

first a large number of little yellow bodies, each at the top of a little thread-like stalk. Each of these bodies, with its stalk, is called a **stamen**. The little body itself is the *anther*, and the stalk is its *filament*. Your magnifying glass will show you that each anther consists of two oblong sacs, united lengthwise, the filament being a continuation of the line of union (Fig. 7).

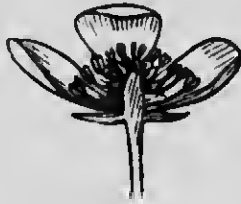


Fig. 6.

If you look at a stamen of a flower which has been open some time, you will find that each anther-cell has split open along its outer edge, and has thus allowed a fine yellowish dust to escape from it (Fig. 8). This dust is called *pollen*. A powerful magnifier will show this pollen to consist of grains having a distinct form.



Fig. 7. Fig. 8.



Fig. 9.



Fig. 10.

As the stamens are many in number, and free from each other, they are said to be *polyandrous*.

7. On removing the stamens there is still left a little raised mass (Fig. 9), which, with the aid of your needle, you will be able to separate into a number of distinct pieces, all exactly alike, and looking something like unripe seeds. Fig. 10 shows one of them very much magnified, and cut through lengthwise. These little bodies, taken separately, are called *carpels*. Taken together, they form the **pistil**. They are hollow, and each of them contains, as the figure shows, a

Fig. 6.—Section of a flower of Buttercup.

Fig. 7.—Stamen of Buttercup.

Fig. 8.—The same, showing longitudinal opening of the anther.

Fig. 9.—Head of carpels of Buttercup.

Fig. 10.—A single carpel cut through lengthwise to show the ovule.