

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



62167  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
LIBRARY  
Washington, D.C.

CATALOGUE 1906  
OF  
GROFF'S NEW  
HYBRID GLADIOLI



**ARTHUR COWEE**

MEADOWVALE FARM  
BERLIN, N. Y. U. S. A.



THE GROWER, MR. ARTHUR COWEE

*Special Annual Catalogue*

*Groff's New Hybrid*

**GLADIOLI**



*Awarded the Grand Prize at the World's Fair, St. Louis, 1904*

*Winners of Gold Medal and Thirteen First Prizes,  
Pan-American Exposition, 1901*

*Other Varieties of Domestic and Foreign Origin  
of Acknowledged Merit*

*Selected and  
Grown by*

*Arthur Cowee, Berlin, N. Y.*

MEADOWVALE FARM

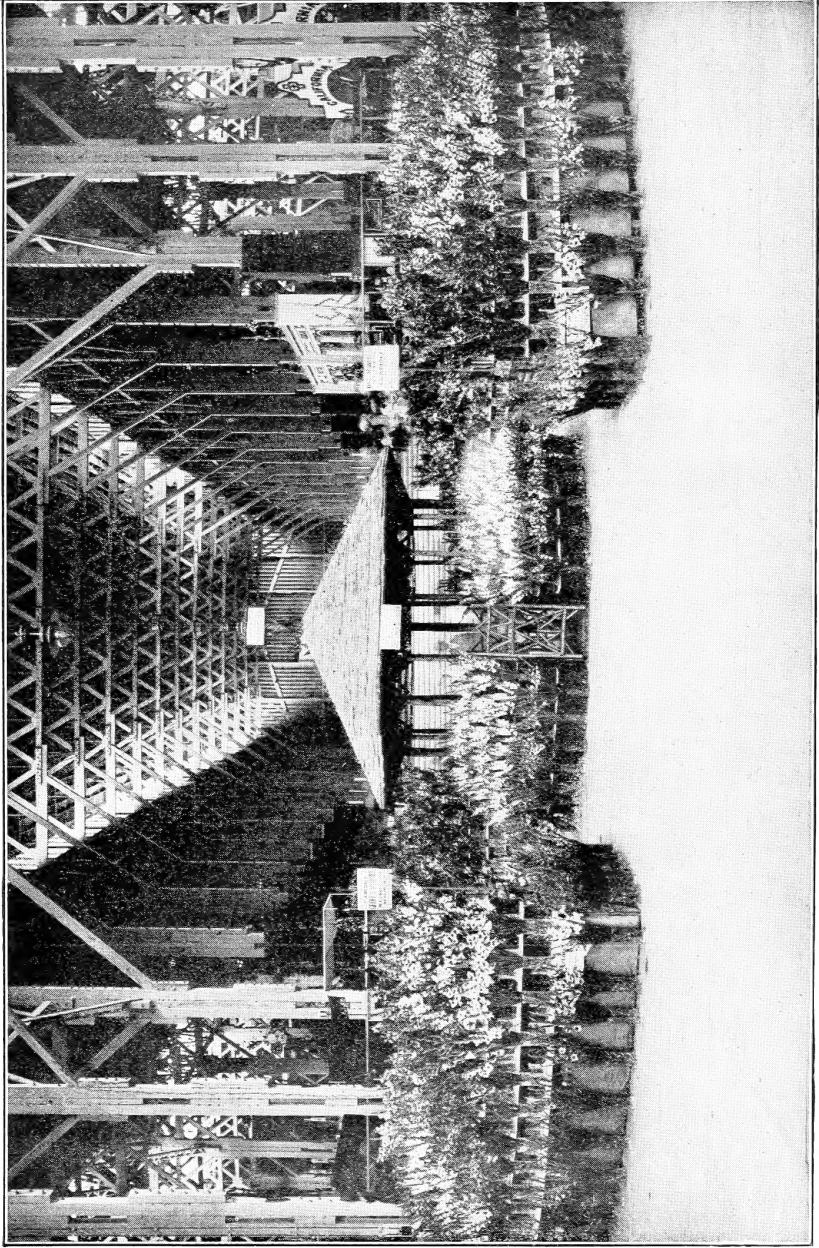
I publish a few of the many reports received from purchasers, more to illustrate that my stock will give satisfaction in almost any climate, rather than to demonstrate the superior quality of my product.

Many of my correspondents are already inquiring: "What have you for 1906, which is new?" expecting, as is the case with most catalogues, to see some novelty listed each year.

Now, in answer to this question, I can say that I have nothing new to offer, and I can also truthfully say that I have many new varieties to offer.

Let me explain, that while I shall not catalogue any new sections, collections or mixtures for 1906, there are yet plenty of new varieties in every collection and mixture catalogued which have not been seen by the largest purchaser and from which one could purchase for several years and yet secure few duplicates.

Just conceive of over 15,000 different varieties of merit which are contained in my stock, and you will realize the truth of this statement. I am much opposed to the habit of exaggeration in order to influence purchasers and in this regard may be too cautious in my statements, descriptions, etc., however I am better pleased to accept the healthy and permanent growth which my industry shows, with customers more than satisfied, than to build up a business of larger proportions by the aid of deceived and dissatisfied patrons.



MY GLADIOLUS EXHIBIT, WORLD'S FAIR, ST. LOUIS, MO., DURING AUGUST, SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER, 1904

# PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION

BUFFALO · NEW YORK · A.D. 1901



The Directors, on the  
recommendation of the Superior Jury,  
confer their award of highest merit

A GOLD MEDAL

on *W. H. Jeff.*  
for *Quiches* —

*Wm. H. Latham*  
President  
*Edwin Stearns*  
Secretary



*W. H. Latham*  
Director General  
*Wm. S. Hutchins*  
Superintendent of Awards

Copyright, 1901, W. H. Latham



## THE GLADIOLUS.

---

A search, be it ever so painstaking and complete, of the floral kingdom, will discover no flower of such easy culture, embracing the great range of color with endless combinations and variety, to equal the Gladiolus. Although called the people's flower, it to-day is practically unknown to both the amateur and average grower, and I claim for the newer hybrids greater beauty and more exquisite coloring than in any other garden ornament. Even the orchids failed to equal it, excepting in durability as a cut flower, and here the Gladiolus excels all others.

For the best results, cut the spike when the first flower opens and bloom in the house. This treatment is also beneficial to the bulb.

Varieties of the Gladiolus are now numbered by thousands, but comparatively few possess sufficient vitality to reproduce characteristic flowers; the same may be said of self-fertilized seedlings. This makes my selected collections of special value and advantage to the buyer, and not afforded by any other grower. The process of selection also assures the best possible results in the hybridized seedlings listed herein.

In this catalogue is presented to the progressive amateur, as well as the scientist, the most valuable varieties, collections and mixtures offered in the world. They are selected with the view of giving the critical grower unequalled value and satisfaction.

The only bulbs, blooming size, sent out are first quality old, and strong bulblet grown. The latter are the best value and produce the finest flowers this season and next. These and smaller sizes are kept for my own growing, in preference to the largest matured corms. No cull old bulbs are sent out at any price—they never give satisfaction.

The brief cultural instructions condensed herein are sufficient for general use. Special conditions of soil and climate should be made the subject of correspondence.

Gold Medal and Silver Trophy Strain section three now in full bloom; have given them the first row with eight rows of Gandavensis, Lemoine, Childsi and Nanceianus back of them, the colors of the others only helping to set off the marvellous beauty and colorings of your Strain. They are all you claim for them.

Wisconsin, Aug. 14th, 1903.

MR. A. L———.

\* \* \* \* \*

Last year I saw your exhibit of Gladioli at the Wethersfield Grange Fair. I cannot find words that will fairly describe my appreciation of the most beautiful and rare display of blossoms. This Spring I had a longing for some bulbs which would produce such flowers as you displayed, but in the absence of your catalogue (which I misplaced) I turned to one which I had containing Childsi varieties with long names and longer and alluring descriptions of the wonderful markings and colors of the bloom. I could hardly wait for the first blooms, which opened in time but were a great disappointment, but they were better than I had had before. I believe that the bulbs which you offer will give me greater satisfaction and would be pleased to have your catalogue for next season.

