

it from severe frost later on, before it is taken in for the winter, but it is not otherwise really necessary or beneficial.

If you have a small frame and sash lying idle, it can be utilised for sowing a packet of early cabbage and cauliflower seed in. A packet of some early variety of lettuce sown in a part of the frame will also give a few early lettuce plants in spring. Put the sash on in very severe weather. A covering of leaves or straw may be necessary in extra severe weather, but only for a few days at a time. If taken a little care of during the winter, you will have a nice lot of sturdy, hardy plants to put out in the garden that will give returns much earlier than spring sown seed.

Onions should be stored in a dry, cool shed and not left out on the ground too long.

The seed from top onions should be gathered and dried when ready.

Spinach for use in early spring should be sown early in September, in drills about

twelve inches apart and about an inch deep. Sow the seed rather thickly to allow for some plants being winter killed.

The strawberry bed should be cleaned entirely of weeds. Mulch the plants with long strawy manure or some similar material early in December.

Manure and fork up all vacant plots of ground ready for an early start in the spring. If the ground is stiff and clayey, throw it into good sized ridges after manuring it. This ridging exposes the soil to frosts that pulverize the soil, and leaves it ready for sowing or planting much earlier than it otherwise would be, as only a forking down of the ridges is necessary, before planting or seeding commences. Ground thrown into ridges can often be worked fully a week earlier than if it is dug and left flat and level. Ridging light sandy soils is not necessary or as productive of good as it is on stiff heavy land.

Hamilton.

W. HUNT.

ARTISTIC ARRANGEMENT OF FLOWERS.

THE use of several kinds of flowers in one arrangement is often as disappointing as the use of too many. There may be harmony of color, but not of habit. A pink rose, a white dahlia are harmonious, so far as color goes, but such a combination is not pleasing because there is a lack of harmony in the habit of the two flowers. As a general thing, it is advisable to use each kind of flower by itself. If two are used, one of them must be content to play a subordinate part. It must serve as a foil to the other, heightening and emphasizing its beauty by the contrast with itself. If a spray of wild clematis is used with roses, the effect is very pleasing, because the white of the clematis brings out the color of the rose vividly, but it, in itself, is unobtrusive. It is a back-ground

accessory in the composition of the picture. But if you were to substitute a lily for the clematis, you would find the effect much less pleasing, because there would be a rivalry for supremacy between it and the rose. Neither would consent to occupy a subordinate position. Therefore do not combine flowers of equal importance and expect them to afford as much pleasure as if used separately. Sweet Peas are delightful for bouquets—by themselves. But I know of no flower that can be arranged with them without seriously detracting from their beauty. It is the same with nasturtiums and pansies.

If I were going to arrange a vase of sweet peas for table, or parlor, I would go into the garden and cut my flowers with the longest possible stems, bunching them lightly in my hand as I cut them, but without