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THE MODERN GLADIOLUS

THE GLORY OF THE GARDEN

ARTHUR COWEE
MEADOWVALE FARMS
BERLIN • NEW YORK

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MY friends are invited to visit Meadowvale Farms during August and early September when my Gladiolus fields are in full bloom. Visitors are always welcome and I am sure you will be amply repaid for including Berlin in your summer itinerary.

Many persons have availed themselves of the opportunity of motoring to my fields, and are now regular annual visitors.

The Glory of the Garden

The Modern Gladiolus



As selected and grown by

ARTHUR COWEE

Meadowvale Farms

BERLIN, RENSSELAER COUNTY, NEW YORK

The Gladiolus: An Appreciation

By One Who Has Seen Them in Their Glory

"Flowers of all hues laugh in the gale, sparkle with dew"

HOW fitting these words of the gentle singer to the scene stretching before me as, for the first time, the great fields of Gladioli at Meadowvale broke upon my delighted eyes! There are moments all through life when the emotions are profoundly stirred, and the impress upon memory, that register of experiences, is so deep that time cannot obliterate it. The

experience becomes not a thing of the moment, but a possession never to be taken away. It was such a moment in which I first looked upon the Gladioli, laying their acres of color over against the blue-green background of the Taconic hills of northern New York. The winter may wrap those glorified fields in its winding-sheet of snow, but I have seen what has been, I know what will be again, and I have but to close my eyes to once more, and as often as I please, revel in the wonder of that scene.

But if they were wonderful in the distance, how much more wonderful were they when at last I was among them! Tall, stately, regal, the great spikes stood row on row, acre on acre, truly royal in their magnificence and yet breathing the very spirit of democracy. No costly hothouse flowers these, nor even the carefully nurtured product of rich land and incessant care, but they spring sturdily from common soil thick-strewn with stone, as if in some heroic age a glacier had crushed its resistless way through the rock-bound hills, and left these broken fragments in its moraine as witnesses of overwhelming might.

As I walked down the rows, with great flower-spikes shoulder high on either side, I could not but feel that the strength of the hills had entered into them, and dimly I began to understand why it is that Cowee Gladioli bulbs have won a national reputation for vigor and strength to grow and bloom under all conditions. It is bred in them. They ask no favors. They are sufficient unto themselves. They are the product of their environment, where the fittest survives and becomes more fit.

When I remembered the modest, rather commonplace Gladioli of my grandmother's garden—flag-lilies we boys called them—quite little flowers of a salmon-red, and then looked at the great blossoms crowded around me in such exquisite and infinite variety of tints, it was hard to realize that these were not of another family, a distinct and separate race. But they were not. They were



Peace (see page 11)

direct descendants in whom had been developed qualities of perfection in form and texture and beauty dormant and unsuspected in their humble forebears. They were simply a wonderful exposition of the law of advancement, which is the law of all life, and a marvelous tribute to the efficiency of man working in conjunction and harmony with Nature.

Looking over those fields rioting in color, it was difficult to conceive that Nature had not exhausted her every combination of tint and marking—thousands of variations in form and coloring, each capable of perpetuating its own peculiar qualities, and thus forming a distinct variety. And yet the master of the fields gave me the assurance that every day brings forth something new, in proof of which he presently returned from among his seedlings with his arms full of exquisite blossoms distinct from any which, in all his long years of association with the Gladioli, he had ever seen before; and I shared with him the thrill of discovery. Then, as he pointed out the merits of this, and the weakness of that, of these nameless ones, I began to understand the fascination these wonder flowers had first exercised to draw him from the marts of trade, until now the love of them grips his very soul.

And as I walked with him along those nameless seedlings, and his keen eye searched out here one and there one for marking out as worthy of further propagation, and perhaps ultimately of a name, and realized that for each of these a thousand were discarded, doomed to go forth to the flower-loving public in the lowly estate of unnamed mixtures, probably never to bloom again in the fields of their birth, I realized as never before the ruthlessness and yet sublime beneficence of Nature's inexorable law that only that which nearest attains possible perfection shall survive.