Connecticut, Oct. 5th, 1903.

MR. A. M———.

\* \* \* \* \*

I wish to tell you that it has never been my privilege to see Gladioli in all my experience like those grown from bulbs you sent me last spring. They were extremely large and handsome in form and color.

Massachusetts, Nov. 23rd, 1903.

REV. J. A. L———.

\* \* \* \* \*

I have flowered my Gladioli which I purchased of you and would say, they were very satisfactory; by far the best I have ever grown.

Massachusetts, Sept. 28th, 1903.

EDWARD I. L———.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Gladiolus bulbs I received from you this Spring were the finest I ever saw and I have seen a great many.. Yours cannot be beaten, they are the finest in America; everybody has admired them and people passing my garden say they never saw such fine varieties, and I thank you for sending me such a fine collection. I will give you another order for next year.

New York, Sept. 21st, 1903.

MR. K. H. K———.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Gladioli you sent me last spring have given the greatest satisfaction. The blue ones have been admired by every one who saw them. (Buffalo Mixture, Groff's Hybrids and Midway Collection).

Connecticut, Sept. 22d 1903.

MR. S. L. G———.

## 1904—NOVELTY—1906

### WORLD'S FAIR COLLECTION OF GROFF'S NEW AND RARE GLADIOLI.

This new collection is prepared from high-class novelties of recent production, and a few meritorious named varieties of late European introduction. It contains only a few hundred varieties specially selected from the cream of high quality and is prepared to meet the demand for a limited number of extra choice types rather than a collection of great range in variety like the Gold Medal Collection which contains over ten thousand varieties.

The shades of red, scarlet, crimson, cerise, yellow, blue and light colors are of the highest order and the purest quality. The flowers are of exceptional size and beauty.

Price per 100, \$20.00. 25 at 100 rate.

#### THE GOLD MEDAL COLLECTION.

#### GROFF'S EXTRA SELECT PAN-AMERICAN EXPOSITION COLLECTION

This collection is made up from the choice, new varieties exhibited at Buffalo in 1901, and contains varieties of such high proven quality that no grower, however critical, can wish for better value.

In its preparation, over 600 named varieties have been discarded, and every desirable section known is represented—Gandavensis, Lemoine, Nan-ceanus, Blues, and New Hybrids.

In this collection the Whites, Lights, and Yellow shades are of the purest colors obtainable, relieved in many varieties by stains and blotches of most intense and decided contrast.

The Pinks, Reds, Scarlets, Crimson, and Cerise shades are of the highest quality, with flowers of the largest size and greatest perfection.

The New Blues, including tints of Lilac, Heliotrope, and Clematis, were never before offered in mixture.

The flowers are of the largest size in their respective types, the spikes of correct form, with plants of exceptional vigor and vitality.

This new collection is the best and latest product of years of costly effort and the result of scientific hybridization from the most valuable material the world has known. It is prepared specially with the view of providing the amateur with a typical collection of the Modern Gladiolus. No such was ever before offered, and no better value can be desired.

Offered in lots of 25, 50, 75 or 100 corms, or upwards. Every collection separately prepared. So great is the diversity of this excellent collection that the purchasers of 1,000 corms will get few duplicates.

Price per 100, \$12.00. 25 at 100 rate.

While the corms were as you stated, small, they all bloomed. They were not only entirely new varieties to me, but also very beautiful. The individual blossoms on the stalks were large, and although the season being rainy and dark, was not favorable, still I had entirely satisfactory results.

New York, Sept., 1902.

L. D. C———.

\* \* \* \* \*

I am delighted with the Gladioli bulbs, Gold Medal and Silver Trophy Strain which I purchased of you in May. They blossomed finely the last of August, and were exquisitely beautiful, their rich tints rivalling orchids. The blossoms excited the admiration of all who saw them.

I was awarded a special prize for them at our County Fair.

New York, Oct., 1902.

IDA M. B———.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Gladioli I received from you were the finest I have ever seen, they grew so strong and increased wonderfully.

New York, Nov. 12th, 1903.

F. A. D———.

\* \* \* \* \*

Some months since you sent me a package of your Gladioli. They have been, and part now are in bloom and are indeed remarkably fine. There are a few of extraordinary beauty and elegance of color. As I wrote you I have been a grower of Gladioli for many years and have had many fine flowers, but yours are far superior.

Indiana, Aug. 24th, 1903.

J. P. B———.

\* \* \* \* \*

My stock all grew splendidly and when the flowers came I felt well repaid for the cost of the bulbs. No one in this vicinity had seen a blue Gladiolus, and my row of 100 blues attracted much attention. I am much obliged to you for supplying me with such fine stock of my favorite flower.

Massachusetts, Nov. 6th, 1903.

E. R. C———, Jr.

\* \* \* \* \*

My Gladioli were a triumphant success and I want now to engage for next year . . . . . bulbs from your Gold Medal Collection, sections two and three; also I want . . . . . of your Special Selections.

Pennsylvania, Sept. 23d, 1903.

MISS M. L. D———.

\* \* \* \* \*

I have seen here this summer in a small garden belonging to my friend, Miss ——, the best and most varied collection of Gladioli I have ever seen. She said she secured the bulbs from you and I write to ask you to send me your catalogue.

Long Island, Sept. 26th, 1903.

MR. W. H. P———.

# THE GOLD MEDAL COLLECTION.

## IN COLOR SECTIONS.

These special selected collections of New Hybrids are prepared from the cream of the world's named introductions, in Gandavensis, Lemoine and Nanceianus after discarding over 600 named varieties, and some also include choice new tested seedlings of equal or greater merit.

1—SELECTED NEW DARK HYBRIDS. All shades and combinations of red, scarlet, and crimson, of highest quality.

Per 100, - - - - - \$10.00.

2—SELECTED NEW WHITE, LIGHT AND YELLOW HYBRIDS. No equal value offered elsewhere or otherwise obtainable.

Per 100, - - - - - \$12.00.

3—SELECTED NEW BLUE HYBRIDS. Not offered elsewhere in the world (no smoky or slate blues).

Per 100, - - - - - \$15.00.

Large blooming bulbs, the only size offered.

25 at 100 rate.



# THE SILVER TROPHY STRAIN.

## GROFF'S "WORLD'S BEST" NEW HYBRID SEEDLINGS.

1—NEWEST REDS, SCARLETS, AND CRIMSONS. The world's commercial strains, offer few equal and none better (they should be largely planted).

Per 100, - - - - - \$3.00.

2—NEW WHITE, LIGHT, AND YELLOW. All shades of white, cream, and yellow, in many combinations, relieved by stains and blotches of rich colors in most pleasing contrasts.

Per 100, - - - - - \$4.00.

3—RARE BLUES, IN CLEMATIS, LILAC, AND HELIOTROPE SHADES. New Hybrids of Papilio Major, practically unknown. No such seedlings offered elsewhere in the world.

Per 100, - - - - - \$5.00.

Large blooming bulbs, the only size offered. Possible variation in colors as above classified, due to out-crosses, will be covered by extra count in filling orders.

25 at 100 rate.

—— I can assure you they are one of the handsomest specimens which ever came to the Catskill Mountains, being admired by everybody, and you certainly deserve credit for your skill and art in producing these Gladioli. The different shades of color and the artistic designs upon them are beautiful. In looking at them, every minute you discover something different, and new in color. Only sorry to state that the pleasure to enjoy them was so short, as the season in the mountains this year was rather poor for flowers.

Catskill Mountains, Sept., 1902.

CHARLES Z——.



The Gladiolus bulbs you sent me produced the largest and most beautiful flowers I ever saw. I am more than pleased.

Wisconsin, Oct. 26th, 1904.

E. R. B——.



As regards the Midway Collection purchased from you last Spring, they have bloomed well, and the colors have been fine, and the size satisfactory. Another Spring I shall order more, as I like them better than any bulbs I have had before.

Vermont, Sept., 1902.

MRS. JOEL H. G——.



