



FIG. 67.

Fig. 67 shows one of the leaves of our Maple. You see that it is made up of three separate leaflets. In this respect it differs from those of the true Maples of the eastern provinces. The ordinary name of the Manitoba tree (Ash-leaved Maple) is based upon this difference in the structure of the leaf.

The Maples form a subordinate group of the natural Order *Sapindaceæ*. They are distinguished by the following characters :

1. *The flowers are diœcious (or polygamo-diœcious), and commonly unsymmetrical.*
2. *The ovary is two-lobed and two-celled, with two ovules in each cell, only one of which, however, is ripened.*
3. *The fruit is a double samara.*
4. *The leaves are opposite.*

62. From this type there are important deviations in other representatives of the Order. Horse-chestnut, for instance, produces a *three-celled* ovary, with two ovules in each cell ; but as in Maple, again, ripens only one of each pair. The fruit, too, is not a samara, but a leathery pod, containing the three large shining seeds.

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FIG. 67.—Compound leaf of same.