More than 25,000 varieties of Gladioli has Mr. Cowee grown at Meadowvale, hundreds of them beautiful beyond the telling, yet glance through his price-list and note how comparatively small the number deemed worthy of perpetuation under given names. It is this rigid elimination of everything which, in the most trilling particular, falls short of the highest standard of perfection that has won for Mr. Cowee the rank of foremost grower of Gladioli in the world.

This does not mean that he is the originator of all of these magnificent varieties which are the wonder of those who see them. Far from it. It means merely that to him belongs the credit for recognizing their worth, and making it possible for the humblest gardens to contain them. To Mr. Groff, known wherever the Gladioli are known as the wonder-worker of the hybridizing forceps and brush, belongs the honor of having produced more varieties of value than all other hybridizers combined. It is where his work ends that Mr. Cowee's begins, for 75 per cent of all the seedlings that



Faust—deep velvety crimson flower (see page 10)

Mr. Groff originates are sent to Mr. Cowee to be tried out and tested in the Meadowvale fields; the best of them, and the best only, ultimately to reach the public through this means. Mr. Cowee absolutely controls the Groff hybrids for the United States, and his pride in them is not less than in those varieties of value which now and again he has selected from his own seedlings.

I had come to Meadowvale merely a lover of flowers. I left a Gladiolus enthusiast. It could not be otherwise. I had not dreamed that outside of the tropic-heat of an orchid-house were such wonderful markings and blending of colors to be found in all the world of flowers. Yet here before me, springing from just common, everyday soil, the same soil that, on all sides, was growing plebeian farm crops—buckwheat, millet, potatoes—were great spikes of deep-throated flowers of such wonderful hues, such exquisite blendings of soft-toned tints, such striking and infinite variety of markings, as no priceless collection of orchids ever surpassed.

I said as much to the master of the fields and he, smiling as he softly stroked the velvety petals of "War," blood-red, here and there shot through with threatening black, replied, "These are the people's orchids—everybody's flowers."

"Meaning what?" I asked.

"That everybody can grow them," said he.

"As beautiful as these?" I persisted, lightly touching a pure white petal of "Peace."

He nodded. "Or these," indicating "Dawn," within whose throat were reflected the very tints of breaking day on a perfect summer morn, "or any you see here," he added, with an all-inclusive sweep of his hand. "All they ask is just the chance to grow, a place where they may have the sun the day long, and just the care and attention that you would give the most

ordinary flowers—no more. They like best a fairly rich but light, sandy loam, but they will grow in any kind of soil if it be sweet. They will bloom as freely and as gloriously in the humblest garden as they do here for me. I think if everybody knew this, everybody would have them, don't you?"

Most assuredly everybody would if they could see them as I saw them, nearly a hundred acres of them glorifying a whole valley, and if they could know, as I have learned, of other qualities peculiarly their own. When I left, it was with my arms full of heavy-budded spikes, on which only the lower buds were open and showing color. Day by day the others swelled and opened, as beautiful as if still in the field of their birth, and a week later they were still the joy of all who saw them, the topmost buds just bursting their green wrappings. No other flower of which I know can compare with them for cutting purposes, while for decorative effect they are unsurpassed.

I have seen the Gladioli in their glory. I have come to share with the master of those glorified fields something of the enthusiasm which has made him known far and wide as the Gladiolus specialist. I have had just a peep into the fascinating possibilities which, through the alchemy of Nature, are open to the grower of this truly royal flower.



Gladioli are superb for a garden border

I love all flowers. But there is a difference in quality. For some, that love is perhaps better expressed as admiration. It was in this way that until now I have always thought of Gladioli. I have admired them in the gardens of my friends and in the windows of the florists. They had seemed to me simply showy, rioting in strong colors, lacking the qualities which grip the heart and awaken the tenderer sentiments. That was because I did not know them. A few days among them taught me how very little I knew of them and how much of pleasure, of real joy, I have missed. Already I am planning my garden for next year, and in it the Gladioli are going to hold first place, and for these reasons: I have not the time to fuss over my plants—the Gladioli do not ask it; I want the largest possible variety of harmonizing colors in a limited space—the Gladioli assure it; I want flowers that I can cut freely—the Gladioli will give me these; I want the joy of anticipation of the unknown—the Gladioli will supply it.

