

OLD AND NEW ROSES.

It is worthy of note that our fathers and forefathers had in general a better nomenclature for their roses than is used in these days. Such names as Dame Blanche, La Favorite, Rosalie, La Coquette, and those of the various mythological characters—as Hebe, Juno, and Calypso—were freely used. Now the favorite roses are Dukes and Duchesses, Counts and Countesses, Lords and Ladies, Generals and Senators, till we wonder if there are any plebeians left.

There are many old roses that should never be forgotten, though they have been pushed aside by new-comers, and are seldom to be found on sale at the florist's. *Blanchefleur*, *Madame Hardy*, *Madame Zoetman* are delightfully fragrant, beautiful white roses, whose places have not been filled by any of the usurping remontants; and there are others, of the Provence and Damask families, nearly as fine as those named. In all our improvements, we have not yet bettered the quality of the old white summer roses of thirty and forty years ago. The demand is now altogether for those varieties which bloom more than once, and, in achieving freedom of bloom, we have lost in fragrance, have lost in hardiness; therefore, to leave out and cast aside these favorites of a generation that is passing away is surely a serious mistake. Others beside the old white summer roses should be retained. There is the *Centifolia*, or cabbage-rose, so unfortunately named, which is yet a model for form and fragrance; there is the common sweet-brier, with its bright orange-red hews,—not a flower for florists truly, but how attractive to the artist, how full of inspiration to the poet, how grateful to all who are pleased by fragrance! For bright yellow shades, we yet look to the old Austrian roses, so called, *Harrison's* and *Persian Yellow*. Then what is more charming than the moss-roses? what bouquet more beautiful than loose branches of the *Gracilis*, the *Common* and *Crested* moss-roses?

The *Charles Lawson*, *Coupe d'Hébé*, *Paul Ricaut*, and some others of the old summer kinds are also very useful as pillar roses; they have nearly everything that makes a rose valuable save the property of blossoming more than once. It must also be remembered that the old roses were not alone such as bloomed in June only. *Agrippina*, *Edward Desfosses*, *Hermosa*, *Souvenir de la Malmai-*

son, *Aimée Vibert*, *Lamarque*, *Solfaterre*, *Bon Silène*, *Bougère*, *Devoniensis*, *Flavescens*, *Madame de Vatry*, *Niphetos*, *Odorata*, *Safrano*, *Triomphe de Luxembourg* are members of the *Bengal*, *Bourbon*, *Noisette*, and *Tea* families, introduced more than forty years ago, and in none of these groups has any great advance been made. Certainly, many beautiful and distinct varieties have since been introduced, but the improvement in quality of these classes has been slight as compared to the advance made by the introduction of new groups.

Roses of the present, as compared with those of the past, are superior by reason of the introduction of groups that are hardy, or nearly so, and that blossom at intervals and continuously through the summer and autumn. We remember the great interest awakened by the varieties sent out by *Laffay*, such as *Madame Laffay*, *Mrs. Elliott*, and, a few years after, *La Reine*. The two former have nearly disappeared from cultivation; but *La Reine* is still much grown, and, like the *General Jacqueminot*, *Victor Verdier*, and *Jules Margottin*, has been the progenitor of most of the hardy roses cultivated at this day.

It would astonish the uninitiated to learn the number, not only of those who propagate plants for sale, but those who are engaged in the production of new varieties from seed. Strange to say, the raising of new roses has been done successfully only in France and England. Italy and Germany have accomplished almost nothing in this line, although the climate of those countries is as favorable for the purpose as that of the other two; but in this they only follow the general line of horticultural progress, for Italy and Germany have produced few varieties of European fruits that are valuable. America has originated more fruits of high quality than any other country, but her contributions to the list of good roses, though larger than those of Italy and Germany, fall far short of what they should be. With an extent of territory that gives greater variation of climate and soil than is to be found in any other country, it must be that America will yet produce her share of fine roses.

