or of half florets, or of a centre of complete florets, surrounded by a circumference or ray of demi-florets. Such are the divisions of the *corymbiferæ*, or *compositæ*.

In the *simple* flowers, the seeds are *naked*, or in a *pericarp*. Those with *naked* seeds are arranged according to the number of the seeds, which may be one, two, three, four, or more. If there is only one, no subdivision is requisite: if there are two, Ray makes a subdivision, according as the flower has five petals, or a continuous corolla. Here we come to several natural families. Thus, the flowers with two seeds and five petals are the *Umbelliferous* plants; the monopetalous flowers with two seeds are the *Stellatæ*. He founds the division of four-seeded flowers on the circumstance of the leaves being opposite, or alternate; and thus again, we have the natural families of *Asperifoliæ*, as *Echium*, &c., which have the leaves alternate, and the *Verticillatæ*, as *Salvia*, in which the leaves are opposite. When the flower has more than four seeds, he makes no subdivision.

So much for simple flowers with naked seeds. In those where the seeds are surrounded by a *pericarp*, or fruit, this fruit is large, soft, and fleshy, and the plants are *pomiferous;* or it is small and juicy, and the fruit is a berry, as a Gooseberry.

If the fruit is not juicy, but *dry*, it is multiple or simple. If it be simple, we have the *leguminose* plants. If it be multiple, the form of the flower is to be attended to. The flower may be *monopetalous*, or *tetrapetalous*, or *pentapetalous*, or with still *more* divisions. The monopetalous may be *regular* or *irregular;* so may the tetrapetalous. The regular tetrapetalous flowers are, for example, the *Cruciferæ*, as Stock and Cauliflower; the irregular, are the *papilionaceous* plants, Peas, Beans, and Vetches; and thus we again come to natural families. The remaining plants are divided in the same way, into those with *imperfect*, and those with *perfect*, flowers. Those with *imperfect* flowers are the *Grasses*, the *Rushes* (*Junci*), and the like; among those with *perfect* flowers, are the *Palmaceæ*, and the *Liliaceæ*.

We see that the division of plants is complete as a system; all flowers must belong to one or other of the divisions. Fully to explain the characters and further subdivisions of these families, would be to write a treatise on botany; but it is easily seen that they exhaust the subject as far as they go.

Thus Ray constructed his system partly on the fruit and partly on the flower; or more properly, according to the expression of Linnæus,