

differing very widely in external appearance—the Locust-Tree and the Clover, for example—but exhibiting in the structure of their flowers so marked a similarity that their relationship is beyond question. The characters by which the Order is distinguished are chiefly these :

1. *The corolla is more or less papilionaceous, and is inserted on the base of the calyx (perigynous).*
2. *The stamens, almost invariably ten in number, are also perigynous, and nearly always diadelphous.*
3. *The pistil is nearly always a legume, that is to say, it is a single carpel which splits into two pieces at maturity, like the pod of the Pea or Bean.*
4. *The leaves have stipules, and are nearly always compound, that is, of several distinct leaflets.*

Plants which may be compared with the Pea are Red Clover, White Clover, Sweet Clover, Medick, Locust-Tree, Bean, Vetch, Lupine, Sweet Pea, etc.

44. **Great Willow-herb.** This plant is extremely common in low grounds and newly-cleared land, and you may easily recognize it by its tall stem and bright purple flowers.

Observe the position of the flowers. In the three plants first examined we found the flowers at the end of the stem. In the Willow-herb, as in the Mallow, they spring from the sides of the stem, and immediately below the point from which each flower springs you will find a small leaf or bract (Fig. 40). Flowers



Fig. 40.

Fig. 40. — Flower of Great Willow-herb.