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OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

THE COLD FRAME AND ITS USE.

Article No. 6.

By A. G. Turney, Provincial Horticulturist.)

While professional gardeners and many amateurs use hot beds, the average owner of the small garden such as we are treating of, will be satisfied with a cold frame, which requires less care. A cold frame is simply a part of the garden covered with a sash, supported by a wooden frame. It has no bottom heat and depends solely upon the protection of the glass and additional covering to prevent too rapid escape of the heat at night. The construction is quite simple, and the frame work can be quite easily made by anyone handy with tools. The back board or plank is usually 12 in. and the front one 8 in. wide. These are connected by tapering boards or planks 12 in. wide at one end and 8 in. at the other. The standard size sash is 3x6 feet and they are generally readily obtainable. The frames may be made to support one, two or more sashes as required.

The principal use of the cold frame in northern climates is for hardening off plants preparatory to planting out in the open; that is, for receiving plants that have been started early in doors. It hardens off the plants so that they can stand any ordinary change of weather which may come after transplanting time. It is used to protect tender growing plants from cold weather, and it prevents strong winds from disturbing the plants, and protects them from severe changes in the weather. Vegetables may be started a little earlier than they can be planted in the open soil.

The soil in the cold frame should be a good garden soil and fairly light. If the soil is put in the frame it should be filled in to about 6 inches deep in front and 8 inches at the back. Or, if the soil in the garden is just used as it is, the frame should be set down 5 or 6 inches and the earth drawn around the edges. The cold frame is usually placed in a sunny, well drained position, protected from strong winds, near the house. They can be protected in severe weather by means of banking up the sides of the frame with earth or manure. Straw or mats may be spread over the sash on cold nights. As the warm weather comes the sash may be replaced by frames covered with cotton. These should be the same size as the sash and should be used as a covering for the plants on cool nights. The cotton will permit a free circulation of air and yet will not allow the temperature to lower enough to damage the plants.

Plants that have been started indoors in flats and thinned out, or in pots or berry boxes, may be transferred in these to the cold frame without transplanting. First or second transplantings from seed flats started in the house may be made into other flats or pots, etc., and set in the cold frame or direct into the bed of the cold frame. The time for this depends on the size of the plants and the weather.

If seeds are sown in the soil in the cold frame they should be of the same general nature, strength and time required for germinating. If this is not the case or there is uncertainty about it, it is better to sow the seed in flats, pots or berry boxes. These may be set close together and as the seedlings grow, the flats, etc., can be grouped in the sunniest places according to their progress. Changes can be made easier in this way. Water should be applied frequently to keep the plants growing well, but don't let the soil get soggy. Ventilation must be provided.

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Dr. Hetherington

(Continued from page 6.)

zens in any part of the province. He believed that the article in the Gleaner was part of a propaganda being carried on in Conservative newspaper offices in this province with the object of provoking a creed and race war between Protestants and Roman Catholics, and he believed that that spirit was fostered during the late election. Personally he had the greatest regard for all creeds and he would be very sorry to see anything happen in New Brunswick which would disturb the friendly relations which existed between Protestants and Roman Catholics. He believed that all creeds in the province were doing their best to develop the country and educate their families and it would be most regrettable if the cordial relations which existed between them were disturbed by the horrible serpent which had lurked in the late election.

Referring again to the public health act, he had understood the hon. member of York to say that the medical fraternity had not been consulted in connection with the matter.

MR. CROCKETT arose and said that he had made no such statement.

MR. HETHERINGTON said he would accept the statement of the hon. member, as he might have misunderstood him. He wished to say that he had a letter from the president of the New Brunswick Medical Society, which endorsed the bill and set forth that it was the duty of all members to advise and counsel their representatives in the legislature with respect to it.

The debate was continued by Mr. Campbell and Hon. Dr. Roberts and on the motion of the latter was adjourned. It is being continued this afternoon.

vided carefully. If seed has been sown, keep the frames fairly snug and warm until the seedlings appear. Then the sashes should be tilted up during fine days to admit air freely and give the seedlings a stocky growth. As the plants gain strength, remove the sash in daytime in fine weather and give ventilation on warm nights, but keep sashes on a wet, muggy or cold weather. When the plants are big enough and danger of frost is passed, transplant into the open garden.

The next article will deal with the preparation and fertilizing of the soil and first plantings.

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