

## THE NAMING OF FLOWERS

I always think what an enjoyable time the horticulturist must have naming new sorts of flowers, and how they must delight in compiling their catalogues.

How fortunate too are all the people who are so lucky as to have flowers called after them. What could be more pleasing, for instance, than for Mrs Mark to go down to posterity remembered by a beautiful gladiolus, called after her, "Mrs Mark's Memory"?

It is a curious thing that in catalogues the names of roses always fit the people after whom they have been named.

There is Lady Sylvia, "dainty and fragrant, pink blushing to apricot", just as she should be.

On the other hand Lady Forteviot is, as she *sounds* to be, "robust, golden yellow deepening to rich apricot." Lady Forteviot is a strong rose, a rose of character; it is not at all surprising to learn that she is "mildew-resisting".

Emma Wright also is mildew-resisting. Emma has a homely practical name, and we understand how stalwartly she would resist attacks from mildew.

We are not surprised either to find that Christopher Stone is "Vigorous and upright in growth", but we are sad to see that George Dickson mildews badly, and that he is a vivid blackish crimson.

On the other hand, the Rev F. Page Roberts is, though sometimes shaded, very fragrant, and Mr W.E.Chaplin is "of perfect shape".

The ladies Poulsen are all bright scarlet; Karen, one learns, is not quite as tall as Kirsten and Else; as for Little Dorrit, she is scented and does not sport; she is evidently prim and proper.

But who was the Village Maid, whose rose is pale with darker stripes, and who, too, were the Great and Small maidens who blushed?

How suitable it is that Cardinal Richelieu should be deep purple crimson---and double!

How right too, that Josephine, Napoleon's empress, who had the most superb collection of roses in the world at Malmaison, is left to us now in "Souvenir de Malmaison", a rose that has—"clear flesh; large, is superb in a hot season, and very fragrant".