I write to tell you of my beautiful blossoms. I have several of the coveted blues and heliotrope colors, a few dark red and several oddly marked. I am more than satisfied. I hope to purchase next Spring some of your higher priced bulbs.

New York, Aug. 24th, 1902.

MRS. L. N. B——.



Your Midway Collection as ordered by me in early Spring, proved all you claimed them to be, in fact they were the finest Gladioli I have ever had in my collection, and I shall take pleasure in recommending you to friends who desire bulbs of the higher order.

New York, Sept. 10th, 1902.

E. E. D——.



I have to report that we had a most favorable season for Gladioli blooms, and having them mulched with straw, I had some of the largest and best Gladioli I ever saw. In quality, the three sections (Gold Medal and Silver Trophy) I received from you two years ago, were the best.

Two bulbs of the first section (Dark Shades) produced flower stems that were immense, nearly five feet high, and of such vigor, constitution, and sun-resisting qualities, that I kept them separate to breed up in future a sun-proof strain.

Illinois, Oct., 1902.

HENRY C. E——.

## GROFF'S HYBRID SEEDLINGS.

---

### THE MOST POPULAR STRAIN IN AMERICA.

---

The original introductions of Mr. Groff awarded certificate of merit by Society of American Florists, New York, 1900, where they defeated the whole Childsi section exhibited in competition by the introducer.

Also certificate of merit at Buffalo, 1901, and at Ashville, S. C., 1902.

In this section I control over 75 per cent. more of the varieties comprising this strain than any other grower, in fact the whole of this important introduction is in my hands including every variety offered by all other growers.

Large Blooming Bulbs, price per 100	- - - - -	\$ 2.00
Large Blooming Bulbs, price per 1,000	- - - - -	15.00
Second Size Bulbs, price per 100	- - - - -	1.25
Second Size Bulbs, price per 1,000	- - - - -	9.00
Small Bulbs, 3-8 to 5-8 inch diameter, per 100	- - - - -	.75
Small Bulbs, 3-8 to 5-8 inch diameter, per 1,000	- - - - -	5.00
25 at 100 rate.		
250 at 1,000 rate.		

NOTE.—Much stock which never originated with Mr. Groff is being offered as his hybrids. For the buyer's protection I would suggest that he insist upon Meadowvale grown bulbs only. One comparison by blooming any of such offered, by the side of mine will convince you that my advice is good.



## COWEE'S SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND MIXTURES.

---

### COWEE'S MIDWAY COLLECTION.

---

This collection is specially prepared as an intermediate or midway section between the Gold Medal and Silver Trophy strains of Pan-America celebrity, and those of a popular character following, all in high types of commercial value.

It is prepared from all sections in new named varieties of European origin which until the introduction of the Gold Medal and Silver Trophy strains at Buffalo have led the world, also a few of the earlier introduction of Groff Hybrids. It will be found of exceptional value, quality and diversity.

Price per 100,	- - - - -	\$5.00.
25 at 100 rate.		

\* \* \* \* \* They were perfectly satisfactory, I enjoyed each one.  
Though I had some fine ones before, the Buffalo Mixture far surpassed them.  
Wisconsin, Sept. 29th, 1903. MRS. R. F. S———.

\* \* \* \* \*

"Mr. Groff is the leading American Specialist in the Gladiolus."  
Sunset Magazine, San Francisco, PROF. WICKSON,  
June, 1902. University of California.

\* \* \* \* \*

Please be so kind to send me one of your catalogues. Lately I have seen  
Mrs. ——— collection of Gladioli she obtained of you, and they were most  
beautiful. I could hardly believe Gladioli could be so superb. Mrs. ———  
is a member of our State Floral Society. Thanking you in advance for the cat-  
alogue.  
California, Sept. 25th, 1903. MISS H. C———.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Gladioli, Gold Medal and Silver Trophy Strain, were very much ad-  
mired by all who saw them. I hope to send for more of other varieties another  
spring.  
New York, Sept. 13th, 1903. MRS. H. W. C———.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Silver Trophy Strain you sent me last Spring were planted and grown  
by me this season with the result to justify me in saying "grand."  
I think the Hybrids are the largest in flower and suit me about as well as  
any for general cutting.  
"The American Garden" Trial Grounds.  
December 13th, 1904. E. STANLEY BROWN.

\* \* \* \* \*

We were very much pleased with the Gladiolus. They are the finest collec-  
tion that we have ever seen, and the flowers were very much admired by all  
who saw them.  
St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 29th, 1904. J. G———.

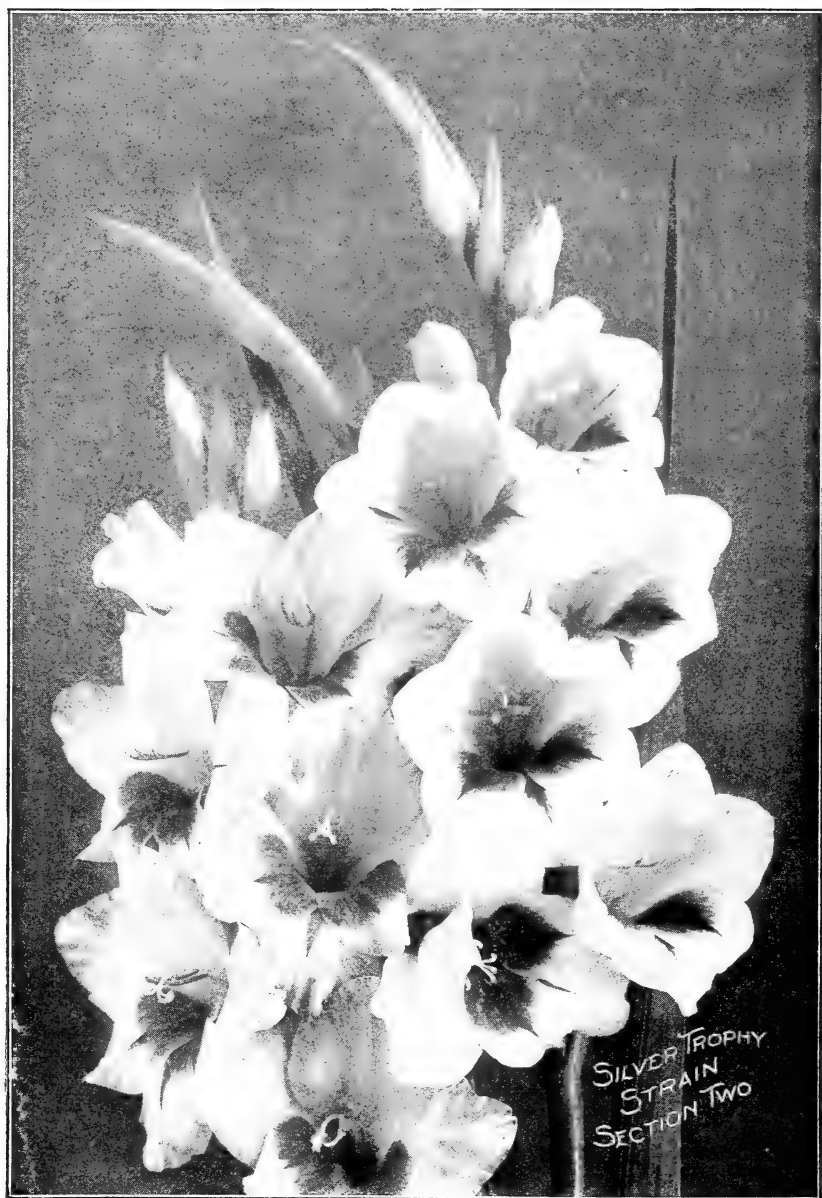
\* \* \* \* \*

I have just cut the last spikes of Gladioli from the three sections you sent  
me last Spring and I want to tell you that they were simply grand. The colors  
were certainly wonderful. With best wishes for your further success in their  
cultivation.  
Dayton, Ohio, Aug. 19th, 1904. W. W. H———.

