



Mr. Campbell and his Trout Stream

for training the vines and these are placed in the ground when the peas are planted. Tendrils lay hold of the branches much more readily than wire, which is also inclined to burn the tender plants in hot weather. Last year peas from this garden captured first prize.

Bird life abounds in this garden. Mr. Campbell has built bird houses and protected the birds, not only because he likes them but because he finds that they are good friends to the garden, in destroying insects.

Although Mr. Campbell is in his seventy-first year, there is a lightness and briskness in his step and a brightness in his eye that many a young man might envy.

Summer Care of House Plants

Many people are in the habit of putting their house plants out of doors during the summer. Some turn them out of the pots and plant them into the open ground. Others sink the pots with the plant in it up to the rim in the ground.

These methods of summering plants are resorted to because the owners think they save trouble by them. They are under the impression that plants so treated will take care of themselves, and consequently they save a good deal of labor. This is a mistake, however, for if one expects to get the best results from one's plants they must have care and attention all through the summer.

It is true that a plant turned out of its pot and planted into the open ground will make a stronger growth than if kept in its pot, and it will make the growth without any attention from its owner. But when fall comes, and it is necessary to lift and pot the plants for removal to the house, a large proportion of the roots will be sacrificed during the operation. Notice a plant that has been

growing in the open ground all summer and then lifted and potted in the fall; the disturbance of the root system, and consequent loss of the vigorous growth which characterized it during the summer, gives you a very unpromising looking specimen. Such a plant will generally require all winter to recuperate, and more often no flowers, are produced. Therefore nothing is to be gained by putting it in the garden except that it takes care of itself. On the other hand a good deal is lost because the plant is in poorer condition than it was in the spring after having done a good winter's work. Taking these facts into consideration one is bound to admit that the labor of lifting and re-potting would offset all the attention that would have been required had they been left in their pots.

"Plunged" plants generally suffer from lack of moisture at the roots. The soil about the roots appears moist and from this one gets the impression that the soil at the bottom of the pot is in a similar condition. An examination will generally reveal the fact that such is not the case. The pot prevents the soil from absorbing a sufficient amount of moisture from the surrounding soil and unless one is careful to watch the plants and water them freely, they are almost sure to suffer from dryness at the roots.

It will be noticed that plunged plants never exhibit that vigorous, luxuriant growth which characterizes plants grown in the open ground. The chief factor in the difference of development is lack of sufficient moisture at the roots. To give them the water they need requires about as much work to take care of

them as it would require if kept in pots on the veranda, where they can be given shelter from strong winds and sunshine.

KEEP THEM IN POTS

It is advisable therefore to keep plants intended for next winter's use in pots during the entire season. Give them a place on a partially shaded veranda, or under a shed with a slat roof. Kept in either of these places they are to a great extent under control. Water can be freely given to those whose growth it is advisable to encourage and withheld from those requiring a resting spell, thus keeping them almost dormant. The sunshine can be tempered to the needs of each specimen. Little attention can be paid them which if put in the garden they would go without; and the secret of successful plant growing depends to a great extent (and to a much greater extent than is dreamt of in many an amateur's philosophy) on these little attentions.

ENTHUSIASM NEEDED

To be a successful plant grower one must go about it enthusiastically but carefully, for each plant has certain characteristics and requirements of its own, which cannot be ignored.

Plants summered as suggested very often do not require complete re-potting in the fall, simply the removal of the upper portions of the soil in the pot and the substitution of good rich fresh earth. The result will be that they will come to the season of removal to the house in the best condition possible to stand the trying change.

Plants intended for winter use should never be allowed to bloom during the summer. They should be encouraged to store up energy for the coming season.



The Trout Pond and Weir in Mr. Campbell's Garden