

The Bishop's Advice.

Dr. Temple, the Archbishop of Canterbury, who has just attained the age of seventy-eight, is a notable personality about whom many good stories are related. Some years ago, a young curate, seeking to be licensed, was bidden by Dr. Temple to read a few verses of the Bible in order that his fitness for public worship might be judged.

"Not loud enough," was the criticism of the Bishop when the young man had finished.

"Oh! I am sorry to hear that, my lord," replied the curate; "a lady in church yesterday told me I could be heard very plainly all over."

"Ah! are you engaged?" suddenly asked Dr. Temple.

"Yes, my lord."

The Bishop smiled grimly, and said: "Now listen to me, young man. Whilst you are engaged, don't believe everything the lady tells you; but," he added with a deep chuckle, "after you are married, believe every word she says!"

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Gardening Notes.

FERNS IN POTS. To grow ferns in pots demands considerable care and skill. They are at all times dependent on the cultivator, and must have constant attention. If you fail at first, do not be discouraged, for the practice is attended with but few difficulties. It is a great secret of success in cultivating any particular class of plants to get used to them.

Whoever hopes to succeed in fern-growing must first grow a few in order to get used to them, and having got used to them, operations may be extended with some prospect of remuneration. Fine specimens can be grown with more certainty by shifting them into larger and larger pots as the plants increase in size, beginning with pots as small as possible without cramping the roots, than by putting them into larger pots in the first instance. The soil that would be suitable for ferns should be similar to the following. One part peat, consisting of the top slice of turf, and which consists chiefly of the fibre of fine grasses, the roots of heaths, decayed moss, leaves, etc. (this must be chopped up into pieces of the size of a walnut); one part friable yellow loam of a clean soft texture, such as will crumble to powder between the fingers, and yet scarcely soil them even when it is moderately damp (if this is full of fibre of grass, all the better); one part thoroughly decayed leaf mould, which should be black and gritty, and (which is very important) free from fungus; one part really good sharp sand. Mix these ingredients well together, breaking all lumps to the size of walnuts; do not sift it, and do not on any account endeavor to make it fine like dust. When prepared, the sand should be visible throughout the mass. It should be only moderately moist, not wet. Next lay ready for use a small heap of green moss. Be sure the pots are clean. The process of potting is very simple. First place over the hole below a large piece of broken pot, laying a few pieces all round, to cover the bottom,