With the year 1842 appeared the *Baronne Prévost*, which is now the oldest type among hybrid remontant roses. It is not a numerous family, and is of much less importance to us than many others, but we can well imagine

what pleasure it gave when it was introduced to the rosarians of that day. The flowers are very large and full, flat in form, quite fragrant, and in color some shade of rose. It is the most hardy type we have. The only varieties commonly grown are Boieldieu, Colonel de Rougemont, and Madame Boll.

In 1843, Laffay introduced what he loyally named Rose of the Queen (*Rose de la Reine*). This variety bore royal sway for many years. It not only still sells well and is to be considered a useful rose, but it should also have our esteem as being the parent of a most useful family. The flowers are of various shades of rose, generally of semi-globular form, large, somewhat fragrant; free in the autumn; quite hardy, enduring more cold than any of the other families except Baronne Prévost. The leading sorts are: Anne de Diesbach, Antoine Mouton, Auguste Mie, Belle Normande, François Michelon, Madame Nachury, Paul Neyron. Among the varieties of this family none equal in merit the François Michelon.

The Giant of Battles was introduced by Néard in 1846, and doubtless has Bourbon blood in its veins. The colors are of various shadings of crimson, very rich and effective when in perfection, but very fleeting. The sun soon gives them a muddy hue. The flowers are well shaped but small, and have slight fragrance; they are very freely produced in the spring and summer months, but as a rule not in the autumn. The foliage is of lustrous dark green, very subject to mildew. They are difficult to propagate from cuttings, and are liable to injury from frost. The leading sorts are: Cardinal Patrizzi, Crimson Bedder, Empereur de Maroc, Eugène Appert, Lord Raglan, Mrs. Standish. Owing chiefly to their bad constitution, they are rapidly disappearing from cultivation, and in a few years it is likely none will remain. The same rich color can now be found in the Prince Camille family.

The General Jacqueminot, the head of what is now considered the most valuable type, made its bow, in 1852, to an admiring world: clad in rich crimson livery, it still commands respect and admiration, and marshaled under its generalship is the army of dark roses which so excite and please our senses by their charms and loveliness. This family probably originated from the old hybrid China, Gloire des Rosomanes; they are moderately hardy, but less so than those of the Baronne Prévost, Jules Margottin, and La Reine types. The flowers are invariably shades of red and crimson, generally highly perfumed, freely produced in the spring, but varying greatly as to their autumnal bloom. As a family, they are much more shy in the autumn

than any of the others. It is now the most numerous of the families, due to the fact that popular taste inclines more to crimson than to light-colored roses. Leading varieties of this type are Beauty of Waltham, Marie Baumann (moderate growth), Marie Rady, Maurice Bernardin, Pierre Notting, Xavier Olibo (dwarf growth), also Sénateur Vaisse, Charles Lefebvre, Prince Camille, Alfred Colomb, and Duke of Edinburgh. About the latter varieties cluster numerous others of the family of less importance.

The head of the Victor Verdier type originated with the greatest of all the raisers, Lacharme, of Lyons, and was sent out by him in 1852. It is doubtless from one of the La Reine type, crossed with some monthly rose, probably a Bourbon. The descendants are very numerous, and in spite of their rather tender habits, form a valuable group, being the most free to flower of them all. If they were fragrant, they would be unrivaled; but alas! they are devoid of scent, and therefore cannot rank as high as the others. Fine feathers alone do not make fine birds, and surely fragrance is to the rose what song is to the bird. Its flowers are large, well built up; generally shades of rose and pink prevail; mildew operates against these more than any others except the Giant of Battles type. Of all the families it is the best adapted for forcing in winter. The leading varieties grown are Captain Christy, Countess of Oxford, Étienne Levet, Hippolyte Jamain, Julius Finger, Madame George Schwartz, Mademoiselle Eugénie Verdier, Marie Cointet, Marie Finger, Mrs. Baker, Oxonian (somewhat fragrant), Président Thiers, Pride of Waltham, Rosy Morn.

