

**LIST OF ROSES NOW IN
CULTIVATION AT CHATEAU
ELEONORE, CANNES, WITH
DESCRIPTIVE NOTES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649352456

List of Roses Now in Cultivation at Chateau Eléonore, Cannes, with Descriptive Notes by
Brougham & Vaux

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

BROUGHAM & VAUX

**LIST OF ROSES NOW IN
CULTIVATION AT CHATEAU
E_LÉONORE, CANNES, WITH
DESCRIPTIVE NOTES**

*

LIST OF ROSES

NOW IN CULTIVATION AT

CHATEAU ELÉONORE,
CANNES,

WITH DESCRIPTIVE NOTES.

Brougham & Vaux



LONDON :

JOHN & E. BUMPUS, LTD.

1898.

Jan. 1915

30017

MH

126.5

379V

TO

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS

THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G., ETC.

THIS OPUSCULUM IS,

BY KINDLY PERMISSION,

MOST GRATEFULLY DEDICATED.



THIS is in no sense intended as a treatise on Roses, a subject so frequently dealt with by many pens and tongues, that anything I could add would be but a repetition of what has been better said by others. My wish is briefly and without detail to describe under what conditions of life and surroundings the Rose is found at Cannes, the treatment it receives at our hands, and the repayment we obtain for our care and solicitude. Then follows a simple catalogue (bereft of botanical jargon) of the varieties now cultivated in this garden, to each one being appended a note, taken in almost every instance from observations on the spot, which I hope may present to the reader a faithful and clear delineation of the appearance, colour, general habits, and behaviour of the variety it attempts to describe. I shall be pleased and more than repaid should such information prove of service or interest to any Rose-grower.

The descriptions may be rejected by some as being too highly coloured, or not in harmony with the experience of English cultivators; but before the critic condemns them as unreliable, I would ask him to consider the climate and surroundings, and remember that our Roses rejoice here in a depth of soil altogether unknown in England, circumstances sufficient to account for a great difference in form, colour, and size. Many Roses, particularly the Tea-scented varieties, are so strengthened and beautified by the sunshine and diet obtained here, that thus embellished, they would hardly be recognised by their kinsfolk at home, many of whom, poor things, have, under the grey skies of England, to struggle for mere existence. As examples may be mentioned two of the most common and best known of the Tea Roses, viz., "Marie Van Houtte" and "Papa Gontier." There is in this garden a single plant of the former (vide illustration on page 25) seven or eight years old, having a circumference of no less than seventy feet, close to which is a "Papa Gontier" grown in cylindrical form, whose diameter is seven, and height nearly twenty-five, feet. It is difficult to exaggerate the beauty of these plants when in full bloom; and that such vigour, size, and magnificence are attainable can hardly be believed by those whose experience of the cultivation of Tea Roses has been confined to England.

Here we have a variety of soils—disintegrated gneiss or mica-schist (so beloved by the Mimosas, which when properly managed is highly fertile), stiff red earth

VI.

with affinity to clay, a rich loam of great depth, and a poorer loam mixed with sand. As will readily be guessed, it is the red earth and rich loam that the Roses love best, and that these are highly favourable cannot be doubted. The greedy Rose, however, does not care to live on soil alone, but requires artificial food, and that must be administered regularly and liberally before she can be induced to produce perfection of flowers or true vigour of growth. In planting it is good to give to each a liberal supply of fresh soil mixed with manure, and not allow grass or flowering plants to be in the immediate vicinity; these, acting as leeches, draw from the ground the very ingredients that are required for the life-blood of the Rose. Too much shelter is not necessary, but rather hurtful; it is a free circulation of air with abundance of sunlight that are required to insure general prosperity and the avoidance of mildew. Of course it is not desirable that trees should grow too near the Rose plantations, but I hardly think the shade or even drip from their branches does so much harm in this country as in England; the finest "Duc de Magenta" of my acquaintance, splendid both as regards growth and number and size of its flowers, is trained up an olive tree.

Roses do well here on their own roots, whether as standards, bushes, or trees, if they are worked, that is budded or grafted, on another stock, "Indica Major" is the popular favourite, proved to be greatly superior to the well-known "Manetti," which often finds a difficulty in withstanding the heats of summer. The red Rose "Bobrinsky" (a hybrid of Tea and Ile Bourbon), "Souvenir de la Malmaison," and the Banksian group all make good stocks. The Hybrid Perpetuals are pruned in the middle of August, and Teas a month later, this being the season in which they are most at rest. Here the principal duty of the pruning knife is the excision of dead wood. The close pruning so beloved by English growers—indeed the dominant idea of many, who are not satisfied till they have reduced standards to the shape and appearance of walking-sticks, and as regards bushes leave nothing to be seen on the clean cultivated beds of soil but stools at regular distances—is a particular system of faith or worship we neither follow nor greatly admire; such unbelief has so far been productive of results that cannot be considered as unsatisfactory. In this country Nature is bountiful; it is wise, therefore, to allow Rose plants to follow, their own inclinations, rather than fashion them by artificial restraints to obey the cultivator's wishes. Keeping such sentiments in mind, we do not take the trouble to thin out buds in order to obtain more presentable flowers from those that are allowed to remain, but rely on the fact that the soil and climate, the effect of which is accentuated and

VII.

improved by the soup—*purée de vaches*—which we give, afford the Rose sufficient sap and strength to enable it to open and successfully bloom blossoms from all its buds.

In the Riviera, Roses, with some few exceptions, flower twice a year, from October to the middle of January, or even a month later should the winter be free of frost; but as they of necessity require rest, it is obvious that winter blooming unduly prolonged is not desirable, being a bad preparation for a fine output of flowers in the succeeding spring. This commences in the middle of March, continuing till the end of May, the month *par excellence* being April. During summer the plants enjoy their well-earned repose, excepting "Maréchal Niel" and some of the Noisettes, which make their growth during summer and early autumn. With few exceptions, of which "Souvenir de la Malmaison" is a conspicuous example, the flowers of spring are larger and of finer quality than those of autumn and winter, at which seasons they are heavily handicapped by the long nights and copious dews, which prevent their perfect opening and often cause the larger and more fleshy buds to damp off. Neither is it all plain-sailing in spring, when we have to contend against two serious persecutors, each producing loss and disappointment—too much sun, and the ravages of insects.

An excess of brilliant sun with an occasional shower of rain is the most severe ordeal for trying the colour of a Rose; exposed to such a trial the best are apt to lose their brilliancy and purity, the delicate *nuances* by which alone many varieties can be distinguished disappear, flowers become faded, and many sorts which under more favourable conditions of sunlight, heat, and moisture are quite distinct become so much alike that they are practically identical in every respect save name. Of all insects the rose beetle (*Melolontha Subspinosa*) is the most injurious. Brown, half an inch long, and furnished with wings, he arrives and disappears with the Rose, apparently having no other mission in life but to burrow in, eat, and destroy the finest blooms. No mean judge, he attacks for choice the light-coloured and more delicate Teas, being less frequently found in dark coloured varieties or in those having a strong perfume. Equally destructive is he among the light coloured Peonies.

We find lean-to houses of glass, supplied with artificial heat, quite successful for the production of an abundance of blooms during the blank period between the end of autumn and commencement of spring flowering. The