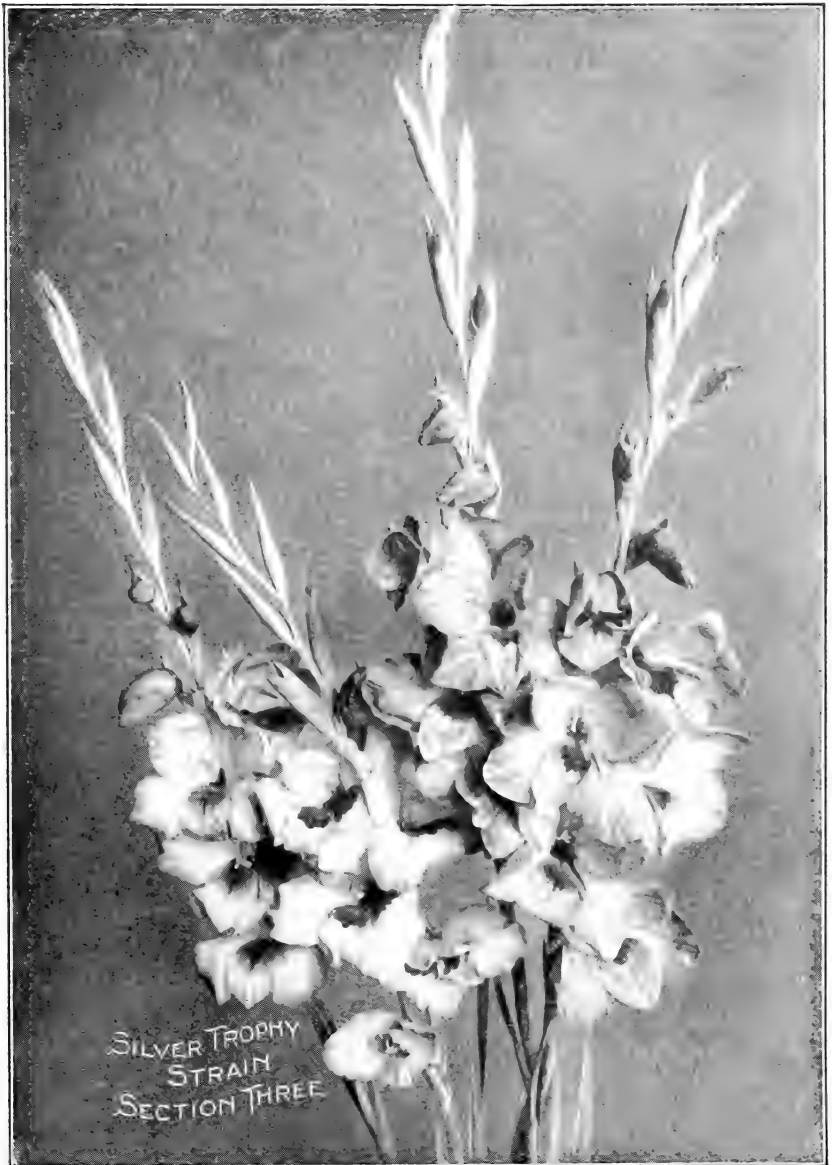




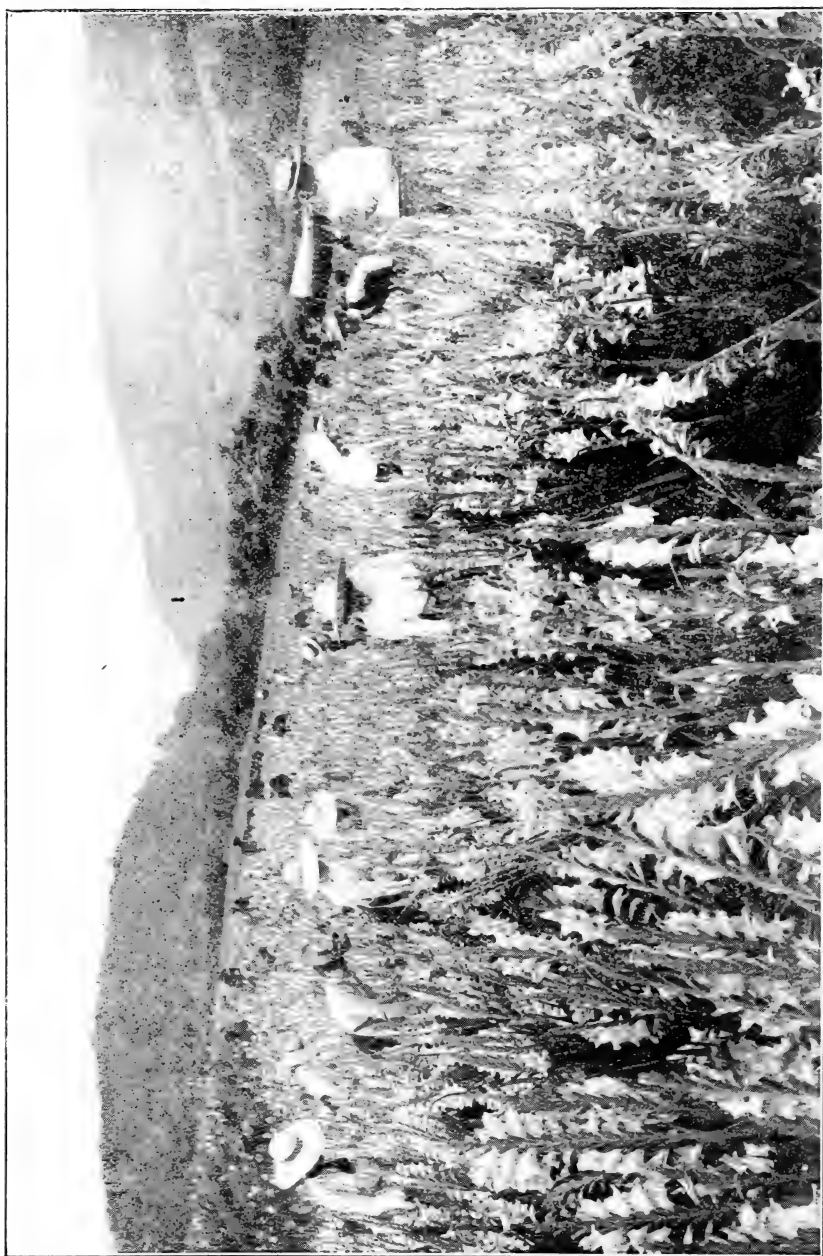
FROM SILVER TROPHY STRAIN, SECTION ONE



FROM SILVER TROPHY STRAIN, SECTION TWO



FROM SILVER TROPHY STRAIN, SECTION THREE



SCENE IN ONE OF THE MEADOWVALE FIELDS

## COWEE'S "BUFFALO" MIXTURE.

This is a strain composed entirely of selected named varieties, Mr. Burbank's California Select. Mr. Gray's Ingleside Hybrids and named Childsi.

Price per 100, - - - - - \$3.00.

25 at 100 rate.



## COWEE'S "NIAGARA" STRAIN.

This mixture is prepared for the use of those who need large quantities at reasonable prices.

It contains named white, light, yellow and variegated types of American Hybrids, and named Childsi. It is sure to give satisfaction.

Price per 100 - - - - - \$2.50.

25 at 100 rate.



## MISCELLANEOUS SORTS.

Meadowvale Mixture contains the largest number of the most magnificent varieties of any popular mixture of commerce.

First Size - - - - -	Per 1000 \$10.00
Second Size - - - - -	7.50

Lemoine Hybrids embracing hundreds of the more modern colors, and many novelties.

Extra Fine Mixed - - - - -	Per 1000 \$15.00
Fine Mixed - - - - -	10.00
Nanceianus Mixed, per hundred, \$4.00 - - - - -	35.00
Mixed Childsi per hundred, \$1.75 - - - - -	15.00
Burbank's California Select per hundred, \$3.00 - - - - -	25.00

### MIXTURES TO COLOR.

White and Light Shades - - - - -	Per 1000 \$12.00
Pink Shades - - - - -	10.00
Scarlet and Red Shades - - - - -	8.00
Orange and Yellow - - - - -	40.00
Striped and Variegated - - - - -	18.00
Buff Shades - - - - -	16.00
Smoky and Slaty Hybrids per hundred, \$2.00 - - - - -	15.00

25 at 100 rate.

