

CHAPTER II

THE STRUGGLE TO LIVE

EVERY plant and animal is *exposed to unfavorable conditions*. It is obliged to contend with these conditions in order to live.

No two plants or parts of plants are identically exposed to the conditions in which they live. The large branches



FIG. 3.—A BATTLE FOR LIFE.

in Fig. 1 probably had more room and a better exposure to light than the smaller ones. Probably no two of the leaves in Fig. 2 are equally exposed to light, or enjoy identical advantages in relation to the food that they receive from the tree.

Examine any tree to determine under what advantages or disadvantages any of the limbs may live. Examine similarly the different plants in a garden row (Fig. 3); or the different bushes in a thicket; or the different trees in a wood.