In 1853, Jules Margottin, of Bourg-la-Reine, near Paris, sent out a fine rose, which he called after himself. Though he has been raising seedling roses ever since, none of them has quite come up in worth to his namesake, the flowers of which are large in size, very full, somewhat flat in shape, in shades of rose and carmine, and almost without perfume. They are generally free in the autumn, are very hardy, though as a rule difficult of propagation from cuttings, but making very vigorous plants when budded. The leading sorts: Abel Grand, Bessie Johnson (quite fragrant), Charles Margottin (reddish crimson), Countess of Serenye, Duchesse de Vallombrosa, Edward Morren, Egeria, Emily Laxton, John Hopper, Magna Charta, Madame Gabriel Luizet, Madame Lacharme, Madame Louis Lévêque, Mademoiselle Thérèse Levet, Marchioness of Exeter, Marguerite de St. Amande, Marquise de Castellane, Miss Hassard (scented), Monsieur Noman, Peach Blossom, Princess Mary of

Cambridge, and Rev. J. B. Camm, which is very sweet.

The Sénateur Vaisse became known in 1859. In this family we find the most perfectly formed flowers; the varieties are of moderate growth, with smoother wood than most of the others. The foliage is more round and perhaps of a deeper green. Madame Victor Verdier, Monsieur E. Y. Teas, and Mrs. Laxton form the leading members.

Charles Léfèbvre, one of Lacharme's productions, was introduced in 1861. The originator believes that this came from a cross of Victor Verdier and General Jacqueminot. It certainly takes after the characteristics of those two sorts. The flowers are more wavy in outline than in the other families; the growth is somewhat less vigorous, the wood more smooth. Dr. Andry, Glory of Cheshunt, Harrison Weir, Horace Vernet, Lord Macaulay, Madame Anna de Besobrasoff, Marguerite Brassac, Mrs. Harry Turner, Paul Jamain, and W. Wilson Saunders are the leading kinds.

Prince Camille, which was introduced in 1861, by E. Verdier, gives us the darkest type of roses which we have. From appearances, we should think it originated in a natural cross between varieties of the Giant of Battles and General Jacqueminot types, the characteristics of the latter predominating. None of these bloom freely in autumn, but they are magnificent in their dark, velvety shades, as seen in the spring. Baron Chaurand, Baron de Bonstetten, Abel Carrière, Henry Bennett, Jean Cherpin, Jean Liabaud, Jean Soupert, La Rosière, Monsieur Boncenne, and Président Léon de St. Jean comprise the family. More than the others, Abel Carrière and Jean Soupert take after Giant of Battles.

Alfred Colomb, another of Lacharme's raising (1865), has a similar habit of growth to the Jacqueminot type, but the thorns are less numerous and with more of a yellowish hue. The flowers are more globular, stand the sun better, and are much more freely produced, constituting a most valuable family. The varieties are A. K. Williams, Fisher Holmes, and Wilhelm Kœlle.

The Duke of Edinburgh, sent out by George Paul in 1868, is the only English rose which may be regarded as the founder of a family. The flowers are inclined to be thinner in petal than those of the Jacqueminot type, rather smaller, burn much more quickly in the sun, and are not constant in autumn. It is a very beautiful family when grown in a moist, cool climate; but there are few of the members that will do well under our hot sun. The varieties best known, mostly of recent origin, are, Brightness of Cheshunt, Dr. Hooker, Duke

