

## Roses

A. H. Ewing, Woodstock, Ontario

THE roses in the accompanying illustration were planted three years ago and came from Dickson's, of Belfast. They are mostly budded on the seedling briar but some on the Manetti stock. Very few have had to be replaced. Her Majesty grew very vigorously the first year and gave a few beautiful blooms, but the three plants have since all died. Other kinds—hybrid tea and hybrid perpetual, including Frau Carl Druschki—have done very well, last year (1908) being the best year so far.

The bed in which they are planted was dug out to a depth of about two feet and filled in with good heavy clay loam with plenty of old barnyard manure and some coarse bone meal. It has had heavy coats of manure spread over late

done as the weak wood is always cut out and the strong wood cut down to two, three or four eyes at the most.

Whilst on the subject of roses, let me recommend *Rosa rugosa* as a shrub for

everybody's garden, large or small (there are two or three back of the rose bed illustrated, one only being visible). It makes a beautiful well-shaped bush, is in flower nearly the whole summer, and is free from insect attacks. The bright red haws are also very pretty in the fall and early winter.

## The Gladiolus: Its Care and Usefulness

James E. Orr, Tempo, Ontario

PLANT gladiolus bulbs or corms in the warm earth the first of May, placing them in a trench six inches deep where they will be exposed to plenty of sun, rain and others of nature's benefactors. Ten inches apart is the proper distance. Cover over firmly and keep well hoed and weeded, which is not

Gladioli are the only things that grow in the vegetable kingdom, that I know of, that have not got an enemy in some fly, bug or worm to destroy them, they alone appearing to grow unharmed by anything.

The gladiolus should be extensively grown. No flower as easily managed will repay so abundantly in blooms. Among all the flowers none is so appropriate for the sick room. Their bright and cheerful colors help wonderfully to refresh the wearied invalid, and as the gladiolus has no perfume they never become oppressive to the most sensitive as many fragrant flowers do.

The bloom on a spike of gladiolus never becomes detached, and so does not litter up the most expensive carpet, as many other flowers when in bouquets do.

If spikes of the gladiolus are cut when the lower blooms are opening, all the upper ones will come to perfection. They will remain in bloom longer than any other summer flowers,—three weeks or more, and still they are presentable, only growing a trifle lighter in color as they remain longer indoors.

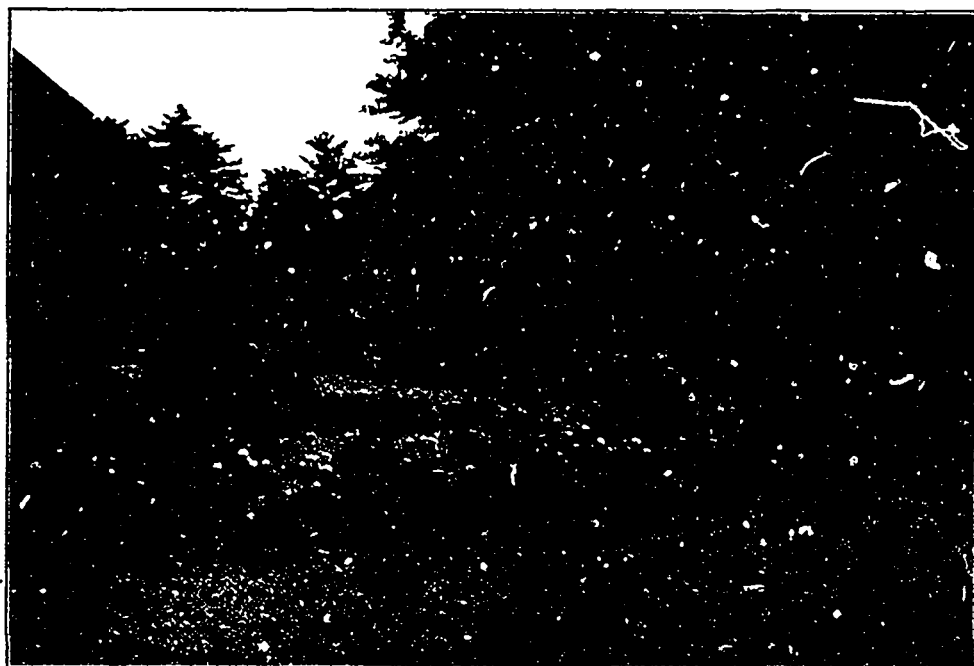
In making bouquets let each spike be fully seen. Use some light growing foliage at the bottom of the bouquet, as it adds to the appearance, and harmonizes nicely with the brighter colors. Such a bouquet will produce a smile on the most careless face, and sparkle the eye of the dullest observer, and bring a "thank you" from the most callous soul.

### Trouble with Callas

My calla leaves are withering at the tips. The plants are potted in good soil, and get plenty of moisture. They are potted in six and seven-inch pots; were bulbs last fall.—B. K. R., Berlin, Ont.

The dry atmosphere of the house or gas fumes is probably the cause of the calla leaves withering at the tips. The best preventive is to sponge the leaves with tepid water occasionally, about once a week. Keep the roots well moistened, but not soddened. If, as you say, they are in good soil, the dry atmosphere of the house or gas fumes is in all probability the cause of the trouble, and sponging with water will prevent this to a certain extent.

Watch the weeds or they will beat you.



A Bed of Roses at "Altadore," Woodstock, Ontario

in every fall since, which has been left on the surface during the next summer. By May or June, the manure is quite friable and the bed can be kept quite tidy and not at all unsightly or unpleasant. My experience in this place is that roses do better that way, producing stronger growth and better and more bloom. This bed is in the full sun and fortunately close to a hydrant where it can easily get frequent strong hosing. Insecticides have never been used on it.

As a winter protection, brush—evergreens and otherwise—has been put between and over the bushes, bending them down. In former years, when the winters have been much colder than this last one, this covering has answered the purpose well, but this spring on taking off the brush I noticed that the growth of the roses was black much farther down than usual. However, I do not anticipate that any real harm has been

a difficult matter to do, as they will soon shoot up fast growing spikes, which are easily distinguished from weeds.

For many years I have opened two furrows with the plow and here placed the bulbs and, with little care, have gathered in July, August, September and October armsful of bloom, gorgeous in color, lasting in endurance, cleanest of all flowers, treasured by the sick and admired by everybody. Every year I add a few of the newer sorts to my collection, so that new interest is added to "Gladiolus Avenue" during the blooming season.

The bulbs of the gladiolus increase rapidly. On an average they will double yearly, so that a new beginner soon has a supply on hand. A few newer varieties may be added as one's fancy dictates. In November, the bulbs should be harvested and left exposed to the sun until somewhat dried, then stored beyond frost for the winter.