

The Rose.

To the Editor.

SIR,—I was much pleased with your editorial on roses, published in the November number of the CANADA FARMER, not only because the rose is the floral emblem of my natieland, but because it reigns, I may almost say supreme, among the beauties of the garden, possessing, as it does, so many intrinsic claims on our admiring notice, as to form, colour, fragrance and variety.

It has been a source of regret to me, ever since I settled in Canada, that I have found myself unable to cultivate the rose in this section of Ontario, to such an extent, and with such results, as to afford me the satisfaction I ever experienced from such cultivation in England. There I grew none but *budded roses*, and there I was in the habit of performing the budding operation myself. The process is a very simple one, and may be undertaken any time from the beginning of August to the middle of October; the requisites being simply strong, straight stocks, buds taken from any roses required, a budding knife, and wet bass. Roses of different kinds may be budded on the same stock, and if the arrangement of *habit* and *colour* be tastefully attended to, the effect is very pleasing.

I notice also an extract on the like subject from the *Cottage Gardener*, containing a short list of Tea Roses. These, when in bud, before the blossom is fully developed, are, perhaps, the most charming of all roses; but then they are very delicate, too delicate at all events for the climate of this neighbourhood. The "Hybrid Perpetual" and the "Hybrid Bourbon" roses are more robust, and would be less liable to be injured by spring frosts; and I think it is from spring frosts, after the removal of the "snowy blanket" to which you happily allude, has been removed, and from fall frosts before that "blanket" is induced, that we have more reason to dread adverse climatic influence, than from the severity of winter itself.

A great improvement may have, most likely has, taken place in the cultivation of roses in England during my sixteen years' absence from "home," but I have a vivid and most pleasing recollection of some standard favourites in the two classes referred to above, such as Dr. Marx, Baronne Prevost, Madame Laffay, William Jesse, &c., among the hybrid perpetuals; and Coupe d'Hébé, Souvenir de la Malmaison, Gloire de Rosaméne, &c., among the Bourbons; and I should be rejoiced to see these and others blooming in my garden once more if I could but entertain the pleasing hope of growing them with any prospect of their surviving, and surviving without deterioration.

I should be glad to know whether *worked roses* can be cultivated in this district—40 miles north of Lake Ontario, and 60 miles east of Toronto—with any prospect of suc-

cess; and if so, whether and where good stocks can be obtained. In Europe, the French stocks are, or were, held in greater favour than those grown in England.

In conclusion, let me again thank you for your able advocacy of this most delightful of all flowers, the "Garden's Queen," as Byron styles it, the "Fleur chère à tous les cœurs."

VINCENT CLEMENTI, B.A.

North Douro, Dec. 14, 1871.

Manuring Evergreens.

Evergreens will not thrive in poor soils much better than deciduous trees; but it will not do to apply manure in the same incautious manner. I have known persons to mulch the soil about the evergreens upon their lawns with fresh horse manure from the stable, and the fumes arising therefrom caused the leaves on the lower branches to drop off. Manure for evergreens should be old before applied; and if composted with sods or muck, all the better. Cow droppings are far better for evergreens than horse manure, especially on warm, light soils. I try to obtain a supply of this for my trees, and spread it upon the surface in autumn, and dig it under in spring. For all the broad-leaved evergreen shrubs, such as *Rhododendrons* and *Kalmias*, there is nothing better in the way of fertilizers than a compost of cow droppings and old sods or leaf mould from the woods. Manure containing a large amount of ammonia seems to be too heating, and the roots that come in contact with it soon receive a check to their growth. — *Rural New Yorker*.

Arnold's Grapes in Missouri.

Samuel Miller, in writing to the *Western Rural*, gives the following account of these Canadian Hybrids:

Brant—One of Arnold's Hybrids; is the earliest grape we have; about the size of Clinton, of first-rate quality, very productive, vine healthy and vigorous. But those who wish to get it must wage war against the birds, when they are plenty, as otherwise they will not get the grapes.

Autuchon—A beautiful white grape, nearly as good as Golden Chasselas. Bunch long, rather loose, berry medium size, translucent when ripe, vine vigorous, healthy and hardy.

Othello—A large, black grape, bunches large, berry oval, eats about midway between our best native and a Black Hamburg, a late variety, and in my opinion quite promising.

Coraucoia—Another of Arnold's, as the three preceding also are; pleased me very much last season, but this year the birds did not leave me a taste of them, as they ate them all before ripe.

HOW TO KEEP THE CHILDREN AT HOME.—If you wish to make your children satisfied with home and country life make it attractive and pleasant by surrounding it with fruits and flowers, and supplying the table with the delicious fruits of the seasons.—*Small Fruit Recorder*.

Flowers in the Window.

With the return of winter will come the desire to have a few flowers in the window, something bright and beautiful to look at, when all without looks cold, and bleak, and dreary. To help our readers in the pleasant task of caring for the plants in the window, and to guide them in the selection of those that are of easy culture and likely to afford them the most pleasure, we now present a few suggestions.

Select, if possible, an east or south window. Our days are short, plants need light, and as we can give them at best only a few hours of light, it is important that there should be as much of brightness and warmth in it as we can furnish. If an east or south window cannot be had, then a west window is better than a north.

The room should be one where the night temperature does not fall below 40°, and, if possible, is not maintained much above 70° by day; also, it should be one not usually occupied by the family in the evening, for at night we draw the curtains, stir up the fire, light the lamps or the gas, and increase the temperature several degrees above the average temperature of the day. But plants require that when the daylight fades the temperature should decline. Night is their time for rest, but they cannot rest if the temperature be as high or higher than it was during the day. The effect is similar to that produced upon a human being by depriving him of his wonted sleep.

The room should not be one that is heated by a furnace; the air from it is apt to be too dry and too hot. If it must be heated by a furnace, set a pail of water in the register, and at night shut off the heat so that the temperature may fall gradually to about 45° before morning. Again, gas-lighted rooms are bad for plants. Enough gas escapes in the evening, unconsumed, though the flame seem never so perfect, to kill delicate plants, and to injure materially the most robust. If they can not be kept out of such an atmosphere, by closing a glazed door or sash so as to shut them out from the air of the room, then better not try to keep plants in the window at all.

Arrangements should be made for giving the plants fresh air whenever practicable. The most convenient way is to have the upper sash moveable, and let it down at the top, taking care that the plants do not stand in a draught of cold air, and admitting it in quantity proportioned to the weather outside; when it is very cold and frosty, very little or none at all, and more when the weather is moderate.

The leaves of plants need washing in order to remove the dust that gathers on them and fills up the pores. Geraniums, and like hairy and soft leaved plants, are best washed by taking them to the sink, and syringing them thoroughly through a fine rose. Glossy leaved plants, such as Camellias, require to