

indeed, no other can shew to such advantage; I mean the various sorts of climbing plants. All of them, in their native soils and in their wild state, twist themselves round trees or bushes, mixing their foliage with that of their supporters, enriching their summits, or hanging in festoons from their branches; nor can anything be more beautiful than such a union. But of the exotic kinds, few among those that endure the open air will bear the drip of trees so as to flourish amidst their boughs; they, therefore, are generally seen nailed against a flat wall, or supported by a pole, neither of which are very favourable to their effect. As almost all of them require a free circulation of air, many of them warmth and shelter, the best situation, in regard to their health and effect, seems to be a projection from a building. Porticoes of regular architecture are too costly to be made supporters of climbing plants, however beautiful their union might be; and the same thing may in general be said of temples and ornamental buildings in gardens and pleasure grounds. Other buildings might be made expressly for that purpose; but it would be difficult to contrive such a variety of supports of different characters as may be found in a village, or which if not found there, may always be added to the houses of it. A great diversity of sudden and singular projections is to be met with in all old houses, that have been added to them at different times; but what I principally allude to are porches, of which so many models may be taken, both from real buildings and from pictures. Wherever honeysuckles, vines, jasmine, grow over them, they attract and please every eye; and the same sort of beautiful effect (not indeed more beautiful) would be produced by the less common exotic climbers. It seldom happens that the taste of the mere collector of curious plants, and that of the picturesque improver, can be made to accord so well as in this instance. Village houses generally afford many warm aspects and sheltered situations, where the less hardy climbers will flourish, and, of course, a still greater number of exposed walls and projections, against which those that are perfectly hardy may be placed; and from the irregular shape of many of the houses, there are various divisions and compartments of various sizes and heights, by means of which a collector of climbing plants might arrange them according to their different degrees of hardness and luxuriance; so that while he was indulging his favorite passion, he would be adding the most engaging ornaments to the pleasing of all rural scenes. In all climbing plants there is so much beauty, arising either from their flowers, their foliage, or from their loose and flexible manner of growing, that no arrangement could well prevent them from giving pleasure to the lover of painting, as well as to every spectator; for the detail would be in a high degree interesting, whether the plants were considered in a botanical light, as detached flourishing specimens, or in a picturesque light, as exhibiting a variety of new combinations of form and colour; the different vegetable tints being sometimes blended with the rich, mellow hues of old stone or wood-work, sometimes with the neatness and the fresh colors of new work. Sometimes, too, the more light and delicate leaves and brilliant flowers would appear alone; at other times mixed and twined with large, broad leaves either jagged and deeply indented, such as the vine, or entire as those of the *Aristolochia*. Where there are brick houses in villages, we sometimes see fruit trees against them, while honeysuckles or jasmines are trained over the porch or the trellis before the door. This mixture of utility with ornament, of boughs which are nailed close to the wall with those which hang loosely over a projection, forms a pleasing variety. Indeed, fruit trees, which in every situation give the cheerfulest idea, are peculiarly adapted to villages; for as they exhibit, both in Spring and Autumn, a striking image of fertility, they are the most proper, and indeed the most useful, accompaniments to habitations. Considered likewise in another point of view, they are seldom seen to such advantage in other situations. The effect of blossoms, however gay and cheerful, is often spotty and glaring; but I have frequently observed that when they are seen near stone buildings, or houses of a light colour, the whole is upon the same scale of colouring, and produces a highly brilliant but harmonious picture.—Should the taste of improvers be turned towards the embellishment of villages, a variety of such standard and fruit trees might be introduced as are remarkable in their different kinds, not only for their goodness, but for the beauty of their blossoms and fruit.—*Price on the Picturesque.*

KEEPING CIDER SWEET.—In the *Cultivator* for September 1st, a correspondent asks for a recipe for keeping cider. Put into twenty gallons of new cider, 1 lb. of black mustard seed, and you can have your cider at six months old as sweet as when first made.—*Ohio Cultivator.*