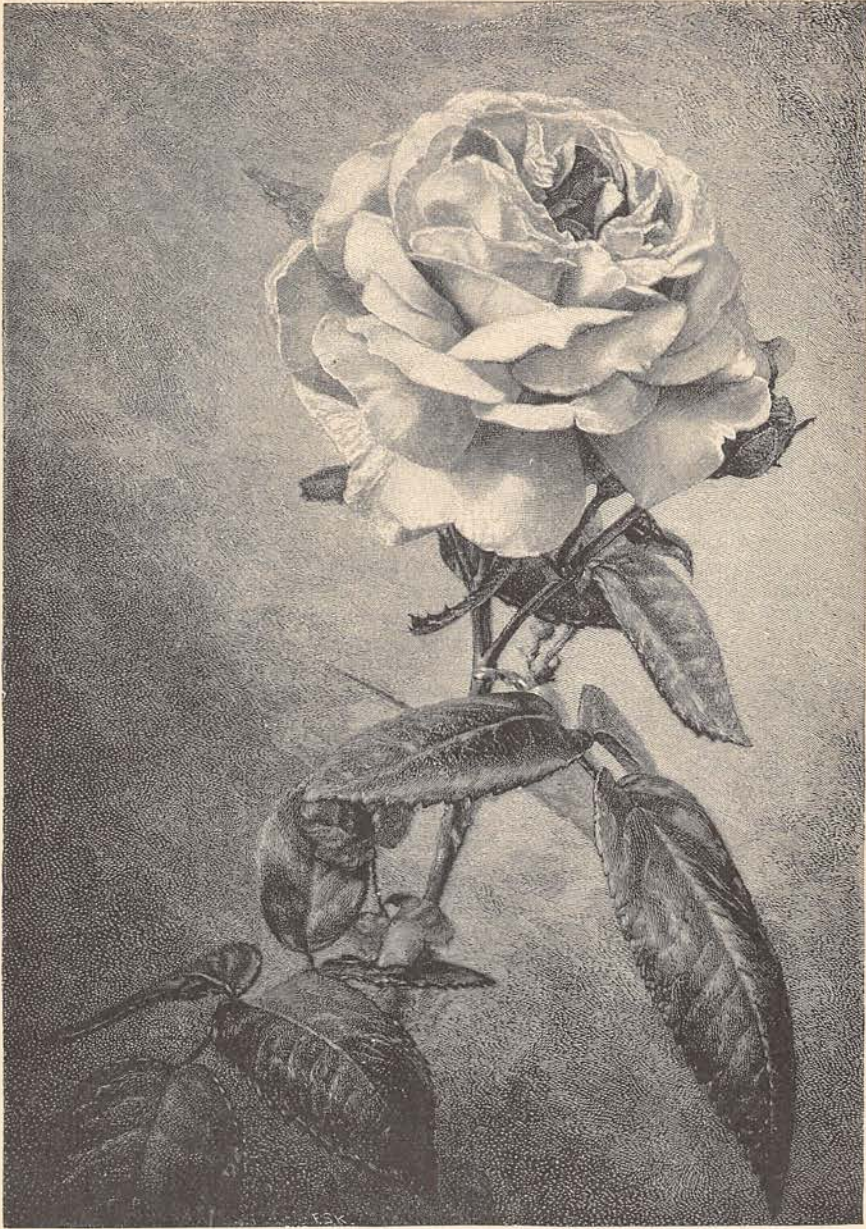
of Connaught, Duke of Teck, Robert Mar-nock, S. Reynolds Hole, Sultan of Zanzibar, and The Shah.

Baroness Rothschild is the typical representative of a small but very beautiful family, the very aristocracy of roses. It is not a new rose, but its merits have not been recognized till within a few years. Now that the florists have finally taken it for winter forcing, it is becoming well known, but it will always command comparatively high prices. Twelve and fifteen dollars for a dozen blooms have been the prices during the winter months. Mabel Morrison, Merveille de Lyon, and White Baroness are three white roses of the type that are to-day the special sensation of the rose world. They have the same short-jointed stems, with the beautiful foliage closely set under the blooms, that are a characteristic and pleasing feature of the parent. Mabel Morrison is the only one of the white trio which is likely to be seen in any number for some time to come; the others are but just out, and florists will use all the wood the plants make for propagating. Three white, hardy varieties of such high rank as these may well excite the enthusiasm of all who grow roses.

The above description exhausts the divisions which may be considered distinct types. Though there are other roses which stand aloof, they have few or no followers. Such are Madame Charles Wood, Caroline de Sansal, and a few others.

