

you pass the ball of twine down across the first twines, take a turn each time round the crossstrings you will thus have a netting of six inches square over the whole. This will be quite strong enough, but you may put the strings closer if you don't think it sufficient. When you have finished, make fast the twine and drive in all the tacks level with the surface of the frame. Get some strong white paper; old newspaper will do if the paper is thick; damp them a little (only just damp); paste them together, and stick them over the frame, well pasting the wood frames first with well boiled thick flour paste; be sure the paste is thick and well boiled. Let the paper come all round the edges of the frames; then put them by to dry. When dry, if the work has been well done, the paper will be smooth and as tight as a drum-head. Don't damp the paper too much, in the first place, or it will crack and break in the drying. Now, get some well boiled Linseed oil, get some dryers put into it, and dissolved in it; then with a paint brush go over the whole frames, wood, paper, string and all; give them a good coat on both sides, and put the frames by to dry; they will be dry in a day or two, and will be as serviceable as the best glass while they last, which with care will be from two to three years, and they can be fresh covered or patched at any time. Of course dogs and poultry must be kept off them, and they must be carefully used, but for service they are really better than glass, as the plants grown under them never scald with the sun. If thought better, the strings may be put on both sides of the paper, but is scarcely necessary.

With these frames, on beds prepared as before mentioned, everything from a turnip plan to a melon can be raised in perfection; and after the beds are done with for turnips, melons and cucumbers can be raised in any quantity, with the advantage that as the cold weather comes on in the fall, if the melons are not fully ripe, they may be covered, and thus the very latest be brought to full perfection. These sashes answer as well for hot-beds as for the cold frames. As they are very light, they must be properly weighted in windy weather or exposed situations.—*Cor. Globe.*

IMPORTANCE OF AN INTEREST IN GARDENING AND NATURAL HISTORY TO THE YOUNG.

The study of the simple, the natural, the pure, and the beautiful by the young, will be one of the best antidotes against the indulgence in gross and debasing pleasures. Many a lad and many a man seek pleasurable excitement in channels that will ultimately be ruinous, who might never have cared for such indulgences, if other sources of excitement of a more mellowing character had been presented to his notice, such as a book to read, a garden to clean, a plant to attend, a bird to feed, a beautiful insect in all its wonderful transformations to study. And, call it contractedness or selfishness if you will, still it is no less a law of our humanity, especially strongly manifested in the young—the law manifested in the fact that to insure anything like enjoy-

ment, we must have something to care for, something to pet, something to love something that, in a proprietary sense, that must be inherently and peculiarly our own. And thus, on the same principle, if the object petted be a living thing, capable of responding in some measure to our cares for it, the more attractive it will be. I can recall to my recollection many instances in which the sportive kitten, the cosy tame rabbit, the faithful affectionate puppy, the kiss-and-kiss-me dove and pigeon, the favourite strutting cock of the yard, or the still more aristocratic bantam (but whose love to his owner was even greater than his assumed dignity), the high warbled cheering note of linnet and canary when a certain knock was heard at the door, and more especially when a certain head and shoulders showed within it; the appearance of the window plant after its roots were watered and its leaves were washed, cleaned and sponged, and when every bit of flower and foliage seemed to look you in the face and say "Oh, how I thank you for your care!"—I can recall to memory instances such as these which have exerted a more mellowing, kindness-securing, and kindness-diffusing power, than could be realised by looking on the finest painting or sculpture, or beholding the most magnificent scenery the world can afford; and chiefly because these living things could make a return for the care bestowed, and because, also, the possessor could look each or either as his or her very own.

Damp not but encourage all such tastes for pets, be it bird or plant, even in very young people. A place could be set aside for the young folks, and a particular place or position awarded to each, that each might do the best, and carry out a particular hobby without interfering with the peculiar leanings of his neighbour; and all this, it is wise in every way to encourage.

I have often found mothers, and fathers too, so objecting to their young folks having any pets of their own, that to carry out the natural craving, it had to be indulged in, in a concealed sort of a way—a very bad thing, for in every matter it is well that the most perfect confidence should exist between child and parent. "I might as well have a perfect Babel as these screeching and howling sounds. A menagerie, with its filth and odours, could be no worse than my boys pester me with their brasts and birds in every corner they can get hold of," said a mother not long ago. Ah! but mother, if you arrest the gratification of such tastes, you might have tastes formed for other things, that will give such pulls at your very heart strings, that in comparison with the screeching you complain of, would be the sweetest music. Direct all such tastes aright, and you may wield a mighty power on your loved young ones for fostering habits of order, of attention, of thoughtfulness, of cleanliness, and kindness.

When plants are grown for their own sake and the pleasure they confer, they will ever exert a power in arresting the indulgence in the low and degrading; and the culture of them, therefore, should be encouraged in every possible way.—*Cottage Gardener.*