250 at 1,000 rate.

At the Pan-American Exposition, so at the World's Fair in the Horticultural Building, the chief attraction in the cut flower department is the Gladiolus exhibit from Arthur Cowee, Meadowvale Farm, Berlin, N. Y., consisting of 725 vases containing 8,000 spikes of the most beautiful and artistic varieties of this flower ever staged in the world. The principal strains shown are the Groff's Hybrids in their several sections, and comprise almost every shade and combination of shades known.

The arrangement on circular shelves, between which are mirrors, increases the attraction of the exhibit, and is a credit to Mr. Cowee. All of the material used in constructing the rustic booth in the center, as well as the outside circle came from Meadowvale Farm.

Weekly shipments are made from the fields at Berlin, N. Y., where 100 acres are being grown; also from a five acre planting at Belleville, Ill., where about half a million bulbs have been planted at three different periods so as to secure a succession of blooming upon the Exposition grounds Mr. Cowee has planted in six beds, about 125,000 bulbs, mostly from the Silver Trophy Strain and Gold Medal Collection.

October 1st, 1904.

FLORIST'S EXCHANGE.



His planting of Gladiolus last year was the largest in the World and this year he will have to seek other planets for a comparison.

March 6th, 1904.

ALBANY SUNDAY PRESS.



It gives me great pleasure to assure you that the stock of Gladiolus received from you was a perfect success and excited unlimited admiration while in bloom in Copley Square. As you know we had a great many visitors from other cities this season, on account of the Grand Army Encampment, and I am very sure you would have been much gratified if you had heard even a tenth part of the praise they bestowed upon the Gladiolus.

As for my own opinion I will merely say, that I am not at all surprised that the Grand Prize was awarded your exhibit at the St. Louis Fair.

City of Boston, Public Grounds Dept.,

November 25th, 1904.

WILLIAM DOOGUE, Supt.



The Gladioli are in bloom, and are a glorious rival to my sumptuous orchids. I need not add that they give me exquisite delight. I think them a wonderful creation, and in form and coloring, cannot be surpassed in Nature's realm. I cannot say enough to let you know how much pleasure I have gotten out of my investment. Now I only wonder what magnificent blooms I have failed to secure, because I did not buy more of them.

Connecticut, Aug. 26th, 1902.

MRS. B. B. T———.

## NAMED GANDAVENSIS AND OTHERS.

	Per 100	Per 1000
Augusta - - - - -	\$4.00	\$30.00
Lovely pure white with blue anthers. Strong, straight spike often having two and three branches.		
Barron Staffe - - - - -	10.00	
Clear lilac, stained pale violet and yellow.		
Brenchleyensis - - - - -	1.00	9.00
Vermilion Scarlet, an old variety but much wanted on account of brilliant color.		
Canary Bird - - - - -	8.00	
Fine light yellow, strong spike.		
Ceres - - - - -	1.50	10.00
White, spotted with purplish rose, often flowers appear opposite each other on the spike.		
Eugene Scribe - - - - -	5.00	
Medium Sized well open flower; tender rose, blazed carmine red.		
Gil Blas - - - - -	10.00	
Early flowering plant of dwarf habit; flowers salmony rose with a fire-red blotch on straw colored ground.		
George Paul - - - - -	10.00	
Large flowers, deep crimson, slightly stained yellow, spotted with purple.		
Jane Dieulafoy - - - - -	18.00	
Flowers creamy white, lower petals stained maroon.		
John Bull - - - - -	2.00	16.00
White, slightly tinted with sulphur.		
Klondyke - - - - -	11.00	
Strong vigorous plant, blooming early, flower round, well opened, of a clear primrose yellow with blotch of vivid crimson maroon on the three lower petals.		
Madam Monneret - - - - -	1.50	12.00
Delicate rose, late bloomer.		
Marie Lemoine - - - - -	1.75	12.00
Slender spike, well expanded flowers; upper division of a pale creamy color, flushed salmon, lilac; the lower division spotted violet and yellow. A very dainty variety.		
May - - - - -	1.50	12.00
Lovely pure white flower, finely flaked bright rosy crimson, strong spike. Good forcing variety.		
"1900" - - - - -	2.50	20.00
Good sized bloom of rich red, with prominent white spots on the three lower petals.		
Senator Volland - - - - -	18.00	
Large flowers, pure blue, dark violet blotch with a yellow stain, striped blue.		
Shakespeare - - - - -	5.00	40.00
Pure white, slightly suffused with carmine rose; large rosy blotch. Good forcing variety.		

25 at 100 rate.

250 at 1,000 rate.

## CULTURAL DIRECTIONS.

---

Plant in full exposure to the sun, in any well enriched garden soil, avoiding contact with manure, which should never be fresh, in fact it is better to thoroughly manure the soil in the fall and respade in the spring. Where soil is stiff clay, fill the drill with sandy loam—water when necessary during the early stages of growth and again when buds show color. The bulbs may be planted in double rows, two inches apart in a four inch drill, two, three and four inches deep, according to size. Here we plant from the middle of April to the middle of May, and with all sections and sizes, bloom is continuous from the end of July until frost. To secure a succession of blooming, make two or even three plantings, at intervals of about two weeks.

Before the ground freezes, dig up the bulbs, cut off the stalk close, and store in a cool dry place. The old bulb, or more properly speaking, corm, may be removed a few weeks later when convenient. The process of acclimation of foreign varieties is not only an advantage to the grower on this continent but the beneficial effects of culture in our stimulating northern atmosphere will be more apparent when the bulbs are developed in the more genial and humid climates of our Southern and Middle States.

Those who fail to succeed with stock furnished by me will please report the same; and if due to any cause under my control, I shall be glad to make it good, as, before increasing the number of my correspondents, it is my wish to assure satisfaction and value to those who have favored me with their orders. Satisfaction is guaranteed as to quality of stock furnished. No guarantee other than that stock is true to name, is given as to results, these being practically under the control of the grower.



## REGARDING GLADIOLUS SEED.

---

I have many applications during the season for Gladioli seed. This we do not sell for several reasons, the two principal ones of which are as follows:

First.—The seed from which our new varieties are produced, is hand hybridized and grown by Mr. H. H. Groff, at Simcoe.

Second.—The growing and flowering of bulbs from Gladioli seed is a delicate and tedious task, and there are few whose experience and patience would be proportionately rewarded by the results.

It is more satisfactory and economical to buy well established bulbs produced by scientific hybridizing with a thorough knowledge of the parent plants.



The Gladioli bulbs I purchased from you last Spring gave the best of satisfaction. They attracted the attention of every one who saw them, for their beauty of color and large spike. You certainly deserve credit for the production of such shades and spikes.

Pennsylvania, Oct., 1902.

FRED H———, Florist.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Gladioli bulbs purchased from you last Spring being planted so late, all have not yet bloomed. Enough bloomed, however, to win me first premium at our fair. The blue ones are very pretty. They are the only ones of the kind ever seen in our city. If I live, I am so well pleased, that I will buy from no one else next year.

Oregon, Sept. 29th, 1902.

MRS. J. V. T———.

\* \* \* \* \*

I have just finished taking up my bulbs and wish to say that the Groff's Hybrid Seedlings gave entire satisfaction and made a fine display, please send me your catalogue as soon as published.

Illinois, Nov. 7th, 1903.

H. H. G———.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Gladioli bulbs, Niagara Strain sent by you have all bloomed. Some were very beautiful, and I would like to have more in the Spring. Others in our neighborhood will want bulbs, as mine were very much admired when in bloom. I had a great many planted, but none as fine as yours.

Pennsylvania, Oct. 25th, 1902.

MRS. J. T. R———.

\* \* \* \* \*

——— They were all fine (Groff's) far exceeding my expectations. At C——— I made two entries, took first and second premiums. At A——— I made one entry, took first premium there. The judges at A——— say they never saw such quality before. (Gold Medal Collection, and Gold Medal and Silver Trophy Strain). Nothing for me in the future but the best.

