



FIG. 1628.—CLIMBING HYDRANGEA.

## THE CLIMBING HYDRANGEA.

(*Schizophraga hydrangeoides*).

WHEN visiting the floral exhibit of the Hamilton Horticultural Society last June, we also visited the garden of Mr. John Knox, a prominent member, who has several rarities on his grounds as for example, a variegated maple, a variegated ash, a double-flowering peach, etc. But, perhaps, the most remarkable of all, is a climbing hydrangea, which has covered half the front and a portion of the side of his brick residence. We do not know of another specimen of this plant in Canada; Mr. Cameron, of Niagara Falls Park, who was with us, valued it so highly that he said, "If it were mine, I would not take \$300 for that plant."

Our frontispiece shows this beautiful vine, as it appeared at the time just in full bloom, and showing off to best advantage. We also secured a photograph of one of the flower cymes, which will give our readers a fair idea of its manner of blooming.

It is a fine climber for old dead trunks of trees, and does equally well for wooden or stone buildings, throwing out aerial rootlets, which cling quite as tenaciously as the Japan Ivy. The leaves are opposite, five inches across, nearly round, and toothed. The flower cymes are from six to ten inches in diameter, and are composed mostly of fertile flowers which, however, do not fruit.