

struction of a railroad, and yet is not, nor never has been considered of any importance whatever. The civil engineer in his theoretical studies, scarcely ever has his attention called to them, and only acquires a practical knowledge of road building in the pursuit of other branches of his profession. Certain it is, that no one ever deems it necessary to call the services of a practical engineer in any department connected with the production of a common road. In the ornamental grounds of a country estate, the perfection of road building is desirable; they should be located on the most approved principles, and in accordance with the theory of motion; they are for use as well as for beauty, and the closer they approach perfection in the useful, the closer they approach the beautiful. No taste can locate a roadway or give it expression, compared with those infallible mathematical rules which have been assigned for their location. Roadways are the leading features, and convey the first impressions of well kept grounds, and they should be beautiful in their alignment and gradients; they should in fact be model roads from which lessons of value may be learned and applied to the improvement of the common roads of the country. And if gentlemen of wealth would, in the improvement of their estates, endeavor to introduce the highest standard, not only of road building, but of other branches of the constructive art, they would not only add largely to the beauty of their property and increase of their enjoyments, but confer a lasting benefit upon the community at large.—*Country Gentleman*.

A NEW HEDGE PLANT.—*LIGUSTRUM VULGARE*.—In Gray's Botany the following is the description of this plant:

"Leaves elliptical-lanceolate, smooth, thickish, deciduous; berries black—used for low hedges; naturalized in copses by the agencies of birds in E. New-England and New York. May, June."

A writer in the Horticulturist, proposes that this be used as a hedge plant; he says that a good deciduous hedge is still a desideratum, and this he thinks will supply the want. He objects to the Osage Orange and Honey Locust, on the ground that their luxuriant growth renders it quite necessary that they are trimmed at least two times during the summer, that they may be kept in proper order. This, he says, will be too severe a tax upon those who would otherwise have a good hedge. In regard to this new hedge plant the writer thus speaks in its favor:

"Compared with Osage Orange or Honey Locust its growth is slow, but *it grows into a hedge*, and will not require to be headed down for two or three years, as these strong growing plants must be in order to induce side-shoots, and will, under good treatment, form a hedge five feet high as quickly as those of more luxuriant growth, since the upright growth of the latter is in a measure lost for a year or two. The flower of this *Ligustrum* is much like the hawthorn both in appearance and fragrance, and altogether it is one of the most desirable plants for a shrubbery, although seldom planted. Being a native shrub, it is seldom grown in nurseries to any extent, but as it seeds freely there need be no difficulty in raising it in quantities. I hope to see it become a favorite hedge plant. WILLIAM SAUNDERS."

The author of the above plea for this new plant as a shrub for hedges, also suggests that the *Celtis occidentalis* or Nettle tree, would also be a good plant for hedges.—*Country Gentleman*.

THE JOY OF A GARDEN.—Think of the morning walk, all coolness and fragrance; think of the mid-day lounge, under embracing branches, where the mind sinks into sweetest dreams, and all our past readings of old lore, poetry, and Holy Writ take shapes, and float before us like realities. Think of the mid-day summer glow of all things, when the parterres burn with colour, and the cool green grass defies the sun to brown one ravel of its mossy carpet; think of the "quiet cigar," all alone in seraphic contemplation; think of the indoor readings of the works of men who have loved gardens, from Bacon to Wordsworth, whose avenues of hollyhocks still remain at Rydal; think of the summer visits to the gardens of friends to make notes of comparison on the trips to noted gardens, not forgetting *fetes* and exhibitions, where the genuine gardener has pleasures that the mere sightseer knows nothing of; think of the pride with which you show your friends over your ground, and display your stock to those that have sympathies kindred with your own; and think of the fame you acquire in your circle as a clever gardener, a man of worth, a gentleman, and a Christian, for you must be all these to love a garden rightly, and then say if there is any pursuit besides this