I would that everybody in whose heart is the love of flowers could visit Meadowvale Farms as I did; when the Gladioli have come into their own, and the glory of them is the glory of the whole country for miles around. Then in very truth would these incomparable flowers become "everybody's flowers," for no garden, however small, would be without them.

How to Grow and Care for the Gladiolus

THE foregoing appreciation was sent me by one whom chance led to visit my Gladiolus fields at the height of the season of bloom. By permission I have printed it here, because, in some degree, it sets forth the peculiar charm which this royal flower possesses for all who have become intimately acquainted with it, and because it emphasizes several points which I want every flower-lover to know.

First is the ease with which the Gladiolus can be grown. The writer has called it democratic, and I know of no word to more adequately describe one of its strongest characteristics. It will grow and bloom in almost any kind of soil, if only it can have full exposure to the sun. It requires no "fussing" over. It is singularly free from disease or insect pests. It will stand more dry weather than most flowers. It will even survive outright neglect, returning good for evil by its wonderful bloom.

At the same time, no plant responds more quickly or satisfactorily to good treatment. It likes best a rich, sandy loam. If your soil is heavy or stiff, work in a liberal amount of sand. If it is very light and sandy, spade in a liberal amount of well-rotted manure in the fall. Best results are obtained by preparing the beds in the fall. This is especially true when thoroughly rotted manure is not to be obtained and fresh manure must be used. By spring it is decomposed, and the ground in the very best of condition. Fall-turned sod makes an excellent foundation. If not fall-prepared, the land should be given a liberal dressing of manure or commercial fertilizer, and this spaded in to a depth of 15 inches.



Grouping of Gladioli in garden border

With a well-prepared bed in a sunny exposure the measure of your success with Gladioli rests wholly in the quality of your bulbs. I have found by experience that a great many people fail to understand the vital importance of these brown-husked treasure boxes, in which are locked the plants for which they have made such careful preparation. To them bulbs are just "bulbs," either large or small as the case may be, and the larger bulbs are necessarily the best. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Small bulbs, properly grown, cured and stored, will often throw up plants and flowers twice the size of large bulbs which have been poorly grown and improperly cared for.

Hence the necessity of securing your bulbs from a dealer who can and will guarantee them to be strictly first-class. No matter from whom you get them, if they are not firm and heavy, send them back. Soft, light bulbs will never make strong plants. The best of soil is useless unless the bulbs put in it have within themselves the vigor to make the most of it.

Growing Gladiolus bulbs is my business. The glorious flowers which bring a constant stream of visitors to Meadowvale Farms from long distances every summer are merely a by-product. My whole thought and attention is concentrated on growing the bulbs, to the end that my customers may grow just as fine flowers as I can. When the bulbs are harvested, they are rigidly inspected, and every one which

shows the least sign of weakness is thrown out.

In the same careful way they are stored where they will be neither too dry nor too damp to affect their vitality in any way.

With your bed prepared, and sure of the quality of your bulbs, the next step is the planting. In the latitude of northern New York this may be any time from the middle of April to the middle of May, whenever the frost is wholly out of the ground. Farther south earlier planting is advisable. For succession of bloom, bulbs may be set at intervals up to the 15th of June. The smaller bulbs should be set 2 inches deep, and the very large ones twice that depth.

In planting small beds I have found it an excellent plan to remove the soil to the required depth, lay down an inch of sand over the exposed surface, set the bulbs at proper intervals, pointed side up, replace the soil and firm down thoroughly. Mass effects are best obtained in round, oblong or square beds. For cutting purposes plant in single rows, 4 inches apart in the row, and rows 12 inches apart, or in double rows 18 inches apart.

A succession of bloom from the middle of July until frost may be obtained by planting early and late varieties together, and also by setting the first bulbs 8 inches apart in the row and two or three weeks later making a new planting between these. Gladioli are also very effective in clumps and among other plants in the herbaceous border. When used in this way, set the bulbs 4 to 6 inches apart each way.