New York, Oct. 27th, 1902.

CHARLES L———.

\* \* \* \* \*

The superb collection of Gladioli which you so kindly presented to me, reached here yesterday, and are in prime condition. I have spent every moment since trying to name, photograph, and record the color of as many specimens as possible. Some of them are known to us, but the magnificent blues and purples are entire strangers. How shall we name them? \* \* \* \* \* Thanking you most heartily for the handsomest collection of flowers I have ever seen at one time, I am

Very sincerely yours,

New York, N. Y., Aug. 20th, 1902.

A. S. VAN B———.

## **A FEW DON'TS.**

DON'T think that in ordering a few bulbs you will compass a wide range of varieties, for we have over fifteen thousand. We do claim, however, that even in small quantities, you will secure a larger variety of high quality, than in any other stock offered at the same, and higher prices.

DON'T, whether you buy our stock or that of others, pick out the largest bulbs from a collection or mixture, and imagine you have the best quality, for by so doing, you may eliminate from your purchase, varieties of high quality which never produce large bulbs.

DON'T, if you have been led into paying high prices for medium and poor quality under high sounding names, fail to give our stock a trial order. Compare quality and prices, and select from the stock and secure at small cost, if you wish, a collection of greater value than is possible under the naming system.

All stock herein offered, is subject to prior sale, and orders received are not binding until accepted in writing.

In filling orders, no substitutions will be made unless so instructed. Stock for greenhouse forcing can be shipped in the Autumn after the bulbs are thoroughly cured.

Special discount to seedsmen, or to those ordering in lots of five thousand or more.

Our fields, which will be more extensive and beautiful this year than ever before, are near the railroad station and during the blooming season (July to October) I shall consider it a pleasure to receive and show visitors through them.

Parties contemplating a visit should advise me a day or two in advance.

## **ORDER EARLY.**

Every season, orders reach us too late to be properly executed, on account of the required early planting of some very late flowering varieties.



## **DIRECTIONS FOR ORDERING.**

### **CAREFULLY SIGN YOUR NAME, POST OFFICE, COUNTY AND STATE.**

Remittances should accompany all orders from unknown purchasers, and may be made by post office order, express order, New York draft, or cash by registered letter. Postage stamps accepted as cash.

During the blooming season, usually between July 25th and frost time, I can furnish cut spikes of superior flowers in large or small quantities, and shall be pleased to quote prices upon application.

Address all orders to ARTHUR COWEE, Proprietor,  
Meadowvale Farm, Berlin, N. Y.

Must drop you a line and thank you for such magnificent novelties you offer in Gladiolus. I was surprised each day or so at the new shades. Both the blues and Groff's Mixed were greatly admired by everybody. Will want more in the Spring.

Poughkeepsie, Aug. 22d, 1904.

W. L. D———.

\* \* \* \* \*

It gives me great pleasure to report that the Groff's Hybrid Seedlings  $\frac{3}{8}$  to  $\frac{5}{8}$  and Silver Trophy Strain, section three have more than given satisfaction. I hardly expected much from the Seedlings this year but they are blooming very nicely. When your next catalogue is out please send me a copy.

Milwaukee, Wis., Aug. 29th, 1904.

S. G. O———.

\* \* \* \* \*

Many local lovers of flowers are interested in the big Gladiolus Farm of Arthur Cowee, Berlin, N. Y. Mr. Cowee has devoted a lifetime to making his collection of Gladiolus, and there is no finer lot in the world as is shown by the Exhibition which he makes at St. Louis.

Nov. 6th, 1904.

SPRINGFIELD (Mass.) REPUBLICAN.

\* \* \* \* \*

Arthur Cowee, Berlin, N. Y., was by far the most popular exhibitor in the building (New York State Fair); his magnificent display of Gladioli was simply astounding. The variety of color and markings was a revelation.

Sept. 17th, 1904.

FLORIST'S EXCHANGE.

\* \* \* \* \*

Horticultural Hall (World's Fair) was beautifully decorated for the day. High up in the center of the building was a large American Flag made entirely of Gladioli furnished by Arthur Cowee of Berlin, N. Y., said to be the largest grower in the world. The different colored flowers were deftly woven together so as to form stars and stripes in red, white and blue.

Oct. 20th, 1904.

THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.

\* \* \* \* \*

Your superb collections of Silver Trophy Strain, Buffalo and Midway Mixtures proved surprisingly prolific of results and, while my collection was a very small one, the varieties produced were remarkably numerous. I grew them beside others from ——— and the comparative results between the two were exceedingly marked. The bulbs obtained from you produced a much greater number of flowers to the spike and of an exceedingly greater variety of color and shapes, in addition to each flower being much larger than those produced from the other bulbs. Upon taking up my bulbs this Fall I found that the excellent results were not confined to the flowering quality alone, but that the bulbs yielded small corms very prolifically.

Chicago, Ill., Nov. 4th, 1904.

W. B. D———.

It is with pleasure I write you my experience with the bulbs ordered from you last Spring, but really find myself quite inadequate to the task. The blooms were so beautiful and each day developed something so new and so wonderful that they baffle description. I exhibited thirty spikes at our Floral meeting and you should have heard the exclamations of delight at the sight.  
\* \* \* \* I am more than satisfied.

San Francisco, Cal., July 15th, 1904.

MRS. J. L———.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Gladioli we bought of you this Spring have given us a great deal of pleasure. They are really grand in diversity of color, size of flower spikes and of the individual flowers as well as in the exquisite penciling and markings of some of them.

New Jersey, Sept. 15th, 1904.

A. M———.

\* \* \* \* \*

Last April I sent you an order for small bulbs of Groff's Hybrids. It was with some interest that we noted the first signs of flowering, as we were not prepared to expect more than a few blooms from these small bulbs this season, and we are surprised and delighted at the full and magnificent blooms produced. We felt as though it were a speculation instead of an investment, but feel well repaid for cost and care of bulbs. Thank you that your catalogue fell into our hands.

Kincaid, Kan., July 20th, 1904.

J. B. F———.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Gladioli bulbs I had from you last Spring have been extremely satisfactory, the largest blooms I ever saw and some of the most remarkable colors. I propose to have a thousand more next year.

Connecticut, Sept. 7th, 1904.

W. H. S. W———.

\* \* \* \* \*

The flowers from the bulbs secured from you have attracted the attention of every flower lover in our village, and the verdict is unanimous that such beautiful Gladioli have never been grown in this section before.

Michigan, Aug. 31st, 1904.

P. W. A. F———.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Gladiolus is certainly the people's flower. The bulbs of the Silver Trophy Strain were very fine. Another Spring I shall order more.

Massachusetts, Oct. 10th, 1904.

B. F. S———.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Gladiolus bulbs, Silver Trophy Strain, which I purchased of you last Spring have just ceased blooming. The blues were grand and the reds unequalled. Every bulb bloomed to perfection.

Wisconsin, Sept. 7th, 1904.

H. S———.

The paper by H. H. Groff of Simcoe, Ont., on "Breeding from 'Tame' versus 'Wild' species," which was presented at the Plant and Animal Breeders' Convention in St. Louis, December, 1903, has had such a wide circulation and attracted so much attention in England and the United States that a second edition of the printed copy has been issued. Since the circulation of the first edition, Mr. Groff's claims for the great advantages to be gained by breeding from domestic specific types has been supported by Prof. Hugo de Vries in his lecture at St. Louis in September of 1904. Prof. de Vries' conclusions were reached after an exhaustive series of experiments conducted for the purpose of proving that domestic species could be produced within a comparatively limited period of operation. Breeding from select mothers, with domestic specific types as sires is the line on which Mr. Groff claims to have made his greatest advancement, and his is the honor of having been the first to call attention publicly to the theories of which the correctness has now again been verified.

HORTICULTURE, BOSTON, MASS.



A ravishing dream of beauty, where every color of the Flora-world nods and blends in infinite variety is situated at the west end of the Horticultural building and is the largest display of *Gladiolus* ever gathered together.

