

willows and poplars provide good examples of fluffy seeds, but though the air on some occasions seems almost choked with little pieces of fluff—all of which contain one or more seeds—it will be observed that a very small percentage indeed alight on a suitable place for the growth of the seedlings, and that a still smaller percentage of these latter ever attain the size of their parents. Yet who can find a moist place in nature, where the conditions are favourable, that does not contain willows? Showing that the object for which these countless millions of seeds went forth has been accomplished.

The milk-weeds, willow-herbs, bull-rushes and many anemones are examples of this class of seeds. While ashes, maples, conifers and docks are examples of the winged kinds. There are some interesting details in this latter class for the student to work out, which may be discovered by throwing up into the air a few of the seeds on a moderately windy day.

II. SEEDS THAT ARE SCATTERED BY 'TUMBLING' PLANTS.

This is a class of plants that depends upon the wind for the locomotive power to take their seeds about the country. The best known examples are commonly known as 'tumble weeds.' These plants usually grow in the shape of a ball with their branches rather tightly packed together. As soon as their seeds are ripe they rot or break off close to the ground, and with the first strong wind are sent rolling over the country, scattering their seeds as they go. In the West where there are large plains it is a common and interesting sight to see thousands of these plants sweeping over the prairie, looking in the distance like huge herds of cattle or sheep. In such places the country for miles is sown with the seeds of these plants, especially *Amarantus Albus*, Persian thistle, tumbling mustard, *Cycloloma*, etc. Several grasses are also examples of this class, and many others will occur to the reader.

III. SEEDS THAT ARE SCATTERED BY THE WIND.

We now come to a class of plants which though dependent on the wind to a large extent for their spread, yet have neither downy nor winged seeds nor the power of tumbling. These are plants that have the seed-capsules pointing upwards and which open at the top. Many of these are so constructed that a strong wind is required to shake the seeds out; they are then not only scattered by the swing of the plant, but are caught up by the wind as they are thrown out and are borne some distance away.