

harm's way, under the snow, during the winter. Last year we hoped for something from them but they produced "nothing but leaves."—T. T. LYON in *Michigan Farmer*.

### THE CLIMBING SOLANUM.

(*Solanum Jasminoides*.)

The climbing Solanum is a slender growing vine having pretty foliage. It supports itself by curling the stems, to which its leaves are attached, about whatever it comes in contact with. During summer my plant made a growth of over six feet. It did not bloom until fall, but since then it has had flowers nearly all the time. These flowers are about as large as those of the Catalonian Jasmine, star-shaped, and of a pearly white. Sometimes they have a slight lavender tinge, and in a few I have seen a faint rosy tint. These flowers, which are borne in clusters of about half-a-dozen each, have a delicate grace that I have never seen in any other climbing flower. The petals have a look like that of the finest crape, being creased or wrinkled like crape along the center. I find that by cutting it back often a great many branches can be made to grow, and all of these produce flowers.

It has been one of my most satisfactory plants during the winter. I have it trained up a large Oleander, and it has wound itself all through the top, and as both plants are in bloom at present, the effect is charming, as the contrast between the rosy flowers of the Oleander and the white ones of the Solanum is so decided. A good many of the new branches hang from the branches of the Oleander in festoons of graceful foliage. The buds are charming before they open, being pearly white, and having so close a resemblance to berries that they are often mistaken for them. The plant is a most satisfac-

tory one at all stages and seasons. It would be very effective when trained along conservatory rafters, or about a window, I think. Mine is potted in ordinary garden soil made light with sand. It requires considerable water. The red spider would trouble it somewhat if I did not make it too wet for him.—E. E. REXFORD, in the *American Garden*.

### THE PLUM ORCHARD IN MAINE.

I send you a description of Mr. Sharp's plum orchard. The orchard comprises fifteen hundred trees, covering one and one-quarter acres. Two-thirds of the trees are tender varieties (for here), Bradshaw, Columbia, Green Gage, Imperial Gage, Lombard, Magnum Bonum and McLaughlin, which will not live one winter here without bending down. They were planted out in 1877 before the Mooer's Arctic had been thoroughly tested, the remaining five hundred are Mooer's Arctic, most of which have been set out since, and yet these five hundred bore more last year than the other thousand by considerable. There was picked from this orchard last season three thousand five hundred pecks, which were sold here at one dollar per peck, besides what were given away, and quite a number that walked off in the night. He has another orchard just coming into bearing which yielded six hundred pecks, and one hundred more out of the nursery of trees that will be sold this spring, making in all four thousand two hundred pecks—a net profit of over four thousand dollars in one year. Although the Mooer's Arctic plum will live here and bear a good crop without bending down, if kept in grass ground and grown slowly, yet we find it far more profitable to put them on rich ground, and bend down.—*Home Farm*.