See that the plants have plenty of water when they first appear above ground and later when the flower-spikes begin to show color. Keep free from weeds. If this is done they will require no other care. However, an occasional stirring of the soil around them will be an



War—a deep blood-red Gladiolus

advantage, as it tends to keep the top-soil finely pulverized, forming a dust mulch which helps to retain moisture.

After the blooming season is over the bulbs should be allowed to ripen. It is not necessary, however, to wait for the plants to die before harvesting. They should be lifted carefully, shaken free of earth and allowed to dry in the sun for a day or two. Then cut the stalks off close to the bulbs, put the latter in open boxes or shallow baskets, and store in a cool, dry place. Through the winter examine them occasionally to see that they are not becoming too dry or absorbing too much moisture.

The Best of All Cut-Flowers

FOR cutting purposes I know of no other flower to compare with the Gladiolus. Beautiful as it is in the garden, it is even more beautiful when cut and tastefully arranged for interior decoration. Cut when the first bud shows color, and given fresh water daily, it will open every bud to the last one, and this will be as beautiful as the first.

The stalks should be cut well down toward the base and then placed in tall vases filled with clear water. No charcoal or other substance should be used for purifying the water, as the Gladiolus will not foul it as some flowers do. Change the water daily, at the same time cutting a small piece from the stems. This should be done on a slant as then the water has a freer passage up the stems. As the lower flowers wither they should be removed, which is easily done by a gentle pull. As the lower buds always open first, the symmetry of the spike is preserved to the last. The result is a succession of fresh flowers every day for a week and even longer from the same spikes.

There is no odor to offend those to whom such may be offensive, no pathetic drooping. They maintain their sturdy strength of stalk and flower to the very last. In the sick-room they are a constant delight. For the banquet-hall they are unsurpassed. The wonderful range of their tints is the joy of the decorator, for they afford just the right tones to harmonize with any color scheme. And then their very form lends itself to decorative effects.

Few flowers can be sent long distances to such advantage. Up to 500 miles I send them without any packing whatever, simply standing them upright in baskets. Of course, they are almost wholly in the bud, but even the few flowers that may be open regain their freshness as soon as placed in water.

So it seems to me that for both out-of-doors and indoors the Gladiolus is truly the flower of flowers, the flower superb. If you have never grown it, I hope you will this season if only out of curiosity. If you do, I feel sure that your garden never will be without it in the future.

Seldom in my amateur garden experience have I encountered anything that proved as good as the catalogues pictured and described it; and never until this season have I encountered anything that was better than the catalogues reported. I have had both experiences, however, with your Gladiolus bulbs, and I think it only just that I tell you so. The Gladioli have been in bloom for a couple of weeks, and they are the wonder of the neighborhood and a source of immense pleasure and satisfaction to me.—S. H. B., Minn., Sept. 3, 1913.

The bulbs I received from you last year produced very fine blooms and the flowers far surpassed in size and beauty any I have ever seen.—F. A. G., Conn., March 8, 1913.



Dawn (see page 9)

Cowee's Collections of the Best Gladioli

FEW flowers, if any, show the infinite variety in colors and markings possessed by the Gladioli. There is literally no end to them. For this reason it is impossible to list more than a comparatively few of the very best, and the descriptions of these must be brief and wholly inadequate. I am aware that they furnish an insufficient guide to the one not already familiar with the named varieties. For this reason, and also to introduce a number of unlisted varieties of real worth, I have prepared several collections to meet the requirements of those whose space is limited, and who therefore want only the very choicest, and of those who desire to plant in large quantities for mass effect in color. These collections represent years of study and selection. I have no hesitancy in saying that you will be absolutely satisfied with any of these collections which you may select. They represent what, in my opinion, is typical and best of the various classes of this flower.

Special attention is called to my collections in color sections for mass planting or for grouping where specific color effects are desired. The Gold Medal Collection is made up entirely of named varieties of Groff's hybrids, and in the selection of these only the very best in point of size, color and type of flower and in strength of plant have been considered. The Silver Trophy Strain is also of Groff's hybrids, but of seedlings instead of named varieties. As in the Gold Medal collection, these are grouped in color sections and are wonderfully beautiful. I most heartily recommend them.

