



FIG. 1369.—GERANIUM CUTTING.

many cases the cuttings can be broken off without the use of a knife. If in the proper condition, most cuttings will root readily from any part of the stem, but with others that root with difficulty, and especially if they have become too hard, it will be well to have a bud near the base of the cuttings, as roots are most readily sent out from near the nodes.

There are, however, a few plants that, owing to some peculiarity of construction or growth, need different treatment, and among them are our common pelargoniums (geraniums) (Fig. 1369) and many of the cacti and other succulent plants. These are more or less succulent and if placed at once in a cutting bed are

likely to rot off. After being made, it is well to spread them out and allow them to wilt for from one day to one week and then place them in a rather dry cutting bed, or they may at once be potted off, using a soil containing at least one-half sand. If, after giving them one thorough watering, water is withheld until they begin to wilt, cuttings handled in this way will often show smaller losses than when grown in a cutting bed. Many plants do not strike readily unless in a moist, warm air and for such a hand glass or propagating case must be used.

A method of rooting cuttings that gives excellent results, when bottom heat cannot be secured, is placing them in earthenware pans of sand two or three inches deep which are kept constantly saturated with water. The other treatment, such as the making and setting of the cutting, watering and ventilating, is exactly the same as for the cutting bed. Some of our common plants like the oleander root even better if placed in clear water than when in a cutting bed, or the saucer with its mud.

Any kind of glazed earthenware vessel, of a suitable size and depth, may be used, but if it is unglazed the water will need to be much more frequently added. —L. R. TAFT, in American Agriculturist.

*COREOPSIS lanceolata* and *C. grandiflora* are still (July) giving us plenty of their lovely yellow flowers. For cutting this is one of the finest June flowering perennials we have, and how free they do flower! They don't last a great while, but then they give us a few flowers in the early fall months, which makes up for it. They are easily raised from seed, but they don't seem to be very hardy the first year, as we lost last

winter the most of ours that were raised from seed the summer before, while the old plants in the garden came out all right.—Gardening.

SAID the golden-rod as it looked through the fence into a cornfield: "Dear me, what big ears you have!" The corn was too shocked to say anything in reply.