stated in our notice of this fruit, and that he received his trees from Mr. Rivers, of Sawbridgeworth. This announcement is necessary, as Mr. Lee informs us, that in consequence of our notice of the fruit and of his name in conjunction with it, he has been besieged with applications for trees of that Pear.

WATERING POTTED PLANTS IN A SUNK FRAME.

I HAVE always found some difficulty in watering crowded pots in a sunk frame without spilling much water among them, or, in the case of using manure water, without letting it touch the foliage. To avoid this difficulty, which I believe is of considerable consequence, I thought of a contrivance this year so simple that I should never have thought it worth your notice had it not been for the following remark of an eminent gardener to whom I mentioned it. He says, 'I like your invention so much that I think it is worthy of more prominent notice. Send it to THE JOURNAL OF HORTICULTURE with a drawing.' I can only add that if so simple a contrivance be of any use to you, my correspondents, I am glad to have the opportunity of making it known, and I am happy to say that I have not received any question (chiefly on bee-keeping) I may have had occasion to put through your columns.

A.W.B.,

The Vicarage.

A small tin tube about 6 feet long and half an inch in diameter, with a funnel at top, to be held in the left hand while the water is poured into it from a jug or small can in the right. Mine is made to fit on to a small watering-pot at A, the rose of which will also fit on at B if required.

BOTTOM HEAT FOR POTTED VINES.

Will you let me know the best way of managing my pot Vines, of which I have about three dozen two years old? I have no bottom heat, but a flue all round the house. Must I put the bottoms of the pots on the bare flue, or must I put a trellis under them? I wish to start them soon.

S. C.

A couple of bricks set on the flue would do well for the pots standing on, leaving a space between the bricks. A large saucer kept on the floor at the base of the flue would be better if there was not a drain allowed to stand in it. Such vessels on the flue would also be useful in giving moisture before the Vines were broken.

GRAFTING ROSES BY THE FIRESIDE.

At page 171, Vol. XXIII., Old Series, of your Journal, Mr. Beaton states that Mr. Ruddock grafted Roses at his own fireside in March. And I understand that the Mantelli stools were really grafted while the roots were out of the ground, and do you consider such a safe practice? If so, is March a better season than any time during the late autumn or winter months—say at the present time?

B. W.

Mr. Beaton repeated the tale from Mr. Ruddock's own account of the experiment. They were Mantelli stocks, a little cheap at a sale, he grafted them while fresh and then planted them, and hardly lost one out of a hundred. You may give credit to its being a safe practice. March and April, in our latitude and climate, are the natural season for grafting all deciduous plants; and the autumn, and on to the new year, the most unnatural. That is thus accounted for: In the spring often turn the autumn into spring, and graft and work accordingly. They cause their Vines to bud and blossom in the dullest months, and the Rose they bud and graft every week the whole year round—that is, they force the plants; and when once the Rose is under that natural impulse, the effort to grow and extend itself, it may be grafted or inrolled, layered or budded.