All of the families of roses so far discussed are members of the Hybrid Remontant or Hybrid Perpetual class, certainly the most important of the many groups of roses now cultivated; but there are others of modern origin, which have also strong claims on our attention, the oldest of which is the Hybrid Noisette family, that may be divided into two sections. The original variety, Madame Récamier, was sent out by Lacharme in 1853. Nothing more is known of the origin of this sort, other than that one of the parents is supposed to have been a Noisette rose. Belonging to this type are Mademoiselle Bonnaire, Madame Noman, Eliza Boelle, and Madame Oswald de Kerchove. The flowers are of medium size, and of circular, very beautiful form. Though devoid of fragrance, the flowers are freely produced from June throughout the summer; for which reason these varieties are to be valued as most charming acquisitions on our list of white or light-tinted roses.

In 1860, Lacharme sent out Madame Gustave Bonnet, the head of the second division of the Hybrid Noisette family. This variety, the originator claims, was produced from seed of Blanche Lafitte (Bourbon), fertilized by



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH ROSE.

Sappho (Portland). If this be true, this type should go by some other term than Hybrid Noisette; but the name has been fixed by usage, and as they have no fragrance, they will, at all events, smell as sweet by this name as any other. Belonging to the same type as Madame Gustave Bonnet are Louise Darzens, Madame Alfred de Rougemont, Baronne de Maynard, Coquette des Alpes, Coquette des Blanches, and Madame François Pittet, all raised by Lacharme. Madame Bellenden

Ker, Perfection des Blanches, and Madame Auguste Perrin, of the same family, are the production of other persons. These kinds differ from those of the Mademoiselle Bonnair type, in being of more vigorous habit of smoother wood, and of more oval and glaucous foliage, more like that of the Bourbons. The flowers are even more freely produced, but are inferior in quality to those of the other type.

Gloire de Dijon was sent out in 1853. In its habit of growth, it showed itself distinct

from all others, and has become the head of a class now known as Climbing Teas. When the plant has once become established it is of vigorous growth, and has long been a favorite as a pillar rose, both for conservatories and in favorable situations out of doors. Its parentage is not known, but I believe it must have originated from a natural cross between a Bourbon and a tea-scented Noisette rose. The most popular kinds of this type are Gloire de Bordeaux, Belle Lyonnaise, Madame Trifle, Madame Bérard, Marie Berton, Beauty of Europe, and Reine Marie Pia, but none of them has attracted the same attention as the old sort.

The most valuable type of roses since General Jacqueminot is the Hybrid Tea. The original of this new race is La France, introduced, in 1869, by Guillot, of Lyons. This was raised from the seed of a Tea rose, but is entirely distinct from all tea-scented kinds. In color it is a soft, silvery rose, delicately tinged with a faint shade of lilac; in its fragrance, a most delightful combination of the Provence and Tea perfumes. It blooms perpetually, the end of each shoot always carrying a flower-bud, and these shoots constantly pushing forth. In these three qualities, so essential to a perfect rose, it has scarcely any equal, and solely by its intrinsic merits has now gained a popularity shared by few or none others of its sisterhood. Duchess of Connaught and Viscountess Falmouth, raised by Bennett, of England, are varieties of the same type, which most nearly approach La France, both in appearance and fragrance. Next to them comes Madame Alexandre Bernaix, raised by Guillot. Michael Saunders, Duke of Connaught, and Nancy Lee, all varieties of Bennett's, are very beautiful; but the two last named are of such delicate habit that they will never be useful for general culture.

The Polyantha Rose is of recent introduction. The original, which is a native of Japan, has very small, single white flowers, about the size of a silver twenty-five-cent piece; it is of sarmentous growth, quite hardy, and blooms in panicles, in the spring. Some of the French growers have raised seedlings, crosses (natural or artificial) with Teas or other classes, which are true everblooming roses and of great merit. The varieties best known are Paquerette, Anne Marie de Montravel, Mignonette, and Cécile Brünner. They are more tender than the parent, but are quite as hardy as the Hybrid Noisettes and the Hybrid Teas. As an edging for a bed of monthly roses, nothing can be more effective than a row or two of Paquerette or one of the other Polyanthas. They are extremely beautiful little flowers, which will survive all

the sneers of the horticultural snobs who see no beauty in a rose much smaller in size than a peony.

