

have originated by bud-variation.³⁸ The common double moss-rose was imported into England from Italy about the year 1735.³⁹ Its origin is unknown, but from analogy it probably arose from the Provence rose (*R. centifolia*) by bud-variation; for the branches of the common moss-rose have several times been known to produce Provence roses, wholly or partially destitute of moss: I have seen one such instance, and several others have been recorded.⁴⁰ Mr. Rivers also informs me that he raised two or three roses of the Provence class from seed of the old single moss-rose;⁴¹ and this latter kind was produced in 1807 by bud-variation from the common moss-rose. The white moss-rose was also produced in 1788 by an offset from the common red moss-rose: it was at first pale blush-coloured, but became white by continued budding. On cutting down the shoots which had produced this white moss-rose, two weak shoots were thrown up, and buds from these yielded the beautiful striped moss-rose. The common moss-rose has yielded by bud-variation, besides the old single red moss-rose, the old scarlet semi-double moss-rose, and the sage-leaf moss-rose, which "has a delicate shell-like form, and is of a beautiful blush colour; it is now (1852) nearly extinct."⁴² A white moss-rose has been seen to bear a flower half white and half pink.⁴³ Although several moss-roses have thus certainly arisen by bud-variation, the greater number probably owe their origin to seed of moss-roses. For Mr. Rivers informs me that his seedlings from the old single moss-rose almost always produced moss-roses; and the old single moss-rose was, as we have seen, the product by bud-variation of the double moss-rose originally imported from Italy. That the original moss-rose was the product of bud-variation is probable, from the facts above given and from the de Meaux moss-rose (also a variety of *R. centifolia*)⁴⁴ having appeared as a sporting branch on the common rose de Meaux. Prof. Caspary has carefully described⁴⁵ the case of a six-year-old white moss-rose, which sent up several suckers, one of which was thorny, and produced red flowers, destitute of moss, exactly like those of the Provence rose (*R. centifolia*): another shoot bore both kinds of flowers, and in addition longitudinally striped flowers. As this white moss-rose had been grafted on the Provence rose, Prof. Caspary attributes the above

³⁸ T. Rivers, 'Rose Amateur's Guide,' 1837, p. 4.

³⁹ Mr. Shailer, quoted in 'Gardener's Chron.,' 1848, p. 759.

⁴⁰ 'Transact. Hort. Soc.,' vol. iv. 1822, p. 137; 'Gard. Chron.,' 1842, p. 422.

⁴¹ See also Loudon's 'Arboretum,' vol. ii. p. 780.

⁴² All these statements on the origin of the several varieties of the moss-rose are given on the authority

of Mr. Shailer, who, together with his father, was concerned in their original propagation. See 'Gard. Chron.,' 1852, p. 759.

⁴³ 'Gard. Chron.,' 1845, p. 564.

⁴⁴ 'Transact. Hort. Soc.,' vol. ii. p. 242.

⁴⁵ 'Schriften der Phys. Oekon. Gesell. zu Königsberg,' Feb. 3, 1865, s. 4. See also Dr. Caspary's paper in 'Transactions of the Hort. Congress of Amsterdam,' 1865.