

witness the amazing advances which have resulted from their labors in this cause. O that I could live to participate a little longer in the glorious harvest which is to be gathered from the influence of this art in improving the fruits of our land. These are benefactions which you will leave for the generations that are to follow you—memorials of your love of nature, of home and kindred, which shall live in the hearts of grateful millions, long after you shall have been sleeping in the dust.

"Thus have I spoken for a long course of years of the importance of this branch of our duty. Thus would I preach while life may last. *'Plant the most mature and perfect seeds of the most hardy, vigorous and valuable varieties, and as a shorter process, insuring more certain and happy results, cross and hybridize our finest kinds for greater excellence.'* And should my muse be able to reach you from the spirit land, she would, as with telephonic voice, still chant in your ears the same old song,—

"Plant the best seeds of every good fruit,
 Good fruits to raise, some lands to suit;
 Fruits which shall live, their bounties to
 shed,
 On millions of souls, when you shall be dead.
 These are creations that do the world good,
 Treasures and pleasures, with health in your
 food;
 Pleasures which leave in the mem'ry no
 sting,
 No grief on the soul, no stain on Time's
 wing."

BEST WAY OF FEEDING ROSES.—Mr. Pettigrew, of Cardiff Castle, who lately received the gold medal of the National Rose Society and a silver cup for the excellence of his rose blooms, told me the other day that he never at any time dug amongst his rose trees, but fed them sumptuously by means of surface mulching and heavy top-dressings. That this treatment suits them admirably there can be no doubt, as of all the rose plants I

have seen this season or for some years back none have been so strong and healthy as those at Cardiff Castle.—CAMBRIAN, in *The Garden*.

JACKMAN'S CLEMATIS.—This well-tried old variety is of all garden Clematises perhaps, so far, the best for general decoration. It grows freely in rich deep soils and is at home everywhere in beds or borders, on wires or other trellis work, or on old tree stumps, dead bushes, or as trained on walls. The other day I saw a plant of it which had been planted along with the silvery-leaved variety of *Acer negundo*, and the effect was very pretty; but on a wall, along with golden-leaved ivy, the plant is still more showy, and in Battersea Park it is effectively combined with bushes of the golden-leaved Elder. Now, of course, we shall all be very anxious to secure the white-flowered *C. Jackmanni alba*, for which Mr. Noble received a first-class certificate at South Kensington quite recently. Planted together, the purple and white forms would be most charming. How rarely now-a-days do we see the double variety of *C. Viticella*, which is most floriferous and of a mouse-coloured purple hue.—*The Garden*.

ROSA RUGOSA.—Mr. Harvey, Aigburth, Liverpool, sends us some uncommonly fine fruiting and flowering specimens of this valuable Japanese Rose cut from a bush two yards across. On the same branch with the hips are some flowers and buds, and these will be continually produced until late in the autumn. All who do not know this rose should make its acquaintance next season. Also flowers of this rose, both white and crimson, together with some very fine clusters of other fruits, have been sent to us by Lady Parker, from her garden at Stawell House, Richmond, Surrey, where this rose is now in great beauty. The fruits or hips are particularly handsome; they are as large as the largest sized Cherries, but more depressed in form, and of a bright orange-red colour, which contrasts strikingly with the deep green of the broad foliage. These are by far the handsomest rose hips we know of, and even if this rose did not bear such beautiful flowers as it does, it would be well worth growing for the beauty of the hips alone.—*The Garden*.