

to-day are in bloom in some parts of the same country for about nine months out of every twelve of the year.

The wealth of bloom in some of the Rose Gardens of Europe is magnificent and the variety wonderful.

At the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, a new Rose Garden has been recently planted with the object of testing most of the best of these modern roses, for hardiness and suitability for Canadian conditions.

Is the popularity of the rose likely to go on increasing and to what cause or causes is its popularity to be ascribed? These are two questions similar to the one already asked and it is hoped that an answer will be at least suggested in what follows.

In the first place it may be mentioned that the esteem in which the rose is held is by no means of modern growth. The following account of the birth of the rose will show how the Ancients prized it:

"Of the birth of the rose, the queen of flowers, it is related in fable that Flora, having found the corpse of a favorite nymph, whose beauty of person was only surpassed by the purity of her heart and chastity of mind, resolved to raise a plant from the precious remains of this daughter of the Dryads, for which purpose she begged the assistance of Venus and the Graces, as well as all the deities that preside over gardens, to assist in the transformation of the nymph into a flower that was to be by them proclaimed queen of all the vegetable beauties. The ceremony was attended by all the Zephyrs, who cleared the atmosphere, in order that Apollo might bless the new created progeny with his beams. Bacchus supplied rivers of nectar to nourish it, and Vertumnus poured his choicest perfumes over the plant. When the metamorphosis was complete Pomona strewed her fruit over the young branches which were then crowned by Flora with a diadem that had been purposely prepared by the Celestials to distinguish this Empress of flowers."

This fable suggests the place which the wild or native roses held in the world of floriculture. The modern rose, with the co-operation of man, is a much more perfect creation than the rose alluded to in the foregoing, and through it nature has called into exercise the highest qualities of mankind. For this reason the rose has played and is still playing a role which is immensely potent in influencing the ethical history of the human race.

The role which each great man plays in life does not always influence the race for good. The role played by the Emperor Nero can scarcely be said to have influenced the world for good, and even that played by such as Napoleon is questionable. Indeed the role played by most men and women affects hardly