

certain height, bend to the ground and send forth other shoots which in their turn become stems.

Third, The *procumbent stem*, under which denomination is ranked all those which run flat upon the ground. Some of these send out shoots at certain distances; from which they have been by some writers considered as belonging to a distinct class to which they have given the name of creeping stems; but this is only an unnecessary degree of complexity.

Fourth, The *climbing stem*. To this class belongs all those that require any prop or support to enable them to sustain their own weight. Some of these effect this by twining round the trunks of trees or any other object that stands within their reach; while others send forth tendrils which lay hold of whatever comes in their way for support.

Another and perhaps a mode of classifying the stems of plants preferable to either of the above depends upon the shape of the stem itself; and such Botanists as have adopted this mode have recognised four different kinds of stems, all varying in their shape. First, The *Round stem* comprising all the plants in which the stem is of a cylindrical shape and which is the most common form of stems with which we are acquainted.

Second, The *half round stem* whose figure is clearly described by its name.

Third, The *flat stem*, which appears as if compressed and flattened on both sides.

Fourth, The *Angular stem*, so called when there is one or more angles upon it.

In addition to all these different methods of arranging and describing stems, in some of the older works on this science, there has been attempts made to designate the different stems, by the substances with which they were covered; hence we meet with one class termed leafy stems, another prickly stems &c. But although this degree of minuteness may be very proper when the Botanist gives an accurate description of any plant; it is not necessary for the purposes of classification.

(To be Continued.)

HOW TO CHOOSE A WIFE.

" Good Sir, if you'll show the best of your skill,

To pick a virtuous creature,

Then pick such a wife, as you'll love for life,

Of a comely grace and feature.

The noblest part let it be her heart,

Without deceit or cunning,

With a noble wit and all things fit,

With a tongue that's never running;

The hair of her head it must not be red,

But fair and brown as a berry;

Her forehead high with a crystal eye,

Her lips as red as a cherry.