

Work in the Garden.

Home Rose Culture.

NOTWITHSTANDING the enormous quantities of roses sold in city markets, and the fact that growers of roses enter almost entirely to city trade, the fact remains that nowhere is the rose so loved, admired and appreciated as on the farm. If it be also true that nowhere is it so poorly grown, it is never for lack of love, but chiefly for lack of understanding as to its needs.

Nowhere should roses be so well grown as on a farm. The farm has usually the deep and fertile soil in its long cultivated garden; it has both variety and wealth of fertilizer; it has usually a wealth of tools. Now rich soil, proper setting and good cultivation, with a well-considered selection of varieties, are absolutely all that is needed to produce magnificent roses almost anywhere. In order that the principle of rose culture may become but as *a b c* to us, we need only to look at the habits of the rose. Its roots are few and hard and long. It has not the many fibrous feeding mouths of the pansy, for instance. Unless its roots can penetrate deeply, it must surely receive death, or great injury, from heat and drought. The best rose growers prepare the soil by what is known as trenching. It is virtually the same as subsoiling; that is, the soil is fined two spade lengths deep. But in order not to bring all the lower stratum to the surface, the first layer is thrown off, the second one spaded as usual, and the first one thrown back on top of all. It is called trenching, because, instead of doing the whole bed at once, the top soil is

first thrown off, making a trench the width of the spade. The bottom of this trench is then spaded, and the top soil from the second adjoining is thrown over on to it, and the process is repeated. The planting of the bushes needs a word, as, if not set rather deep, and the soil well firmed about them, the wiry roots are liable to be dried up. Pruning of ordinary bush forms needs no very great attention—beyond cutting out small and puny-looking shoots, and old shoots as the bushes gain age—provided the blossoms are freely cut with pretty good stems. From the varieties now at command, an excellent selection will be Mrs. John Laing, Clothilde Soupert, Margaret Dickson, Paul Neyron and Jackqueminot. All these are hybrid perpetuals except Soupert, a hybrid polyantha, hardy and very vigorous. Crimson Rambler is one of the very few roses which bears out all that was said of it in the first laudatory advertisements. It blooms, however, but once during the season. A single blossom, seen alone, would attract small attention in these days of fine roses, but in general effect it is very fine.



BUNCH OF PRESIDENT CARNOT ROSES.

The latest introduction in this line is the hybrid tea rose President Carnot (*souvenir du Pres Carnot*), a bunch of which, much reduced in size, is shown in our engraving. The flowers are of a beautiful shell pink color and exquisitely shaped. It is recommended as equally adapted for forcing as well as for outdoor culture.

Peach trees do better when well cultivated.

The gooseberry flourishes best in deep moist, but not wet, soil.

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