

on the winter roses," serves to show that the culture of roses in Rome was carried to such perfection as to make the attempt of foreign competitors subject to ridicule, for he writes, "And thou, O Nile, must now yield to the fogs of Rome, send us thy harvests, and we will send thee roses." The Romans obtained roses and lilies in December by introducing to their plant houses tubes filled with hot water. The Romans whose profuse use of flowers subjected themselves to the reproof of their philosophers, considered the rose as an emblem of festivity. At a feast given by Cleopatra to Mark Antony she caused the rooms to be strewn with rose leaves to a considerable depth and spent a talent in procuring the requisite number. It was also customary for the wealthy to take their meals resting on rose leaves. It is related that Nero spent £20,000 on roses at one feast.

The rose was considered the emblem of prudence. When a rose was placed over the door of a room in which a Roman feast was held, whoever passed beneath it thereby incurred a solemn obligation not to reveal what was seen or heard, hence the term, "Sub Rosa," a term in use at the present time. Shakespeare, in his play, Henry 6th, 1st part 2-4, brings the rose into historical prominence by making a poetic reference to the commencement of the 30 years war in England, 1455-1485, known as the war of the Roses, between the houses of York and Lancaster.

Mr. Wm. Paul, in one of his books, records that in Hungary it is customary with ladies of rank to take bunches of rose buds of choice varieties and go into the fields and woods and bud the wild kinds which they encounter in their rambles, and it is said to be no uncommon thing to meet with the finest varieties blooming in most unfrequented places. Although I have condensed and omitted much I would like to



The Clematis.

The clematis here shown was photographed about the middle of June from a plant two years planted. The name has been lost, but as can be seen it is very early, and though the flowers are not so large as those of Clematis Henryii, it is as purely white, and late in July was making new growth and forming new flowerbuds, and a second crop of flowers was in sight that were only second to those shown in the photograph. There is no more desirable climber for the front of verandahs than the clematis. This vine is in the lovely garden of Mr. A. Alexander of Hamilton.

have written, I must quote a short poem by Margaret H. Burnett on the rose:

It is not stately, grand and strong
Like oak, which braves the winter's blast;
It yields no fruit to husbandman
When time of blossoming is past.
'Tis only beautiful; but so,
It fills its God's appointed place
And speaks His watchful love and care
To e'en the humblest of our race.

Some fill their lives with actions grand,
Some fight life's battles brave and true,
Some only quiet beauty show,
And only trifling duties do.
But like the Rose, they fill the place
Appointed by the Almighty one,
And faithful though, but in the least,
They at the end will hear "Well done."