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THE ROSES.



IN distributing among our members the Paul Neyron and the Baron de Bonstetten roses, we hope to be the means of increasing the interest in rose culture. Both of them have been well described by Mr. Fred. Mitchell, on page 16, and we have now pleasure in giving a colored plate of this latter variety, as a frontispiece to this number. It is a splendid rose, large and full, of a rich velvety maroon color, and one of the very best hybrid perpetual roses which an amateur can plant. By selecting some such easily grown varieties at the outset, and finding himself rewarded with a profusion of beautiful flowers, he may be encouraged to try other improved varieties requiring special attention.

To have the best success, it is necessary to have a good rich soil, made by digging in a compost of sods and cow manure. The latter should be about one year old, and mixed in the proportion of one load to eight of the former, and if the soil is inclined to be heavy, add one part to ten of good sharp sand.

Our readers need have little difficulty in propagating roses by layering, if in the month of July they will bend down the branch, and pin it to a shallow trench in the soil, pressing down the earth firmly upon it and leaving the tip growing upward. Care should be taken, however, first to cut a slit on the under side, about an inch long, to the pith. By thus partially breaking the connection with the parent bush, the layered cane will send out rootlets of its own, and when cut away in the fall or spring, will be able to depend upon its own roots for nourishment.

The enemies of the rose are numerous, the chief of which are well and briefly alluded to in the following from *Vick's Monthly*:

The insects most harmful to roses are the green fly, red spider, rose hopper or thrips, and the rose bug and the black slug. Now, though combatting these insects involves some little trouble, yet success will attend all persistent efforts.

The green fly, the thrips and the black slug can all be kept under by syringing the plants with a solution of whale oil soap. One pound of soap is sufficient for eight gallons of water. Throw the water in a fine spray on the