

Some Rose Thoughts

ONE of the favourite roses in the Dominion is the Crimson Rambler, which startled the rose world in England when it was introduced there many years ago from Japan. It is not of garden origin, that is, either a seedling or an hybrid, but a wild flower, or species, and comes from the beautiful land of the chrysanthemum and cherry blossom. The writer saw the first flowers of it. They were shown before the Royal Horticultural Society in England and named The Engineer—not a poetical description of the warm crimson trails of flowers that light up the dullest garden in the fulness of summer. But it originated in this wise. The discoverer of it was an engineer on a trading vessel. He saw it, was captivated with the dazzling splendour of the flower and brought the plant home. It came into the possession of the great nurseryman, Mr. Charles Turner, of Slough, and was rechristened Turner's Crimson Rambler. When seen in the nursery and at the exhibition, visitors were astonished and the popularity of the rose was instantaneous. Queen Victoria was holding her

of comparatively dwarf stature and if the right kinds are selected, flowers come and go for several months in the year, and no matter whether there is space for only two beds, they will change a drab foreground into a little garden of fragrant blossoms. It has been said, "Our winters are too long for gardening." Nonsense. From mid-November until March or April in many other lands the flowers are still sleeping. But the summer and autumn usher in the seasons of flower life in garden, meadow, and wild mountain side.

It is hoped that readers will give of their experience to these thoughts, which will be continued month by month.

The Winds of Heaven

THE following exquisite word painting is from "Field and Hedge-row," by the late Richard Jefferies, whose works are regarded almost as classics in the literature that concerns the country life and garden. "Out of doors, sometimes in the morn-

THE TRILLIUM PATCH.



This is One of the Earliest Flowers to Blossom in the Spring.

court at Windsor when the Rambler was in its richest beauty, and Her Majesty drove to Slough—three miles distant—to see the wonderful revelation. Crimson Rambler is not only gorgeous, but its appearance in the rose world was to awaken an intense interest in the climbing kinds. Beautiful hybrids have been raised since, but many years will have flown before the Crimson Rambler is either forgotten or even overshadowed.

Scentless Roses.

A SCENTLESS rose is bereft of its sweetest attribute and raisers should not give those who love the queenly flower kinds with so unfortunate a blemish. The late King Edward, who shared with his Consort an enthusiastic admiration of the rose, was interested in the snow-white Frau Karl Druschki, and the first time he saw it was on the occasion of a large flower show. His Majesty exclaimed, "What a glorious rose!" and bent down to smell it. "Ah, what a pity, no scent, I thought it was flawless," and the same may be written of other variations. Sweet memories are recalled by the breath of the Briar filling the evening air, and mingling with honeysuckle and the new mown hay, the subtle perfume of the roses called Tea and Hybrid Tea, and the "Cabbage" rose of many old-world gardens. Intensify the scent in the new acquisitions and present the flower as faultless as human ingenuity can make it.

Toronto a City of Roses.

THE more one becomes acquainted with Toronto, the more its adaptability for gardening is emphasized, and of all flowers the rose is the most likely to give the greatest satisfaction. Hundreds of small gardens abound in which there is space for beds of roses and climbers over porch or verandah. It is a shrub

ing, deep in the valley, over the tree tops of the forest, there stays a vapour, lit up within by sunlight. A glory hovers over the oaks—a cloud of light hundreds of feet thick, the air made visible by surcharge and heaviness of sunbeams, pressed together till you can see them in themselves and not reflected. The cloud slants down the sloping wood, till in a moment it is gone, and the beams are now focussed in the depth of the narrow valley. The mirror has been tilted and the glow has shifted; in a moment more it has vanished into space, and the dream has gone from the wood. In the arms of the wind vast bundles of mist are borne against the hill; they widen, slip, and lengthen, drawing out; the wind works quickly with mists' colours ready and a wide brush laying broadly. Colour comes up in the wind, the thin mist disappears, drunk up in the grass and trees, and the air is full of blue behind the vapour. Blue sky at the far horizon—rich deep blue overhead—a dark brown blue deep yonder in the gorge among the trees. I feel a sense of blue colour as I face the strong breeze; the vibration and blow of its force answer to that hue, the sound of the swinging branches and the rush—rush in the grass is azure in its note; it is wind-blue, not the night-blue, or heaven-blue, a colour of air. To see the colour of the air it needs great space like this—a vastness of concavity and hollow, an equal caldron of valley and plain under, to the dome of the sky over, for no vessel of earth and sky is too large for the air-colour to fill. Thirty, forty, and more miles of eyesweep and beyond that the limitless expanse o'er the sea—the thought of

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