

Fall Work in the Rose Garden.

THE fall months afford a very favorable season for starting new plantations of roses.

All of the improved varieties are apt to be covered with a fresh and profuse bloom in September or later, and after the flowers drop, the buds will be found in the state best adapted for putting forth new shoots, and the process of rooting will also take place readily if slips are now cut from the parent stem, and set out and properly cared for in suitable soil.

If it is desired to make the attempt on a large scale, select a spot in your garden close to a north wall, or at least, so situated as to be protected in some way against the blasts of the north wind. Dig out the ground, if of hard clay, to the depth of one foot, making a trench about one yard long, and filling it half up with rich manure; then put in a layer of good garden-loam, and on top of that at least three inches of clear sand. Set in your slips with their lower ends slanting from the north, and be sure to fix them firmly in the sand. Let the slips be placed about four inches apart. They will need no protection from sunshine, unless the weather is

exceptionally hot. But when the winter approaches, cover them with boughs of evergreen, or with a slight structure of a few planks. Leave them undisturbed till the weather has become settled in spring, when many of them will be found to have taken root. Prepare the ground into which they are to be transplanted just as for tomato-plants, and do not let the distance between them be less than three feet. We find that roses grown in this way, at home, make much more vigorous, hardy plants than those forced by the florists in hot-beds; the experiment having been tried of raising them side by side, it was found that in one year those grown at home had gained largely upon those purchased abroad.

Roses may also be propagated from the slip by rooting them in water, and then transferring them to small pots, where they can remain until large enough to take their permanent places upon the lawn or in the flower-garden. The water should be put in black or dark-green bottles, and a little raw cotton wrapped around the slip. The water need not be changed except occasionally, but the bottles must always be kept filled up to the neck.

M. S. S.

 CULTURE AND PROGRESS.
Stickney's "True Republic."*

THE indignation which the average voter of intelligence feels when he sees incompetent men forced upon him as candidates for office under the general and State governments, finds its outlet for the most part in the daily press, where the politician and party hack furnish the chief subject for chronic grumbling. Now that really great questions are not before the country, the impudence of the politicians in the Republican and Democratic ranks becomes painfully clear. Which is the better? the voter keeps asking; and since both parties are so worthless, can we not have a third that will deal with real issues and no longer use the old transparent stalking horses to cover their desperate hunt for office and the patronage of office? Indeed it is safe to say that one-third of the Republicans throughout the country and a large portion of the Democrats, including the best material of the Democratic party, simply adhere to their own standard owing to the dishonesty and imbecility of the men in positions of trust among their opponents. It is a fact that there are more recent examples of Republican misconduct than Democratic, but alas, that is simply because the Republicans have had their innings. Where the Democrats get the upper hand they outvie the Republicans in brazen disregard of honesty and justice. With both parties, according to our system of government the old rhyme is true:

The devil was sick, the devil a monk would be;
The devil was well, the devil a monk was he!"

It is to the task of pointing out the reason for this state of things and of indicating a remedy, that Mr. Stickney's book addresses itself. He tries to take an entirely impartial view of the matter. If one can gather so much from these pages, it would appear that during the war Mr. Stickney had Republican leanings; but that since then he has become hostile to the dominant party,—a course, it need hardly be said, which is by no means uncommon, and which inheres naturally in the system of our politics. When a party grows careless, from long continuance in office, enough disgusted voters turn to the other side and bring the balance down.

Mr. Stickney, however, wants all the old balance system done away with. His thesis is to prove that parties are wrong in themselves; that they have started in our country questions of entirely secondary importance, and made them the cause of foreign and civil wars; that when the country has been plunged into danger, they do all they can to thwart action and pile up expenses; that they seldom or never attempt the reform of actual evils, but are chiefly kept alive to gratify personal greeds and ambitions. These ambitions the politicians are enabled to gratify, owing to the short tenure of office. They are able to make a living and a trade of politics, because our changes of officials are so incessant that new combinations are forever forming, which these politicians exist to control. Tenure for life, or during good behavior, is Mr. Stickney's remedy for the evils of bad officials and of politicians. With one exception, he thinks the offices should not be filled by popular election. The President or Chief Exec-

* A True Republic. By Albert Stickney. New York: Harper & Brothers.