

VINES ON DWELLINGS.



WHEN selecting vines to plant alongside of a house or fence, it must be remembered that there are two distinct classes of them. One class contains those that need a trellis or something to support them as they twine; the other, those clinging to whatever they touch, just as the well-known English ivy does. The latter kind is usually called self-climbers, because of requiring no assistance to climb. Therefore, for planting alongside of houses or close fences, these self-climbers must be selected. Fortunately, the variety in this class is a large one, and some of the best of them will be mentioned. The Virginia creeper is worthy of early mention. It is one of the best known of all vines, to a great extent because of its beautiful foliage in autumn time. It is not, however, just the vine for a dwelling house, because of its twiggy growth. It becomes too bushy for neatness. It seems much more in place about carriage houses or similar buildings. The twiggy growth spoken of affords room for English sparrows to build their nests. To some this would be a recommendation, but to the majority of persons it would be the opposite. In another member of this family, which comes from Japan, the *Ampelopsis Veitchii*, and called Japan ivy, there is a vine unequalled for the purpose. If quick growth, shining green, beautiful foliage, brilliant colored leaves in the fall count, it is far ahead of all other vines, when there is to be considered the tenacity with which it clings to a wall, be it ever so smooth. It is simply impossible to tear it away. Having mentioned about the Virginia creeper harboring sparrows, it must be said of this one that it is impossible for a bird to build in it. There is nothing but the stems against the wall and the projecting leaves therefrom. The well-known Trumpet vine is another good clinging one. Give it a coarse wall or a decaying tree to ascend and it is in its element, and what a gorgeous display its large, brilliant, trumpet-shaped flowers are in July and August. There are three colors, red, crimson, and orange. The European ivy exist in several varieties. The English is the most common, but there is a small leaved sort from Russia which may be hardier. About Philadelphia there are many houses which have their northern or eastern sides well covered with ivy. On the sunny side it gets destroyed in severe winters. It is evergreen, of course. There is a *Euonymus* which is evergreen, and which climbs as ivy does. Its foliage is very small and the vine grows slowly. It seems hardly suited for house planting, but for covering small buildings or for trees it is of value. There are three other vines, all of them new or rare, which may come to be much used. *Schizophragma* is one, and *Hydrangea Scandens* is the other. Both have been called climbing hydrangea, though to the latter the name properly belongs. This climbing hydrangea, bears heads of flowers as the well-known shrubs of this name do, though not equal in beauty to the best of them. But it is a grand vine where a