



Three Gifts.

BY W. M. LETTS, IN THE "SPECTATOR,"
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"Courage, Love and Fun."—(George Wyndham's motto.)

Each day a beggarwoman at the portal
Of God's high house, by urgent need
emboldened,

I ask three gifts for you, my well-beloved,
Three gifts beyond the wealth of djinn or
mortal.

Courage to stand now all the earth seems
quaking

And wise men grow perplexed and king-
doms totter,

Now faith is sifted, old tradition tattered,
A broken world in need of each man's
making.

Love that shall find your kith in friend
and stranger,

Brother in man and beast, in saint and
sinner,

And cleanse your heart of grudge or pride
or grievance,

Bidding you seek Christ in an asses'
manger:

Fun ever quick to kindly speech and
laughter,

Swift with a jest the day your heart is
breaking,

Fun that shall cheer dull years and send
you whistling

Clear-eyed and cool to meet the brave
Hereafter.

With these you shall not need men's
praise or pity,

Defeat shall brace you, conquest make
you humble;

So you shall fight and march and sing till
moonrise

Lights up the walls of the Celestial City.

For the Rose Lover.

WHO does not love roses?—from the old-fashioned tiny pink rose of little perfume that grows ten feet high and is never troubled with an insect pest, through all the varieties to the highly-bred beauties that need much care and coddling but amply repay for all the pains taken with them. Among them all perhaps none is more lovable than the sweet old "cabbage" variety of grandmother's gardens, which bloomed beside the "old man" and "sweet Mary," and should not be allowed to become extinct, so beautiful is it in coloring and so daintily elusive of perfume.

Among the most satisfactory of the newer kinds are the hybrid perpetuals, hybrid teas and tea roses, all of which do best when planted in late fall; but many kinds may be set out in spring if secured early.

All roses like a rich, well-drained clay soil best, although the teas and hybrid teas do fairly well on a lighter soil. Choose a warm, sheltered, sunny situation, and if the drainage is not naturally good dig out to 2½ feet in depth, put in 6 inches of gravel, then fill in the soil. The latter should be enriched with well-rotted cow manure, black leaf mould or compost.

Purchase healthy 2-year-old bushes, grown out of doors by a reliable dealer. When they come sprinkle well with water and cover with a sack until you get time to set them out, which should be as soon as possible. If the bushes seem very dry, or it is not convenient or favorable to set them out for some days, dig a shallow trench and cover the roots with soil, watering them well. Several days left thus will do no harm.

When planting spread the roots out nicely, keeping them free from contact with manure, cover with fine soil, fill in and firm down, watering sufficiently. Budded stock should be placed with the

point of budding 3 inches below the surface.

If the growth is rapid and the surface of the soil is kept constantly cultivated to keep up a dust mulch, insects will be less likely to do harm. If aphids appear sprinkle with tobacco dust and spray afterwards with water. Preventive spraying should be done in late fall, winter and spring, while growth is dormant. The less the bushes are sprayed in the growing season the better. Preventive spraying should be done with rose Bordeaux, to which, for the early spring spraying, a little arsenate of lead

soap dissolved in 2 gals. hot water. Strain and apply to leaves. The soap will help to rout aphids. Apply twice during the growing season. (1) After the leaves are well unfolded in spring, and (2) after the first blooming season. If mildewed spots appear cut off the affected parts and burn them. A remedy sometimes found effective is to apply by a powder bellows a mixture of one-third scot and two-thirds flowers of sulphur.

Do not sprinkle rose bushes in the evening, as this may cause mildew; also do not mulch with fresh manure. Depend, rather on the dust mulch.

cut flowers. Late in fall cut out all weak growth and cut back the canes so that not too much bush will be left to be battered about by winter winds. Hybrid perpetual roses need more cutting back than hybrid teas, while climbers need very little cutting back at all.

In a very severe climate bushes may be protected by sacking, crates of leaves, etc., put on in early winter.

Shrubs for the Farm Home

WHILE trees are needed for the skyline, and vines to form a softening drapery for the home, shrubs are necessary for the ground-line, to form a sort of connecting link between the trees and the ground, the house and the ground.

Often they are very effective when banked in front of trees, and always they are needed about the foundations of the house, although here they must not be placed in a solid, compact row. The house must not look as if it were rising from a wreath of shrubbery.

For corners where tall shrubbery is needed, to screen the chicken or laundry yard, or to hide ugly fences, nothing can be better than the lilacs and so-called "mock orange" or "syringa," which is not a syringa at all. To keep up a succession of bloom you can depend upon forsythia or golden bells (yellow) which blooms in April; Japonica or Japanese quince, which follows closely in early May, with its rosy red blossoms; the deutzias and spirea van Houttei, with beautiful white flowers; the lilacs and mock orange; the altheas, pink or white, which bloom in August; the garden hydrangea with its great panicles of flowers which come about the first of August and last for six weeks; and the barberries and red-stemmed dogwoods which carry color right into the winter. Nor would anyone who knows them miss the dainty pink flowering almond, and the beautiful, feathery smoke tree. Among evergreen shrubs, whose foliage is beautiful all the year around, is the Japanese holly, which grows about 4 feet high.

To be successful with shrubs you must take great pains at first. The ground should be rich and well-drained. If not naturally so a deep root-bed should be dug out, drainage material (gravel) put in the bottom for several inches, and the whole filled in with soil enriched with manure rotted until it is resolved almost into a black mould. Soil from the edge of the barnyard is usually good. At no time should raw manure be permitted to touch the roots, as it burns the tiny rootlets.

When planting, some cut back the roots and tops a little. Later very little cutting back will be needed unless the growth should seem spindling, when it may be resorted to in early spring to induce a sturdier growth.

Shrubs should be let grow as naturally as possible. It will be necessary, of course, to cut out dead wood, and to prune out a little, or rub off young shoots, if the shrubs threaten to grow too thick; also lawless and unsightly branches may be cut off, so that the shrub will be kept graceful in form. Never prune them into stiff little trees or round balls; let the branches droop gracefully as they will.

There is one point about pruning, however, that must be remembered. Some shrubs, such as the forsythia, deutzia and spirea, blossom on the last year's wood. The best time, therefore, to cut these back, if necessary, is just after they have finished blossoming. Others, such as the viburnums and altheas, bloom on new growth; therefore, any cutting back that is done to them should be done in very early spring before growth starts.

It is well to keep in mind, nevertheless, that a pruning knife in the hands



Roses by the Bushel.

is added. To make rose Bordeaux dissolve 1 lb. sulphate of copper (blue vitriol) in 2 gals. hot water in an earthen vessel. Let stand over night, then strain through a cloth and keep in a well-corked glazed jug. Also dissolve 1 lb. fresh unslaked lime in 2 gals. cold water. Let stand over night, stir and strain through a cloth into another jug that can be tightly corked. When you want to spray shake the jugs, mix a quart of each and add ½ gal. water.

To prevent mildew spray with a mixture of ½ oz. sulphide of potassium dissolved and mixed with 1 oz. shavings of pure

During dry weather soak right down to the roots with water, and after the buds appear soak the roots occasionally with weak liquid manure. In early winter a mulch of rotted manure may be put over the roots, and dug in in spring. Leave only one bud to a shoot if fine blooms are desired.

If unnecessary shoots are rubbed off according as they appear, very little pruning will be needed except to cut out old useless wood. For summer and late fall blooms, cut back after the first blooming season. Sometimes this is done sufficiently by taking long stems with the



Pink Climbing Roses and White June Lilies.