

most striking example. Absence of winged fruits, as *Compositæ*, which form so great an element in the North American flora, is remarkable.

A constitutional property exhibited by the only two common woody plants of arboreous habit, the cedar and the palmetto, deserves mentioning, as it accounts for their being able to maintain their preponderance against all comers. It is an extraordinary power of reproduction from seed, rendered certain by the protection of the seed itself—in the one case by an indurated testa, and in the other by an exceedingly dense endosperm. Seed is borne in great abundance and of a high degree of fertility by both ; and ground that is left uncultivated is speedily clothed with seedlings of the cedar.

The whole question of the origin of insular floras will be more fully discussed in the general introduction to the Botanical Reports of the Challenger Expedition.