

variable, in some cases four, and in others five. Count also the lobes of the calyx, and find out whether there is a corolla.

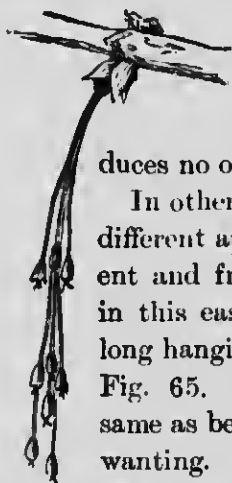


Fig. 65.

These flowers with the projecting stamens are without pistils. They produce nothing but pollen, and the tree upon which you find them produces no other kind.

In other trees the twigs present a somewhat different appearance. The scaly buds are present and from each issues a flower-cluster, but in this case it is not an umbel, but rather a long hanging raceme, one of which is shown in Fig. 65. The small calyx is very much the same as before, but the projecting stamens are wanting. Here the centre of each flower is occupied by a syncarpous pistil having a two-celled ovary, and two styles.

The flowers of the Maple, therefore, being sterile or staminate upon one tree, and fertile or pistillate upon another, are, as in Willow, said to be dioecious. They are also entomophilous.

After fertilization, a *wing* is developed from the back of each of the two carpels, and the pedicels lengthen, so that as the fruit ripens it presents the familiar aspect of hanging clusters of double *samaras*, as these winged fruits are called (Fig. 66).



Fig. 66.

Fig. 65. Pistillate flowers of same.

Fig. 66. Double samara of same.