

DOCTOR.—You have been down south Major: does not this face, in the rose acacia, bring to your recollection the Creole girls? It is just the style of women you will see in New Orleans, or on the paseo at Havannah.

MAJOR.—It has something of the look, certainly; but I agree with the Laird, I prefer the lily; they are all pretty, however, and we shall have a very pretty book for our Shanty when the numbers are completed. Come, Laird, let us blend the useful with the pretty things of life. Give us your facts.

LAIRD.—You are a mere son of earth, Major; who can talk o' steers and ploughs after thae bonny pictures! However, I'll e'en humour you. So here goes—

REPTON'S LANDSCAPE GARDENING AND ARCHITECTURE.

One of the latest labors of the lamented Loudon, was to collect and edit, in one volume, the works of Repton. This was one of the first of five volumes which he intended to be a complete Encyclopedia of landscape gardening; another was to embrace Italian, French, and Dutch schools, which represent the Geometric style; another was to treat of the "Modern, or Landscape style," as introduced by Kent, and illustrated in the writings of Shenstone, Whateley, and Mason; another the Picturesque school, as represented in the writings of Gilpin and Price; and the fifth the "Gardenesque," which was Loudon's own style, or so named by him. Loudon regarded Repton's school "as combining all that was excellent in former schools, and in fact as consisting of the union of an artistical knowledge of the subject with good taste and good sense." Repton labored in the same direction as did Downing, to unite and harmonize country houses with surrounding scenery. His works are filled with instruction and should be carefully studied by all who wish to acquire information or cultivate their tastes on this subject. We copy the following chapter, with its instructions, giving some account of English cottage residences three hundred years ago. Some of the most elegant cottages erected in England, within the past ten or twelve years, are in this old English style, though variously modified, according to tastes and circumstances, and to adapt it to the present state of society.

ON DATES OF BUILDINGS.

A cottage, or keeper's house, was deemed necessary at Apsley Wood, about three miles from Woburn Abbey. The Duke of Bedford (to whom I am indebted for numerous opportunities of displaying his good taste) one day observed, that out of his numerous cottages called Gothic, which everywhere presented themselves near the high roads, he had never

seen one which did not betray its modern character and recent date. At the same time, his grace expressed a desire to have a cottage of the style and date of building prior to the reign of Henry VII., of which only some imperfect fragments now remain.—Adjoining this building, an attempt has been made to assimilate a garden to the same character.

"A communication of some curious specimens of timber houses was made to the Society of Antiquaries, in 1810, which was ordered to be engraved and printed for the Archaeologists.

"To admirers of genuine Gothic forms, the following may prove acceptable, as showing the authorities for all the details of this sort of cottage.

"This cottage serves as a specimen of the timber houses which prevailed in England from about the year 1450 to 1550; that is, from the reign of Henry VI to that of Henry VIII. As few buildings of this date remain entire, and every year reduces their number, the general plan of this cottage is not copied from any individual specimen, but the parts are taken from the most perfect fragments of the kind, some of which have since been destroyed. The hint of the lower story, being of stone, is taken from a building near Eltham Palace, except that the windows are here executed in oak instead of stone. In some buildings, both of brick and of stone, it is not uncommon to see oak windows used, as at Wolterton Manor House, East Barsham, Norfolk, and at Carhow Priory, near Norwich. Stone and brick corbels, supporting beams, may be found at Lynn Regis and at Ely. The brick-noggin between the timbers is copied from a timber house in Lynn Regis, built by Walter Conys, in the reign of Henry VI or Edward IV.—The hint of the upright timbers being ornamented with small arches (over the centre building), was taken from a timber house near Kelvendon, Essex, which has since been destroyed. The gable-board is copied from a house at St. Edmundsbury, and is not uncommon. The form of the pinnacles (of which few specimens now remain, being the parts most exposed to the weather,) is taken from some in brick, or stone; the only one I ever found carved in oak is at Shrewsbury. The square flag is copied from one at Hornchurch, Essex. The projecting bow is taken from a window in Norwich, but the tracery of it is not uncommon; a specimen in oak is still to be found at Knowle, in Kent. The tracery of the bower window is taken from a timber house in Coventry; but still, also, is not uncommon. The windows are all taken from an earlier date than the end of the reign of Henry VIII; that is, before they are divided by cross-bars, which did not prevail in wood till the reign of Edward VI, Elizabeth, and the early part of the seventeenth century. The