The attention of hybridizers is now directed toward crossing varieties of Tea with Hybrid Remontant roses, and new sorts of great value may confidently be expected from the efforts which are being made in this line. To obtain a variety which shall in a large degree combine the hardiness of La Reine or Jacqueminot, with the fragrance and free-blooming qualities of Madame Bravy or Bon Silène, is surely worth striving for.

This leads us to a consideration of the roses of the future, what they may be, what they should be. Roses of the past have been the product of nature, unaided by the hand of man. Roses of the present also chiefly come from sowing the seeds of varieties which have not been crossed, except as the crossing has been a matter of chance by natural agencies. In some instances efforts at artificial hybridization have been recorded that have given successful results. Roses of the future may and should come principally as the result of artificial fecundation and hybridization. A long essay would be required to treat this subject and do it justice in a magazine article. I can only touch on some of the more salient points. Laffay, who raised most of the Hybrid Remontants of value previous to 1850, is understood to have produced many of them by crossing artificially varieties of the Bourbon roses with the old crimson Rose du Roi. Vibert, Hardy, and some other of the French rosarians are also known to have produced a great many of our most beautiful roses by manual fertilization; but as no record has been kept of the varieties used for the purpose, the result of their work is of no use to the hybridizer of this day further than to afford proof that definite results can better be obtained from artificial than from natural crosses. Our aim should be to control and assist nature, as far as possible, in her tendency toward variation.

There has been so much carelessness, not to say ignorance, with regard to the parentage of the various varieties of roses, that I do not think it would be possible to name fifty kinds and give the parentage on both sides. For the past twenty-five years, nature has been so lavish in producing variations of great beauty, that those who have raised new roses have been content to gather the heps and sow the seed, depending on natural crosses to produce new and desirable kinds. Not only have they thus entirely relied on nature to accomplish what they wished; they have not even taken the pains, except in few instances, to separate the seed of one variety



THE MARIE BAUMANN ROSE.

from that of another, but have sowed them all promiscuously. To trace the peculiarities of each variety, learning just what influence each parent had in forming the qualities of the offspring, would be an interesting and profitable study. I hold it as an axiom, that, in the progeny of any rose which has been crossed with another, the influence of both parents can be distinctly traced.

Artificial crossing and hybridization of roses is generally performed by removing with fine scissors the stamens of the flower to be operated on, and then shaking over it the flower of that which contains the pollen to be

used, or by gently dusting it on with a camel's-hair brush. In this manner it is supposed that the characteristics of each sort will be given in about equal measure to the progeny. It is not uncommon to cross varieties without removing the stamens, in which case the influence of the female parent is believed to preponderate; but neither of these methods has been accurately proved as to the results. An interesting question which arises, in connection with the subject of artificial fertilization, is how far removed from each other, in the habit of growth and in other peculiarities, may be the varieties which are



THE FRANÇOIS MICHELON ROSE.

to be used as parents, without preventing a successful crossing of the two.

In crossing roses, we are most certain to attain satisfactory results by blending seed-bearing varieties which have several characteristic features in common; thus, varieties of the same type will nearly always effect good crosses, as General Jacqueminot with Xavier Olibo, Madame Victor Verdier with E. Y. Teas; but, on account of a certain resemblance which must prevail among the kinds of one type, we are less likely to obtain new sorts of any marked individuality than would result from hybridizing varieties of one group by those of another not too widely separated group; in other

words, we should avoid the extremes of crossing varieties too much alike, and of hybridizing one kind by another so widely removed in characteristics that a successful, healthy progeny cannot result. Here is a vast field still largely unexplored in which to study and experiment. This is not a matter to be confined to scientists; all who truly love roses, all that have some knowledge of their individual peculiarities, may engage in this fascinating pursuit with probabilities of success.

“This is an art
Which does mend nature, change it rather; but
The art itself is nature.”



THE EUGÉNIE VERDIER ROSE.

A common error committed by the beginner is in attempting to grow varieties that are of delicate habit and feeble constitution. Attracted by the great beauty or fragrance of a flower, he does not consider, or does not understand, that vigor of growth, perpetuity of bloom, and perfect hardiness are very seldom combined with the qualities which have allured him.

