

introduced accidentally, but some, more particularly those cultivated for their beauty or belonging to the class of garden herbs, such as Caraway, Catnip, Tansy, etc., have been brought in by immigrants from various countries. These frequently escape in the vicinity of towns where garden refuse containing living roots or seeds has been thrown on dump heaps. Some doubtless came in by way of imported feeding materials such as hay or bird seed. But much the most important method of introduction was in the form of impurities in imported farm seeds.

Of the introduced species comparatively few are shrubs, such as Barberry, Buckthorn, etc. Most of these have fleshy fruits which are eaten by birds and in this way the seeds become distributed. Of the herbaceous species, the majority are annual plants with a special liking for cultivated ground, as every farmer and gardener knows by experience. Familiar examples are Wild Mustard, Goosefoot, Purslane, Groundsel, etc. The little Pineapple Weed (*Matricaria suaveolens*) is found from Cape Breton island to the Queen Charlotte islands. Others are biennial in nature, such as Great Mullein and Burdock. Many are perennial and are found on waste ground, roadsides, and pastures. Some of the most noxious weeds are in this class, such as Couch Grass, Docks, Field Bindweed, Ox-eye Daisy, Creeping Thistle, etc. One would not expect to find many plants whose original home was in a warmer climate maintaining themselves in this country, but there are some, such as Carpet Weed (*Mollugo verticillata*) and *Galinsoga ciliata*, the latter of which is a native of tropical America. Both are annuals and they are able to complete their life history here during the growing season.

There are even some aquatic plants among the immigrants, such as Flowering Rush (*Butomus umbellatus*), a species with pretty flowers which is spreading along the Ottawa and St. Lawrence rivers.

As might be expected, the larger numbers of introduced species are to be found in those families a considerable number of whose members are cultivated for use or ornament. These are as follows, with the number of exotic species belonging to each: *Compositae* 92; *Gramineae* 72; *Cruciferae* 53; *Leguminosae* 40; *Labiatae* 29; *Caryophyllaceae* 29; *Rosaceae* 28; *Scrophulariaceae* 23; *Umbelliferae* 17; *Polygonaceae* 17. Altogether about 600 exotic species which were not planted intentionally in their present habitats by human agency have been recorded as occurring in this country.

Further information on this subject will be found in Ada Georgia's "Manual of Weeds",¹⁷ and in various local floral lists.

CLASSIFICATION OF FLORA.

Before proceeding to review the various plant groups found in Canada, it may be desirable to explain briefly the basis upon which plants are classified and named in this article. Individuals, whether of the higher or lower forms of plant life, that resemble each other in their structural characteristics are grouped together under the term species; species which exhibit one or more similar characteristics are further grouped under a genus; and genera are similarly grouped in a family. The names of all these plant classifications are in Latin, which is still to a large extent internationally used by scientists. A species of plant of any group is always identified by a double Latin name, such as the Wild Plum (*Prunus nigra*), the Sand Cherry (*Prunus pumila*), or the Pin Cherry (*Prunus pennsylvanica*): the second word is the name of the species, while the first is that of the genus. In this respect, plant names resemble personal names, except that the genus name, corresponding to the