

from the manure, top heat from the sun, water from the daily application, and air at midday. Without plenty of air the other requisites will be fruitless.

All seedlings should be transplanted into other hot beds, old frames or intermediate beds when two inches high. For fear that there may be localities where stable manure for hot beds cannot readily be obtained, we give the following simple formula for "artificial heat" for the production of a moderate and continuous heat, the quantities named being sufficient for a space 8x12 feet.

Take as the crude materials, 500 pounds of straw, three bushels powdered quicklime, six pounds muriatic acid, six pounds saltpetre. Having prepared the

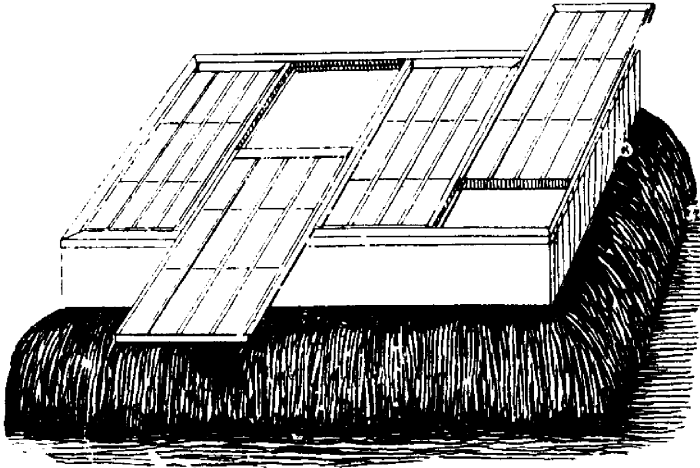


FIG. 921—HOT BED.

excavation of proper dimensions, spread three or four inches of forest leaves or old hay in the bottom: Upon that spread eight inches of the straw, tramp it down and sprinkle with one-third part of the quicklime. Dilute the six pounds of muriatic acid with twenty gallons of water and, by means of an old broom sprinkle the bed with one-third part of the solution. Make another layer of eight inches of the straw, applying quicklime and the solution as before. Repeat for the third layer. Upon this make a fourth layer of straw, and upon it sprinkle the four pounds of saltpetre dissolved in 30 gallons of water. Place the box in position, bank up outside, within the box spread three inches rich, finely pulverized earth, and then put on the sash. A heat will soon be generated which will continue for two or three weeks. The same methods as to location and care will apply to this as in the above.—Indiana Farmer.