A pleasing departure from the usual method of growing roses is found in the pegging-down system. Grown in this way, the long shoots are carefully bent down and fastened to the ground by means of hooked sticks or pegs. Flower-buds will then push out all along the shoots, and a correspondingly large number of blooms be obtained. True, the individual flowers are apt to be of some-

what inferior quality to those produced in the ordinary way, but a mass of color not otherwise obtainable can thus be had. I do not advocate this system to the exclusion of the one commonly pursued, but its occasional or alternate use is certainly capable of yielding most satisfactory results.

Besides planting roses in beds, it is well to scatter them through the borders of our gardens, giving the favored positions to the more delicate kinds. Among the best varieties which yet require some extra care are Eugénie Verdier,—the most beautiful of the Victor Verdier type,—a rose of very delicate coloring, silvery-pink, tinged with salmon, and Charles Lefèvre, which is beautiful in both flower and leaf, the color of General Jacqueminot deepened

by a shade of satiny-purple. Among the roses not sufficiently well known are Marguerite de St. Amande, a deep pink sort, which gives beautiful buds as well as fine flowers, and blossoms through the summer and autumn months; Baroness Rothschild, a blush-pink, with exquisite cup-shaped flowers freely produced; François Michelin, a striking variety, intermediate in character between its parent La Reine and General Jacqueminot, thus uniting two rival dynasties. It has large, deep rose-colored flowers, veined with lilac, and is of splendid globular form. It blooms late, the flowers not developing until most others of the same class are past their prime. Eliza Boelle is, perhaps, the best white rose that we have. It blooms profusely all through the summer months; the flowers are full, of the most perfect, globular form, the center generally tinged with blush. It is not possible to imagine a flower of greater beauty. The best of the moss-roses are Gracilis, Common, and Crested. Not the least of the qualities we desire in a rose is fragrance. In this regard, all varieties of all classes must do homage to La France, the sweetest of fragrant roses. To be sure, it is rather tender, but it is easily protected so as to winter safely. It does not always open well, but it is a simple matter to assist it, an operation not practicable with most varieties that open imperfectly. If the buds of La France show a tendency to remain closed, by gently pressing the point of the bloom with the fingers, and then blowing into the center, the flower will almost invariably expand, and the pent-up fragrance escape.

Not enough attention is given to the Bourbon and Tea roses. The Hybrid Remontants justly claim first attention, when they are in perfection; but after the first blossoming is over, throughout July, August, and September they are much less attractive than many of the monthly roses. Varieties like Bougère,

Homer, Madame de Vatry, and Marie Van Houtte, will give a continuous supply of flowers when the so-called hardy roses are almost or altogether out of bloom. How faithfully the various varieties of Tea roses reproduce the beautiful tints often painted in the sky at sunset and at sunrise! The many shades of rose, pink, lilac, white, salmon, yellow, etc., are found in both alike, and it would often puzzle us to decide whether the most beautiful combinations of these delicate shades are found, in the illumined clouds, or in the petals of these roses. Tea roses are rather tender, but in truth they have, in this respect, been somewhat maligned. Those sorts named above are, in reality, but little more tender than La France, the Hybrid Noisettes, and all the Victor Verdier race of Hybrid Remontants. If earth be hilled up about the plants, and a slight covering of loose material, like branches of evergreens, be applied, the more robust sorts of monthly roses will winter in safety. In giving protection, care must be taken not to smother the plants by entirely excluding the air. This never occurs from the use of evergreen branches, but if straw or litter be taken, sticks or boards should be used to prevent the material matting together. This is one of the cases where it is possible to kill by mistaken kindness.

Canon Hole, in his charming "Book about Roses," says:

"He who would have beautiful roses in his garden must have beautiful roses in his heart. He must love them well and always. He must have not only the glowing admiration, the enthusiasm, and the passion, but the tenderness, the thoughtfulness, the reverence, the watchfulness of love."

This is the sum and substance of success in rose culture; without this true love, failure, partial or complete, is sure to follow.

H. B. Ellwanger.

