

CRANBERRY SPORTS.

In the rear of the great sand dunes at Cavendish, P. E. Island, are a couple of glassy ponds bordered round by a profusion of marsh and water plants. It is just a spot where the lover of nature may lose himself for an hour in the charm of her fresh beauties. The lofty dunes clothed to their summits with the purple blossoms of the sea pea, *Pisum maritimum*, and the white spikes of *Psamma arenaria*, whose long woven roots preserve the sands from drifting.

The fields of irises of deeper azure than the bowing summer sky, thickets of Carolina roses gorgeous with bloom, pink bells of convolvuluses, bright potentillas, callas, calthas, convellarias, and waving veils of silky grasses spread round the sunlit ripple of the ponds.

To vary the scene we have but to mount the summit of the dunes, where the Gulf rollers are booming at our feet and the vast blue spreads before us. The white winged terns sweep by, the herring gull flaps heavily at its toil on the deep. The weird cry of the loon echoes along the shore, and the plaintive whistle of the guillemot and the wail of the sandpiper mingle with the ceaseless sound of waters. Like a glory the summer sky bows over the gleaming sea, the grey rolling dunes, the far red headlands, and the foaming shores; while the deep thunder rolls on, like the voice of eternity everywhere heard amid the harmonies of nature.

On the border of one of the ponds which we have mentioned, where its silver spreads nearest the shadowed feet of the dunes, there is a small area covered with plants of the cranberry, *Oxycoccus macrocarpus*. While passing over this on July 4th, I observed what appeared to be a number of large pink blossoms among the vines. On closer examination they proved not to be blossoms but shoots of curiously modified leaves occurring at intervals on the trailing stems. These modified shoots were about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in length bearing seven or eight obovate slightly petiolate, alternate leaves of a pink color and a delicate petaloid structure and appearance. The prominent midrib of the ordinary leaves was gone and its place taken by an obscure midrib divided into branching veins. The shoots were not by any means floral organs but sprigs of leaves of a petaloid structure.

What struck me as peculiar was that the modification had not been in part. These were not leaves with a floral tinge, nor leaves with a floral tex-