To my already large list of collections I have added still another, the "Glory of the Garden Collection," which embraces many varieties not included in the other collections. I have spent many hours in the fields selecting the sorts that are worthy of becoming a part of this new collection, and I consider that this assortment embraces the very cream of all the Gladioli grown at Meadowvale Farms.

To those having little or no acquaintance with the modern Gladiolus I suggest a trial of one of my collections of named varieties. In each of these groups the selections have been made with a view to harmony of colors, at the same time giving the customer a variety typical of the very best in its class. My one object is to make each collection the very best value for the price. I believe there is no better way to become acquainted with this superb flower and to see what it is when brought to its highest perfection than through one or more of these collections. Only clean, sound bulbs of large size, selected with the utmost care are sent out.



A planting of my Gladiolus Peace, at Minneapolis, in 1913

Cowee's Named Gladioli: The Cream of the World's Very Best Varieties

If wanted by mail, add 25 cents for packing and postage for either 25 or 50 bulbs. If by express, 25 bulbs at 100 rate, 250 at 1,000 rate

Afterglow. (Groff's.) Tall-growing. Flowers large, salmon-fawn with violet center. 75 cts. each, \$7.50 per doz.

America. Soft lavender-pink, almost a tinted white. \$3 per 100, \$25 per 1,000.

Attraction. Dark, rich crimson with white center and throat. \$6 per 100.

Augusta. Pure white with blue anthers. \$2.50 per 100, \$20 per 1,000.

Baltimore. Light salmon, throat marked with deeper salmon on a cream-colored ground; tall spike and immense flowers; normally an erect grower. \$10 per 100.

Baron Hulot. Dark violet bordering on blue. \$10 per 100.

Berkshire. Delicate shade of pink, lower petals penciled with dark pink, pointed with canary-yellow; large, well-opened flowers; a strong, upright grower. 30 cts. each, \$3 per doz.

Berlinia. Beautiful shell-pink, flaked with spots of darker shade. \$5 per doz.

Blue Jay. (Groff's.) Best blue offered. Vigorous, tall, handsome. \$1 each, \$10 per doz.

Brenchleyensis. A brilliant vermilion-scarlet. \$1.50 per 100, \$10 per 1,000.

Butterfly. Shaded mauve; lower petals garnet with spot of canary. \$15 per 100.

California. Deep lavender-pink, white throat markings. \$20 per 100.

Canary-Bird. Fine light yellow. \$7 per 100.

Ceres. White, spotted with purplish rose. \$2 per 100, \$18 per 1,000.

Claude Monnet. Violet, three lower petals marked with crimson. \$15 per 100.

Contrast. Intense scarlet with white center. Very striking. \$25 per 100.

Cracker Jack. Dark red, throat spotted with yellow and maroon. \$20 per 100.

Cremilda. Delicately tinted pink on creamy white background. \$15 per 100.

Dawn. (Groff's.) Delicate salmon, shading to white inside, claret stain on inferior petal. 60 cts. each, \$6 per doz. (See illustration, p. 7.)

Daytona. (1025.) A beautiful mauve, shaded darker toward base of petals, the lower petals marked with peacock feathering. Large flowers; the graceful bending of the spikes makes it most desirable for jardinière decoration. 50c. each, \$5 per doz.

Dimmock, A. Delicate salmon, deepening in throat. \$20 per 100.

Eldorado. Deep, clear yellow, lower petals spotted maroon and black. \$15 per 100.

Emma Thursby. Carmine stripes on white ground. \$4 per 100.

Eugene Scribe. Tender rose, blazed carmine-red. \$5 per 100.



Another view of a planting of Peace, at Minneapolis

COWEE'S NAMED GLADIOLI, continued

- Evolution.** (Groff's.) Spike of vine-like character. Delicate rose, shaded darker. Valuable variety. 35 cts. each, \$3 per doz.
- Excelsa.** A pleasing shade of rose-pink relieved by a white blotch, lined rose. 75 cts. each, \$7.50 per doz.
- Faust.** Deep velvety crimson; lighter on lower petals. 50 cts. each, \$5 per doz. (See page 3.)
- Feyen Perrin.** Clear salmon, spotted strawberry-red. 30 cts. each, \$3 per doz.
- General de Nansouty.** Bluish purple, throat and lower petals marked with crimson and yellow. \$20 per 100.
- Giant Pink.** Dark pink, throat marked with dark red. \$10 per 100.
- Glory.** Flowers large; creamy white; crimson stripe in center of each petal, ends of petals ruffled. \$7.50 per 100.

