Children Cry for Fletcher's

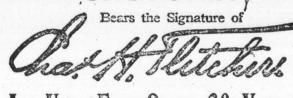
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PLANTS FROM CUTTINGS

Plant Propagation as Described by a Master Hand.

Be Your Own Developer of Geraniums-Light Fall Pruning of Orchards Is Safe-The Barberry Hedge a Spreader of Rust In

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

Toward the end of the summer, the amateur flower grower often wonders how the stock of geraniums in the flower border can be increased and preserved by some other means than by taking up the old plants in the autumn; the last named method the autumn; the last named method not having, perhaps, proved successful in past seasons. By starting fairly early, toward the end of August, before cold chilly nights appear, a nice supply of young plants, more especially of all kinds of geraniums of the flowering kind, or those having fragrant leaves, or even the bronze or silver leaved kinds, can be had by starting cuttings or slips of these plants. First of all obtain a shallow box about three inches deep, ten or twelve inches wide, and from twelve to twenty-four inches in length; an empty haddle (fish) box will do very well. It should have some small holes bored through the bottom for drainage. Pack this box some small holes bored through the bottom for drainage. Pack this box firmly with moist, clean, gritty sand; sand that will make good stone mortar will do. Then take the terminal or top part of the young growth of plants about four or five inches in length, each shoot or cutting having from four to six joints where leaves are produced. Make the base of the cutting just below one of these nodes are produced. Make the base of the cutting just below one of these nodes or leaf joints, making a clean cut with a sharp knife flat across. Cut off some of the lower leaves, leaving two or three leaves at the top. Cut off all bloom buds and blossoms where possible. Make a hole or drill in the wet sand deep enough to set fully the length of stem of cuttings fully the length of stem of cuttings in the sand. Water them well once, and keep the sand moist until cuttings are rooted, which should be in five or six weeks' time. The box can be set out of doors in partial shade be set out of doors in partial shade until the first week in September when they can be taken into the window. When cuttings have roots about an inch in length dig them carefully from the sand without injuring the roots and pot them singly into small 2½ inch pots-or set them about two inches apart in well drained shallow boxes in a soil made up of one part sand, one part leaf up of one part sand, one part leaf mould, and about six parts of light loamy soil enriched with one part of dry pulverized cow manure from the pasture field. This last is one of the pasture heat. This hast is not of the best possible fertilizers for soil for pot plants. Set the young plants in the window in a temperature of 60 to 70 degrees Fahr, an ordinary house temperature. Salvia, Ageratum, Ladø Washington Geraniums, Pother Poster, Labella and many Fuchsias, Iresine, Lobelia and many other plants can be started from cut-tings in this way.—The late Wm.

Light Fall Pruning Is Safe. Light pruning in fall is permissible, but heavy pruning is dangerous and likely to result in serious dam-age from winter killing, especially if age from winter killing, especially if the succeeding winter is severe. The injury is caused by drying out of the cut area and may be prevented by covering all wounds of any size with a good covering of paint made from pure lead and oil. Do not use pre-pared paints, as these contain injur-ious benzine or turpentine dryers. To make an effective covering it will be make an effective covering it will be necessary to give not less than two coats, because one coat will not prevent checking and drying of green wood. Coal tar makes an excellent wound covering and is easily applied.

Hunt, O. A. College, Guelph.

made in fall or early winter is frequently slighted by orchard men, but the writer has seen such serious damage result from neglect of this precaution that he feels justified in warning fruit growers with regard to the practice. In experimental trials in the College apple orchard, varie-ties so hardy as Duchess of Olden-burg, Wolf River, Snow and Scott's Winter-have suffered very serious injury following November pruning with the cuts left unprotected. The wounds dry out around the edges and by spring the dead area is great-ly enlarged, frequently extending down the trunk or branch for a foot

down the trunk or branch for a foot or more. The dead bark comes away later leaving a large dead area, detrimental to the parts above and cortain also to decay later.

It is not likely that injury would follow the c..ting of branches below an inch in size unless many were removed and there probably would be no necessity for covering such be no necessity for covering such wounds. All above this size, how-ever, should be thoroughly protected. -J. W. Crow, O. A. College, Guelph.

Barberry Hedge Spoiled Ten Crops. Hundreds and hundreds of in-stances can be cited to show that the stances can be cited to snow that the common barberry is the most im-portant factor in the spread of rust in northwest states. In a Govern-ment bulletin on rust and barberry, Dr. C. E. Stakman of Minnesota Uni-Dr. C. E. Stakman of Minnesota University Farm relates the experience of a farmer at Crystal Bay, Lake Minnetonka, Minn., who had a barberry hedge of 635 bushes. He had tried to grow oats on his farm for ten years, but each year the black stem rust destroyed almost all the grain. Then one spring he destroyed the hedge before the bushes had become rusted. Ten days before the come rusted. Ten days before the thoroughly and no stem rust could be found. The yield and quality proved to be excellent. It was the first time in ten years that a crop had been grown successfully on that farm. Every land owner should begin early in the spring to destroy the barberry for the protection of grain crops.

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