

The following list comprises the best of hardy climbing plants, with remarks upon their peculiarities and habits of growth:—

Trumpet-flower (*Tecoma radicans*).—This is a robust plant, and is fitted only for large arbors, or for covering walls. It is well adapted to plant against old or mutilated trees, such as are often present in old grounds; and they may be utilized by allowing this climber to cover their nakedness, and soften their rugged points. It produces a profusion of dense clusters of flowers, which are favorite haunts of the humming bird; and it has the valuable property of adhering firmly to walls. It must, however, be occasionally pruned, or it will, from its weight, ultimately break down the overhanging branches.

Golden Bignonia (*Bignoniæ cap. col. i*).—This fine flowering climber is not so commonly planted as its merits deserve. It supports itself by tendrils, and has great adhering powers; a very choice plant,—nearly an evergreen.

Virginia Creeper (*Ampelopsis quinquefolia*).—Also called American Ivy. A well-known plant of great beauty of foliage, more especially in Autumn. At this season it assumes a crimson shade which deepens into scarlet, producing a striking contrast with evergreen foliage, as may be seen when it takes possession of the red cedar, a tree for which it seems to have a natural partiality. Its delicate tendrils clasp very minute projections, and hence it may frequently be seen profusely covering brick walls. In such situations it is very liable to be blown down during storms, unless care is exercised in trimming, and keeping the branches close to their support. This plant is eminently cleanly and neat, with leaves elegantly formed and of a shining green color during Summer. It is also of rapid growth, quite flexible, and readily trained in any desirable position.

The Poison Ivy (*Rhus toxicodendron*) is sometimes mistaken for the Virginia Creeper, but they can easily be distinguished by the leaf. The Poison Ivy has its leaflets in threes, the Virginia Creeper in fives, the leaves of the latter being large, and the leaflets oblong.

Carolina Jasmine (*Gelatinum semper v. en*).—Although this plant is tender north of Virginia, yet it succeeds in sheltered city gardens further north. It is one of the most attractive plants, with large yellow fragrant flowers. In cool greenhouses or conservatories, it is an admirable plant for twining around pillars and other supports.

The Pipe Vine (*Aristolochia sipho*).—In rock soils this plant will make a large growth, and cover a great extent of trellis in one season, producing leaves from 10 to 12 inches in breadth, and of a vivid green color. In poor soil it is less beautiful in color, as well as diminished in size. It is liable to be infested by a large black caterpillar, easily destroyed, if carefully watched, before the plant is disfigured. The peculiar shape of the flowers gives it the name of Dutchman's Pipe, to which they have a very strong and remarkable resemblance.

The Climbing Bitter-Sweet (*Celastrus scandens*) is a twining plant of much beauty, especially in Autumn, when the orange-colored capsules open, and show the scarlet seed-covers; the vaccine-like clusters hanging like small bunches of grapes. It should not be planted near, or at least ought not to be allowed to twine upon, any choice tree or plant. Its tough twining stem clasps so closely, as to interfere

with the swelling of the bark; and instances have been observed where young trees have been so far cut through by the wiry coil of this climber, as to kill the plant.

The Japan Honeysuckle (*Lonicera b. achypoda*) is a more beautiful vine than the older known Chinese evergreen (*Lonicera J. japonica*). The leaves of this species are somewhat larger, of a bright, shining or glistening green color; flowers delicate and of sweet fragrance—there is no hardy trailing or climbing plant that can excel this as a covering for verandah pillars, arbors or trellises. One of the most agreeable beds in a flower garden is a large, oval figure rounded to a pyramid (by filling up with soil in the center) and completely covered with this evergreen—for in such a position it is truly an evergreen, although it will lose its foliage in Winter, when exposed on a high trellis. In order to produce the best effect in trellis work, it should be carefully trained, so that the branches may be regularly distributed over the entire surface to be covered. A regular system of winter pruning, which consists in removing all the young growth of the previous year, will keep a neatly covered surface. This surface will be supplied yearly with a graceful growth of young, drooping and slender shoots. If the lower branches show diminishing vigor, they may be strengthened by pruning the upper portions of the plant during summer.

Chinese Wistaria (*Wistaria Sinen*).—A strong-growing, woody climber, adapted for large trellises, or for climbing upon trees. Its racemes of flowers are large and fragrant, and it will rapidly cover a large surface, if planted in a good soil and favorable situation.

Coculus (*Cocculus Carolinus*).—A native climber, with ornamented fruit hanging in clusters of a deep red, nearly scarlet color, and resembling a bunch of the common red currant.

Moonseed (*Menipe m. m. Canadensis*).—A small-foliaged, delicate climber, producing clusters of black fruit in Autumn.

For covering a large trellis or an arbor in a very short time, our native grapes are among the best plants, and where fruit is not an object of particular consideration, any of the varieties of the frost grape (*Vitis cordifolia*) will be preferable to those of the larger and coarser fox species.

Ivy (*Hedera Helix*).—This fine evergreen climber requires to be planted on a northern aspect. It adheres readily to a tree or stone wall, but requires a slight support against a brick structure, at least until it becomes well established. The dryness of our walls prevents it from clasping to walls with that tenacity for which it is famed in Europe. There are many varieties in cultivation, having great diversity of foliage, the most beautiful being variegated with white and yellow.—*Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture.*

MARKET GARDENING.

In the immediate vicinity of New York, there are tracts of land, formerly barren and rocky, that, under the high culture bestowed on them by enterprising and skilful market gardeners, have become enormously productive. It is no mean art, no despicable skill, that have wrought such changes and effected such results. When we re-