

Cape gooseberry plants should be put out as soon as danger from frost is past.

THE FLOWER-GARDEN.

Planting trees and shrubs should be completed as soon as possible. Most things can be transplanted at this time. Seedlings from seed sown in the autumn should be got out, as these are usually hardy subjects. Half-hardy annuals should be sown at once. These include aster, ten-week stocks, salpiglossis, zinnias, and things of that class; also nemesias, which are not tender.

Lilies of all kinds may be transplanted. They should be planted deeply, as they tend to rise in the ground; 12 in. is deep enough for most sorts, but large bulbs of auratum should be planted deeper. The different families of herbaceous iris may be planted. The most important section is the Japanese. They do well in ordinary good soil which does not become too dry.

Many of the camellias will have done flowering, and now is the time to do any pruning they may require. Bushes that have become overgrown may be cut back to any extent desired, even to mere stumps; they usually break again quite freely. A lesser amount of pruning may be required to keep the bushes well furnished, or even thinning out to prevent crowding. As this is the period when camellias make their growth and perfect buds for next season's flowers, now is the time to manure them. It is not always necessary to give them stable manure, though this is never amiss if applied as a mulch, which, in fact, is the best way to give it at all times. Rain or the hose will wash it in, and the littery parts will serve to keep the sun out.

“THE FARM.”

OWING to the wide variation in climate, soil and other conditions between the different parts of New Zealand, it has been found difficult to furnish under the heading of “Work for the Coming Month” satisfactory notes for general farm guidance—even though qualified as indicated. It is therefore intended to replace the notes by seasonable articles on chosen farming subjects, applied more closely to district requirements, and also of a more comprehensive character than the brief directions hitherto spread over a wide field. The monthly notes for the more specialized branches of fruitgrowing, poultry-keeping, bee-keeping, &c., will be continued as at present.—EDITOR.