From the parent stem blossoms of every hue and in strangest combinations and strongest contrasts flourish, and perhaps not less than 10,000 species may be found in this beautiful array.

September 25th, 1904.

ST. LOUIS STAR.



"We are now standing just at the gateway of scientific horticulture—only have been a few steps in the measureless fields, which will stretch out as we advance into the golden sunshine of a more complete knowledge of the forces which are to unfold all the graceful forms of garden beauty and wealth of fruits and flowers."

BURBANK.

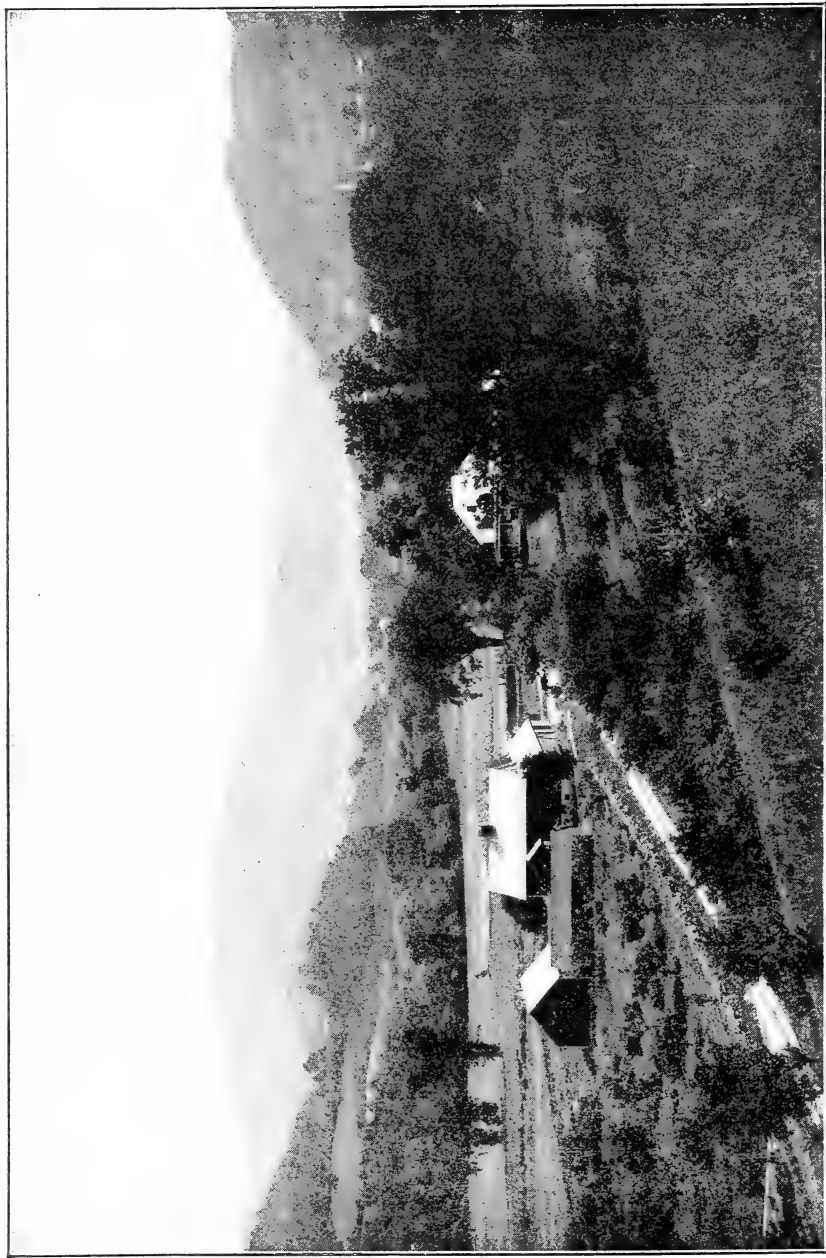


An ideal place for any lover of flowers to visit at this time of the year (August 26th) is Meadowvale Farm, the home of Arthur Cowee, the *Gladiolus* Specialist, at Berlin, N. Y.

One of the earliest impressions formed in the mind of the visitor is the thoroughness with which Mr. Cowee has gone into his specialty.

Sept. 10th, 1904.

AMERICAN FLORIST.



LOOKING ACROSS THE SOUTH HALF OF MEADOWVALE FARM TOWARD THE VILLAGE OF BERLIN, N. Y., WHICH IS SITUATED ON THE CHATHAM DIVISION OF THE RUTLAND RAILROAD ABOUT 160 MILES DUE NORTH OF NEW YORK.

We have had a very hot and dry Summer and everything was against them (Gladioli) but in spite of all of these difficulties they bloomed most satisfactorily \* \* \* \* The largest and most beautiful flowers I ever saw on a Gladioli spike. \* \* \* \* I will have a large order for you in the Spring.

Lexington, Mo., Sept. 23rd, 1905.

GEORGE J. T———.



I had to be away all summer so only saw two of the Gladioli spikes in bloom, these, however, were enough to satisfy me that you raise fine stock.

Newport, R. I., Sept. 21st, 1905.

H. T. S———.



I do not know that I ever had more satisfaction out of a dollar's worth of flowers (Meadowvale Mixture) before. Some measured six inches across. I have wondered what your choice ones were like, your cheaper Mixtures being so fine.

Warren, Ohio, Nov. 1st, 1905.

MRS. O. S. W———.



I feel it my duty, and a very pleasant one, to express my pleasure for the beautiful Gladioli sent me last Spring. The bulbs surprised me from the beginning by their strong growth, then later by the beauty of the open blossom. I have never seen such Gladioli before and they are indeed new to many others, who have seen and admired mine. I shall want to add to my collection another year.

Bondsville, Mass., August 28th, 1905.

MRS. L. R. H———.



I sent to you last March for Gladioli bulbs; I received them very promptly and after they had finished blooming, thought I would write and tell you; they were beautiful, the prettiest ones I ever had.

Healdsburg, Cal., Aug. 6th, 1905.

MRS. C. N. B———.



I saw your Gladioli at St. Louis; they were a revelation to the public. I must plant at least 100 this year, please send me your catalogue.

Mayfield, Ky., June 17th, 1905.

R. L. C———.



The bulbs I received from you last Spring are now in bloom and are very much admired by all who see them. Some of my friends have expressed a wish to know where I got them. Will you kindly send catalogues to the following persons. \* \* \* \*

Falconer, N. Y., Aug. 15th, 1905.

MRS. H. D———.

The Gladioli I bought from you are perfectly grand; never saw anything to equal them; shall send for more in the Spring.

Campbell, Cal., Aug. 8th, 1905.

MRS. E. B. F———.



The Meadowvale Mixture was fine, I thank you heartily for your selection. I regret the years I have been buying elsewhere.

Salem, Mich., Sept. 6th, 1905.

C. F. F———.



I tried your Strains of Gladioli last year and they were grand, the finest I ever saw and I have been a grower for 30 years. Please quote me your prices per hundred and per thousand for your fine Mixtures.

Pansy Park, Mass., April 28th, 1905.

L. W. G———.



I want to tell you what I ought to have done long before, of the beautiful Gladioli which I have from the bulbs purchased of you last Spring. I have grown these flowers for 20 years and have never before seen such magnificent specimens even in Horticultural Exhibitions; they were simply perfect. In the 100 bulbs (every one of which bloomed) there were about 40 varieties; I had nothing in my garden which gave me so much satisfaction.

Eliot, Maine, April 7th, 1905.

L. M. W———.



The Gladioli, Silver Trophy Strain and Gold Medal sections, are ready to judge and I assure you that being surprised is stating it somewhat mildly. My limited vocabulary will not permit me to express my appreciation and satisfaction.

Greenwich, N. Y., Aug. 6th, 1905.

W. N. R———.



I think I never saw more beautiful flowers than you have and they have a good quality of lasting a long time. I wish I had sufficient land to plant many hundreds of your bulbs, but my space is limited and as I wish as fine a display as I can have in a limited space, I leave the selection to you.

Providence, R. I., March 30th, 1905.

