-cap.

Would it not be wise, at this season, to distinguish between the gold thread and star flower? Neither the blossoms nor the leaves are much alike. The yellow root of gold thread makes identification easy.

The pigeon berry is worth examination. Its four white involucre leaves have been modified into flags, with which it signals to friendly insects "Here is nectar." The small greenish flowers in the centre produce the cluster of red berries that has suggested the name bunch-berry.

The hobble bush is another common shrub with showy "flags" round the outside of the hydrangea-like cluster; while the perfect flowers are inconspicuous. The name "hobble bush" is said to have been given on account of the spreading habit of the stems, making a net-work which would trip one when walking among them. It is apparently, therefore, one of our most up-to-date plants.

A good school exercise would be to observe what parts of plants are devoted to advertising. Merchants have learned that a dress marked "\$2.98," will bring a lady customer into the store where she will probably leave fifteen or twenty dollars. Similarly, the sepals of the gold thread, the petals of a clover, the involucre of a dogwood, or the neutral flowers of a hobble bush lure the

insect to the flower, where it finds something better than the show-window article; and, during its explorations, it scatters the precious pollen.

One word in the last paragraph reminds me that, too often, the mountain ash is called dogwood. Try to distinguish between these. I also hear the hobble bush occasionally called moosewood. Since one species of maple is oftener called moosewood, or moosewood maple, would it not be wise to confine the name to the latter?

Wild lily-of-the-valley is also a common name that means different things to different people. Very many apply this name to *smilacina bifolia*. Fully as many apply it to the pyrola. Do we all know the pyrola? There are two common species. The leaves are evergreen, and are often mistaken for mayflower leaves.

Other common plants worth looking for now are baneberry, herb Robert, buckbean, partridge berry, twin flower, fly honeysuckle, bush honeysuckle, meadow rue, etc.

A little later in the season, we have several orchids, the Indian cucumber, St. John's wort; and still later, the great willow herb, the asters and the golden-rods.

It is not too late yet to watch the young leaves coming up; and to try to identify plants without waiting until they bloom. Study also the flower of the partridge berry to discover the meaning of the two "eyes" on the red berry when it matures. This plant is also interesting on account of long stamens and short pistils in some flowers, while in other specimens the reverse is true. Try to learn how this arrangement favors cross-pollination.

In short, this article is merely an appeal to our teachers to go out and get acquainted with our wild flowers. A few have been named. If any one knows all of these, look for strange ones; but do not lose interest in the old friends. If I have named plants unknown to any reader, I trust they will not remain unknown.

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The formal closing of the New Brunswick Normal School took place June 7, Principal Bridges presiding. The following were the prize-winners: Governor-General's Silver Medal, Miss Hattie Milner, West Sackville, Westmorland Co.; Governor-General's Bronze Medal, Miss Irene Dickson, Jubilee, Kings Co.; \$30 for highest general standing, Miss Hilda Stewart, Dalhousie, Restigouche Co.; \$20 for highest general standing among second class students, Miss Mabel Woods, Newnorth, York Co.