

## BOTANICAL NOTES.

THE FRUIT OF *EPIGÆA REPENS*.—Where it grows, there are few flowers so well known as the deliciously fragrant Mayflower or Trailing Arbutus; but in collections there are few specimens which are so uncommon as the fruit of this charming plant. During a recent visit to Youghall, New Brunswick, I had leisure to examine some patches of *Epigæa* which were growing in an open wood of Red and White Spruces. That this plant, which is so enormously abundant over tracts of many miles in extent, must mature vast quantities of seed is shown by its very abundance; for there is perhaps no plant which is so difficult to transplant. Notwithstanding this, I could find only one patch upon which the interesting seed capsules occurred at Youghall. These were in clusters of three to six, in shape turbinate or depressed-globose, roundly five-lobed, glandular bristly, with the pistil in most cases attached and each one surrounded by the pale persistent membranaceous sepals. When ripe, the leathery valves separate at their tips in the centre of the capsule, and gradually curl backwards between the sepals, leaving exposed a central fleshy disk consisting of the five placentæ on the surface of which are the small dark brown, oval, tuberculate seeds so close together as almost to hide the disk.

RARE OTTAWA PLANTS.—On the 1st of July I visited the sand hill on the Rideau River above Hog's Back. In driving along the road after the sand was reached, several plants of *Scrophularia nodosa*, L., var. *Marilandica*. Gr., were found. Close by was a large bed of the beautiful white *Convolvulus* (*C. spithameus*, L.) and, farther on, a large patch of *Physalis viscosa*, L. At the top of the sand hill above the river were several large patches of *Monarda fistulosa*, L. This sand deposit itself is of great interest. It is a steep bank running down 100 or more feet to the river and consisting of clean white sand. Dr. Whiteaves tells me that it is the "Saxicava sand," a shallow water marine deposit which immediately overlies the "Leda clay," which is a deep water marine sediment. Perfect specimens of *Saxicava rugosa*, *Macoma Balthica* (formerly called *Tellina grænelandica*), *Mytilus edulis* and valves of a barnacle, probably *Balanus crenatus* were found.

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