

of that whole domain of inland Alaska. The following plants of Mr. Cairnes appear to be new; the first, a rather remarkable generic type belonging to the family of the crucifers.

MELANIDION.

Low perennial herb, with stout suberect branches racemously floriferous throughout and subsecund. Sepals equal, narrowly oval, persistent even under the mature fruit. Stamens, six; subequal; filaments slightly flattened; anthers oval. Petals equal, the limb cuneate-obovate, obtuse, tapering to a short claw, the color, purple. Style manifest and stout; stigma capitate. Silicle firmly coriaceous, subcompressed, suborbicular, the body strongly double-convex, but the valves meeting by flattened margins forming a thick wing-like elevation all around, and dehiscent through this wing or ridge; the whole one-celled, the partition obsolete. Seeds, 1 to 4, oval or round-obovate, not much flattened; cotyledons accumbent.

MELANIDION BOREALE. Leaves unknown, as also the root and the absolutely basal part of the plant. The branches, the rather long pedicels of the fruits, and the middle of each sepal are all whitened by a villous pubescence. The calyx is wholly of a very dark purple, yet quite herbaceous as to texture. The specimen is very mature, only a few of the corollas remaining at the summits of two of the racemose branches. Most of the silicles had shed their seeds. The valves are straw-colored, also reticulate-veiny both without and within. The type is of so strange appearance and character that I am unable to name any genus to which I should say that it is nearly allied.

The locality, as given by Mr. Cairnes, is "North of Runt Creek, Long. 141°, Lat. 66° 18', the altitude 2,300 feet."

ANEMONE CAIRNESIANA. Leaves at time of flowering, small; barely half-inch long and not much broader, ternately cut into many oblong acutish lobes and glabrous, but the petioles loosely villous; scapes stoutish, only two or three inches high, leafless, but with a conspicuous involucre of three leaves at about the middle, each divided into about three narrowly oblong or oblong-linear segments, each somewhat callous at tip, all glabrous above, beneath clothed loosely with long, somewhat appressed silky hairs; peduncle of the solitary flower whitened with a villous woolliness at and near the summit; perianth very large for the plant, measuring $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches across in expansion, the sepals oblong, seven or eight in number, and of a deep slightly purplish blue; filaments still more deeply purple, the anthers elliptical and blackish; styles in the flower rather prominent, pubescent; fruit unknown.