

**COMMERCIAL ROSE CULTURE,
UNDER GLASS AND OUTDOORS:
A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO MODERN
METHODS OF GROWING THE
ROSE FOR MARKET PURPOSES**

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Commercial Rose Culture, under Glass and Outdoors: A Practical Guide to Modern Methods of Growing the Rose for Market Purposes by Eber Holmes

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EBER HOLMES

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ROSE FOR MARKET PURPOSES**



JOHN COOK OF BALTIMORE

COMMERCIAL
ROSE CULTURE

UNDER GLASS AND OUTDOORS

A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO MODERN METHODS
OF GROWING THE ROSE FOR
MARKET PURPOSES

ILLUSTRATED

BY EBER HOLMES

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1911.

TO
JOHN COOK

BALTIMORE, MD.

This work is respectfully dedicated

To him the rosarians of America are indebted for the dissemination of much knowledge concerning the Rose as adapted to American culture, and its commercial possibilities. To him, also, we are indebted for many varieties resulting from his skill and years of patient labor and experiment in hybridization, among them, *Souvenir of Wootten*, the first Hybrid Tea Rose raised in America, *Marion Dingee*, *Annie Cook*, *Mrs. Robert Garrett*, *Baltimore*, *Enchanter*, *Cardinal*, *Madonna*, *My Maryland*, and *Radiance*, some of which have become staples in the underglass production of Roses for the requirements of the great flower markets. The liberality with which his knowledge, obtained at the expense of countless experiments and failures, has always been placed at the service of others, has endeared him to all followers of his craft, one which, more than any other, demands the acme of patience and self-sacrifice in order to accomplish lasting results.

“The life so short, the craft so long to learn.”

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commencing on page 161.

INTRODUCTION

THIS little book has been published in response to numerous requests for an uptodate work on commercial Rose culture. It will not delve into the ancient history of the Rose or indulge in long descriptions and classifications of varieties. These points have been well covered by previous writers. The author will endeavor to point out to the beginner, the small grower, or the florist with a retail trade, who grows a few Roses with his general stock, the best way to be successful in growing good Roses under glass and outdoors. There is hard work in quantity and much expense in modern Rose growing, but the pleasure and profit derived from the same afford ample compensation.

The magnitude of the business, as compared with its status of twenty-five years ago, is surprising. Parsons, in his book on the Rose, published in 1881, on page 71, speaking of the extravagance of Nero in spending \$100,000 for Roses for one feast, says: "It would be no easy matter, even at the present period of abundant cultivation of Roses, to obtain from all the nurseries of England, France and America together, Roses sufficient to amount to so large a sum." Compare these words with present day facts, when there are probably as many Roses handled in any one of our largest cities, at every holiday, as were ever seen by Nero at any of his feasts!

The question was asked me, a few months ago, "Why is Rose growing in the hands of a few men, while Carnations are tried and grown (often successfully) by every beginner in the florist's business?" The reply generally given to this question is that Roses require more care, are more liable to diseases and pests likely to cause failure, that a night man must be kept by the Rose grower, and that the general expense is such as to bar out the man of limited means. While this may be partly

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