

Asked for further particulars, Mr. Townsend says :

In answer to your questions I will say that, first of all, my object was to see how cheap a house (adapted to the use of an amateur) could be built and fitted ready for use. There are so many people who keep plants in their houses without satisfaction, owing to the high temperature and dust of the living rooms, who say to themselves, "Oh! if I only had a conservatory or a greenhouse." Then they sit down to figure out the cost of such a structure, and sighing within themselves at their inability to build, relegate it all to the sweet by-and-bye. Thus, I fitted up this house at the least possible expense, and grew all kinds of plants in it to perfection.

The roof of my house is all glass, laid in $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch strips fastened to cross rails (fence rails), supported by joists. A row of glass is also laid in strips under the eaves, 10 inches deep, end touching end; then comes a wide board, and below that comes the cold frame. The back is solid boards, also the west end, while the east end is $\frac{3}{4}$ inch boards.

The stove is set in the middle of the greenhouse proper, in a hole dug in the ground, boarded up, and lined with old pieces of tin. Over the stove is a thin piece of sheet iron which acts as a radiator. I use no pipes.

An amateur can never fail with my method, as, simple as it is, the health of the plants prove it as successful and advantageous as the larger house heated with hot water.

The potting shed is separate from the greenhouse, and acts a double purpose, being useful for storing potting soil and general work, also, breaking the force of the cold entrance. The house is built perfectly tight with a tin roof. A light gutter, made V shaped out of batten strips, and painted water tight, carries the drip to the end whence it runs down a small pipe to the water barrel set in the ground under the bench; thus you always have water for wetting and syringing when necessary, and it is always at the temperature of the house. I would also state that the bench over the stove is protected with a tin shield or screen, the first shelf being $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the stove; when the heat reaches the tin, it expands out into the house. In fumigating, all that is necessary is to put some tobacco on the stove and it soon does the work.

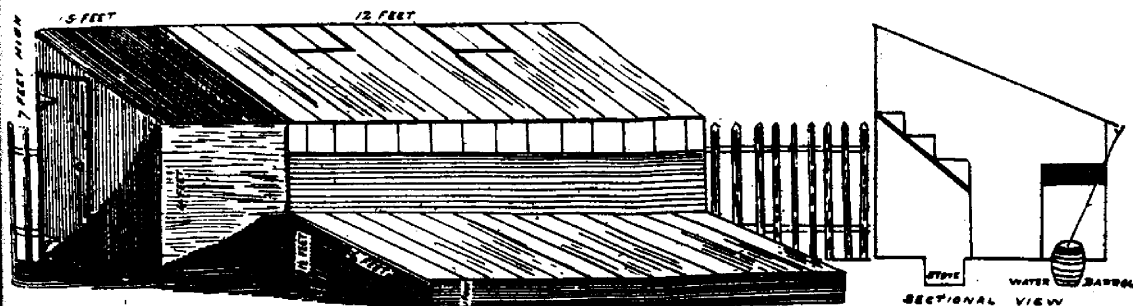


FIG. 718.—A CHEAP GREENHOUSE AND COLD FRAME.