

Sweet Viburnum was there in berry. Farther on, we found its cousin, the Arrow-wood, with its maple like leaves.

But the greatest reward of our search was yet to find. It was not the occasional specimens of the Wild Strawberry, which were not preserved for later examination, nor the small prickly fruit of *Ribes Cynosbati*, which we willingly left to some children to gather, only warning them that the fruit was still green, nor the Hazelnut with its long cylindrical beak. No. The most valued prize gathered that afternoon was a plant of no known use at all, a leafless parasite. But this plant was rare. It was unknown to all of us. It had a single flower on its naked scape; but it was a pretty flower, of pale purple colour with some yellow marking in the throat. Several specimens were found in the immediate neighbourhood, and each of us were able to take away one or more. Afterwards we learned that it is the One-flowered Cancer-root [*Aphyllon* (*Thalesia*) *uniflorum*], of the Broom-rape family.

Another very interesting botanical find was the Partridge-berry in flower. This pretty little trailing vine, with its evergreen leaves variegated with whitish lines and its scarlet berries, may be found both in autumn and spring time, but it is only for a comparatively short season in June that it remains in flower.

A much commoner flower, but beautiful with its rosy markings, is the Spreading Dogbane. It grows abundantly along the borders of thickets. Its numerous, tiny, rose-coloured flowers make it an attractive object as it grows. But its milky juice is not pleasant on one's hands, nor does it revive so readily in a vase as those plants do whose juice is more watery.

However, time flies by, and so we bring our excursion to a close. There is left many another interesting specimen to be gathered, or to be studied, from trees, shrubs and herbs. And next time may there be many other enthusiastic naturalists to join with us in these pleasant Saturday afternoon excursions!

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