

TRIBE I. SILENEÆ. Sepals united into a tube, and opposite the stamens when the latter are of the same number. Both petals and stamens inserted on the stipe of the ovary. Many of the flowers are large and highly ornamental. Includes the following genera :

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| 1. Saponaria—styles 2. | } Calyx bractless
and
10 stamens. |
| 2. Vaccaria—styles 2 calyx 6, angled and 5-toothed. | |
| 3. Silene—styles 3. | |
| 4. Lychnis—styles generally 5, rarely 4. | |

TRIBE II. ALSINEÆ.—Sepals separate or nearly so, and opposite the stamens when the latter are of the same number. Petals either 2-parted (Cerastium & Stellaria) or undivided (Arenaria). Sometimes the petals are wanting or almost obsolete, as in *Sagina apetala* of the U. States, but in the St. Lawrence valley we have no apetalous representatives of the Tribe, with the exception of the *Stellaria borealis*. Ovary sessile; generally small inconspicuous herbs. Includes the following genera :

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| 1. Cerastium, styles 5, Capsule 8-10 toothed | } Petals 2-parted
rarely wanting. |
| 2. Stellaria, styles 3, Capsule with 6-10 valves. | |
| 3. Arenaria, styles 2, Capsule with 3-6 valves. | } Petals entire. |
| 4. Sagina, styles 4-5. Capsule with 4-5 valves. | |

SUBORDER II. ILLECEBRINEÆ.

Leaves with dry scale—like stipules. Petals present, without long claws, often stamen-like.

TRIBE III.—SPERGULEÆ—Sepals distinct or nearly so; Styles 3-5. Capsule 1-celled and many-seeded. Low herbs flowering all summer, and found mostly at or near the neighborhood of the sea coast or salt marshes. Includes the following genera :

1. *Spergula*. Petals white. Leaves in whorls.
2. *Spergularia*. Petals red. Leaves opposite, filiform or linear.

SUBORDER III. SCLERANTHINEÆ.

Exstipulate. Petals wanting. Capsules 1-celled and 1-seeded.

1. *Scleranthus*. Styles 2. The one-seeded utricle enclosed in an indurated nut formed by the union of the 5 sepals.

SUBORDER IV. MOLLUGINEÆ.

Exstipulate. Petals wanting. Capsule 3-celled.

1. *Mollugo*. Styles 3. Stamens hypogynous. Leaves in whorls at the joints. Flowers small and white.