



## COBEA SCANDENS.

LIKE many other of our cultivated floral plants, this one hails from Mexico, and has been known since Barnabas Cobo spent fifty years of his life as a Jesuit missionary in Mexico and Peru. He being also quite a naturalist, this interesting plant was named in his honor. At one time it was rarely met with out of conservatories, where it formed a strong growing climber, but it being found to be equally well as a summer climber out of doors, it has for a good many years now been used for that purpose. There is a variegated variety quite showy in its foliage, which can only be raised from cuttings, but the common kind can be raised both ways, cutting



FIG. 53.

or seed, with equal facility. The general method, as much the most simple, is by seed, which if sown in the greenhouse on a hotbed early in the spring, gets good-sized plants by now or planting time. It is one of the most rampant growers under favorable auspices, hence can be used safely where a large space is designed to be covered. The flowers are large cups or campanulaceous in shape, and come freely all the summer long.

The seeds are of some size, thin and flat, and gardeners have found that they grow the most freely set on edge and covered with about one-fourth inch of soil. For present planting, however, it is better to purchase plants of some florist than to depend upon seed at this late season.

## MAKING AN HERBARIUM.

A PLEASANT way for young people to improve themselves in botany during the summer vacation is to make an herbarium or a collection of pressed wild flowers. As it requires considerable skill and patience to dry these fragile blossoms of the woods and fields, the points to attend to