

CHAPTER XXII.

ARTICLE 153.

OF THE USE OF DRAUGHTING TO BUILD MILLS BY, &c.

Perhaps some are of opinion that draughts are useless pictures of things, serving only to please the fancy. This is not what is intended by them; but to give true ideas of the machine, &c., described, or to be made. Those represented in the plates are all drawn on a scale of $\frac{1}{8}$ th of an inch to a foot, in order to suit the size of the book, except Plate XVII., which is a quarter of an inch to a foot; and this scale I recommend, as most buildings will then come on a sheet of common paper.

N. B. Plate XXIV. was made after the above directions, and has explanations to suit it.

The great use of draughting mills, &c., to build by, is to convey our ideas more plainly, than is possible by writing, or by words alone; these may be misconstrued or forgotten; but a draught, well drawn, speaks for itself, when once understood by the artist; who by applying his dividers to the draught and to the scale, finds the length, breadth, and height of the building; or the dimensions of any piece of timber, and its proper place.

By the draught the bills of scantling, boards, rafters, laths, shingles, &c. &c., are known and made out; it should show every wheel, shaft, and machine, and their places. By it we can find whether the house be sufficient to contain all the works that are necessary to carry on the business; the builder or owner understands what he is about, and proceeds cheerfully and without error: it directs the mason where to put the windows, doors, navel-holes, the inner walls, &c., whereas, if there be no draught, every thing goes on, as it were, in the dark; much time is lost and errors are committed to the loss of many pounds. I have heard a man say, that he believed his mill was 500*l.* better from having employed an experienced artist, to draw him a draught to build it by; and I know, by experience, the great utility of them. Every master builder, at least, ought to understand them.

