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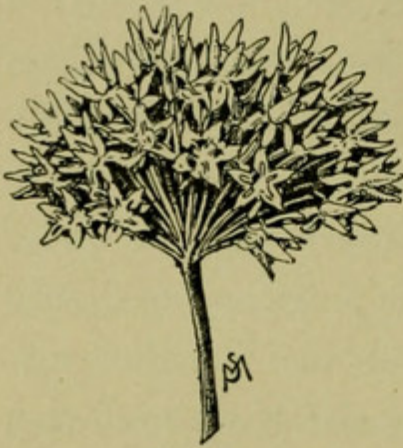


FAMILIAR FLOWERS
OF FIELD AND
GARDEN



F. Schuyler Mathews

brown, so we must call it brown, with modifications which fit the case. My modification, then, would be pale *lavender* brown, with a few touches of pale-

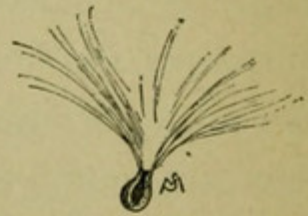


Milkweed.

brown lavender. For the indorsement of my statement I must refer to the microscope; under it the colors will show themselves definitely, and the flower will also prove to be exquisitely formed. The milkweed is in blossom during the early part of the summer; its

heavy perfume is cloying; in other words, it is altogether *too* sweet.

Butterfly Weed. The butterfly weed is a variety of *Asclepias tuberosa*. milkweed which is very common through New England, particularly in the vicinity of Cape Cod. It grows in dry sandy places, blooms in midsummer, and stains the pastures with a brilliant orange-color, which, I should think, would set a colorist of the impressionist school quite wild. The shape of the flowers is almost exactly like that of the common milkweed; but, unlike the latter plant, the stems and stalks when broken do not exude a plentiful supply of sticky "milk." I have drawn the seed



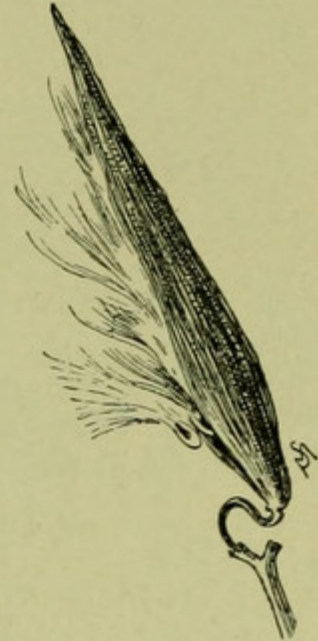
Floating Seed of Butterfly Weed.

pod, which is slenderer than that of common milkweed, and more interesting; it bursts later, and holds on its ragged-looking contents better, thus giving the dried and shriveled plant a weird appearance, suggestive of a wild, gray-haired witch.

Harebell.

*Campanula
rotundifolia.*

The dainty harebell, which looks so frail that it seems as though a cold gust of wind might wither its transparent blue and break its delicate stem, is one of the hardiest of all our smaller wild flowers. This flower is, in fact, no other than the rugged bluebell of Scotland. It will be found blooming in the meadows in early June, and northward it can be gathered on the mountain tops as late as September. I have found perfect specimens on the slopes of Mount Washington and on the edges of the rocky cliffs which flank the southern side of Mount Willard, in the Crawford Notch, as late as the 20th of September. The pretty little blue, pointed bells can be often seen hanging over a precipice and swinging at every passing breeze with a fearlessness which one would expect in a larger flower with a bolder aspect. But goats and bluebells are



Seed pod of the Butterfly Weed.