C. M. S———.



In the early Spring I ordered several hundred Gladioli bulbs from you and desire to say, that they are the most beautiful I have ever seen. I hope to give you a large order next Spring.

Atlanta, Ga., Sept. 25th, 1905.

O. D. S———.



Enclosed please find P. O. Order for which send me Gladioli mentioned on the enclosed order sheet. I was greatly pleased with the Groff's Hybrid Seedlings purchased of you last year. I think no two were alike.

South Hadley Falls, Mass., May 5th, 1905.

M. M. S———.



You will remember sending me a selection of bulbs last Spring. These plants have now bloomed. They are the most beautiful and most perfect flowers which have ever been my pleasure to see. The size and variation in color seemed to excite the most comment, then again I have not a single duplicate.

Springfield, Mass., Aug. 8th, 1905.

H. W. S———.

\* \* \* \* \*

I want to write and thank you for the very beautiful flowers (Gladioli) I am getting every day; in color and size they are a wonder. Among them is a lavender as handsome as any Orchid I ever saw. I shall hope to order more another year.

Minneapolis, Minn., Aug. 24th, 1905.

MRS. E. T. T———.

\* \* \* \* \*

They were the finest Gladioli I ever had, and I have had some very fine ones.

Fort Recovery, Ohio, July 24th, 1905.

G. P———.

\* \* \* \* \*

Last year I got a number of new yellows and blues and they were magnificent, also Buffalo and Midway Collection. I have a very fine Collection on a small scale, but those I purchased of you were beyond any I had in size and beauty.

Westboro, Mass., March 17th, 1905.

MRS. E. M. G———.

\* \* \* \* \*

I wish to tell you how much I have enjoyed the Gladioli I had of you last Spring. I am not a new grower of Gladioli, having grown them many years and at one time had over 200 named ones and have raised many Seedlings. Those you sent me are simply grand, some of them wonderfully large and with exquisite colors and markings, and some the finest I ever saw. I think you are entitled to great success in the Gladiolus field and you certainly have my best wishes to that end.

Vernon, N. Y., Aug. 22nd, 1905.

L. A. G———.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Silver Trophy Strain which I received from you last Spring were the finest ever seen in this vicinity, all bloomed and many had three spikes. The flowers were extremely large and magnificent in coloring and marking. Words fail to describe their great beauty and the great variety of shades. They have been much admired by a great many people. I hope to send for other varieties next Spring.

Clinton, Mich., Sept. 20th, 1905.

C. E. J———.

The Gladiolus received from you last Spring were the most beautiful ever seen in this city. They were admired by all who saw them.

Olean, N. Y., Sept. 29th, 1905.

MRS. F. H. J———.



I bought some bulbs of you this Spring, and also bought from another firm at more than double the money, and I was positively astonished when I saw the superiority of your bulbs by the side of the others. Whatever I need next year, I am satisfied that you shall have my order.

Madison, N. J., Aug. 29th, 1905.

A. L———.



The Gladiolus bulbs received from thee bloomed finely and were very beautiful. There were many shades among them that I had never seen before in the Gladiolus, purple, lavenders and many other beautiful shades and markings.

Salem, N. J., Aug. 20th, 1905.

M. M. R———.



Your Midway Collection sent me last Spring I was certainly much pleased with and had some fine blooms, in fact the finest I remember to have seen from any Gladiolus. I went to our Park "The Golden Gate" and saw their display (Meadowvale stock); it was simply gorgeous.

San Francisco, Cal., Oct. 10th, 1905.

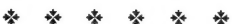
W. R———.



I am well pleased with them all and the colors are superb. I have one just beginning to open that measures five inches across. I never saw anything like it.

Holyoke, Mass., July 24th, 1905.

D. L. Mc———.



The spikes of bloom grown from the bulbs bought of you last Spring, and with which I won first prize, were very fine and admired by all who saw them. I would highly commend your bulbs to any one seeking the best. Wishing you a successful and prosperous season.

Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pa., April 17th, 1905.

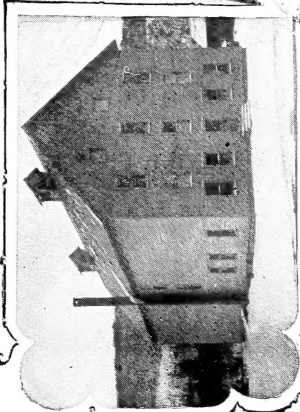
J. M———.



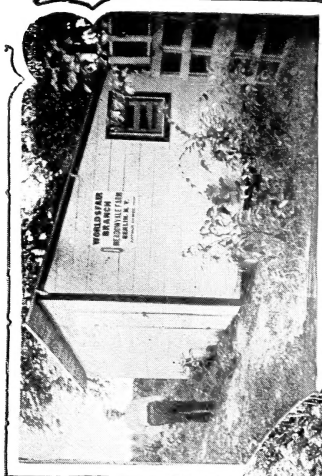
The Gladioli bulbs received from you last April (Groff's Hybrids) more than met my expectation. Of the 100 Seedlings, 3-8 to 5-8, fully 95 per cent. bloomed, and when dug some of the bulbs measured seven inches in circumference. Those blooming gave long spikes, large flowers and the colors were indescribably beautiful.

South Haven, Mich., Nov. 20th, '05.

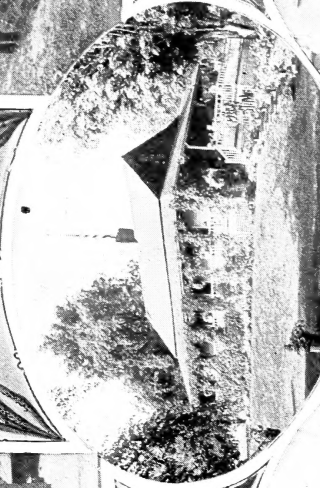
MRS. A. C. D———.



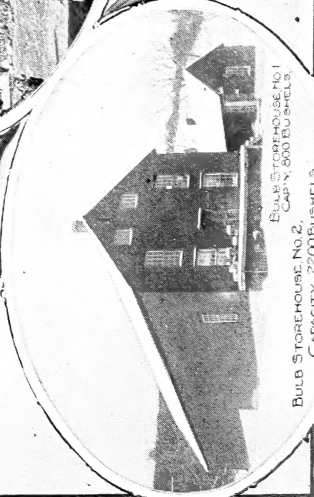
BUILD STOREHOUSE, No. 3.  
CAPACITY, 15,000 BUSHEL.



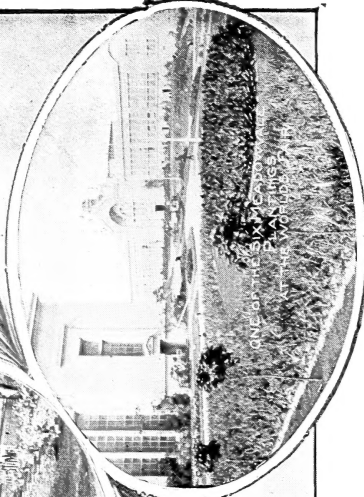
CAMP AT THE SUPPLY FIELDS,  
BELLEVILLE, ILL., 1904.



AR COVERED  
BUNGALOW,  
MADDOXVALE,  
FARM,  
BERKINLY.



BUILD STOREHOUSE No. 1  
CAP. Y. 600 BUSHEL.  
BUILD STOREHOUSE No. 2.  
CAPACITY, 7,200 BUSHEL.



BUILD STOREHOUSE No. 3  
CAP. Y. 15,000 BUSHEL.

PRIZES AWARDED TO

**Groff's**

**New Hybrid Gladioli**

**GRAND PRIZE**

World's Fair, St. Louis, Mo., 1904

---

Pan-American Exposition Gold Medal, Buffalo, 1901

Pan-American Silver Vase, awarded by  
Buffalo Florists' Club, 1901

Thirteen First Prizes by Pan-American Exposition

---

Certificate of Merit, by Society of American  
Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists.

New York, N. Y., . . . . . 1900  
Buffalo, N. Y. . . . . 1901  
Asheville, N. C., . . . . . 1902  
Washington, D. C., . . . . . 1905