- George Paul.** Crimson, stained yellow, spotted with purple. \$10 per 100.
- Gil Blas.** Salmon-rose, red blotch on primrose ground. Early. \$10 per 100.
- I. S. Hendrickson.** Mottled white and bright pink. \$6 per 100.
- Independence.** Light scarlet; very pleasing. \$5 per 100, \$40 per 1,000.
- Intensity.** Rich, light scarlet, lower petals spotted with white. \$20 per 100. (See page 12.)
- Jean Dieulafoy.** Creamy white, stained maroon. Flowers large. Nearly all the buds on the long spikes will open after cutting. \$15 per 100.
- Klondyke.** Clear primrose-yellow with blotch of crimson-maroon. \$10 per 100.
- Lacordaire.** Brilliant, flaming vermilion, self-colored; early; extra-large flowers on tall spike. A gorgeous French introduction. 30 cts. each.
- Lady Howard de Walden.** Clear yellow, flaked with carmine. Dwarf. \$15 per 100.
- La Luna.** (Groff's.) White, small brown markings in throat; extra fine. 50c. ea., \$5 per doz.
- La Marck.** Cherry, tinted with orange, blazed with red. \$4 per 100.
- Lavandula.** Large, well-opened flowers of a pale lavender shade, with a large cream blotch in throat, the petals sometimes become flecked with carmine. \$1 each, \$9 per doz.
- London.** Large flowers of perfect form; delicate lilac-rose flush on white ground; a beautiful type. \$3 each, \$30 per doz.
- May.** White, finely flaked with rosy crimson. \$3 per 100, \$25 per 1,000.
- Madam Lemoiner.** White tinged lemon. Very early. \$2 per 100, \$15 per 1,000.
- Madame Monneret.** Delicate rose. Late bloomer. \$3 per 100.
- Meadowvale.** Pure white, touched with crimson in throat; lower petals marked with faint pink. \$15 per 100.
- Mephistopheles.** Dark red, stained black and yellow. One of the most striking Gladioli in the list. \$15 per 100.
- Mrs. Beecher.** Rosy crimson, white throat marked and spotted. \$7 per 100.
- Mrs. Francis King.** Light scarlet of a pleasing shade; flowers large; well expanded; tall, straight spike. \$2.50 per 100.
- 1900.** Rich red, with white spots. \$2.50 per 100, \$20 per 1,000.
- Mrs. Frank Pendleton, Jr.** Large flowers; delicate salmon-pink, with blood-red blotch in throat. 60 cts. each, \$6 per doz.
- Negerfurst.** Very dark, velvety red with black spots, flamed with white and flaked lilac-rose. 60 cts. each, \$6 per doz.
- Niagara.** A magnificent variety; large flowers; color soft primrose-yellow, slightly tinged rose-pink in throat, penciled with carmine on two lower petals. \$3 per doz., \$20 per 100.



"Glory of the Garden" Collection (see page 13)

COWEE'S NAMED GLADIOLI, continued

- Pacha.** Nasturtium-orange, throat spotted red on sulphur ground. \$10 per 100.
- Pactole.** Yellow, tinged with rose at edges, maroon blotch. \$8 per 100.
- Panama.** A seedling of America, resembling the parent variety except that it is a much deeper pink. 50 cts. each, \$5 per doz.
- Papilio Rose.** A very charming variety and a hybrid of the species *Papilio major*, it is practically one color—a pale rose-pink, but a zone of creamy white gives a blotch effect on the inferior petals of the original body-color. 75 cts. each, \$7.50 per doz.
- Peace.** This is one of the famous Groff hybrids, and I believe it is one of the grandest varieties ever introduced. It is the nearest approach to a clear, pure white, and on this account was given the name of "Peace." The flowers are unusually large, and borne on a strong, upright spike; they are almost pure white, with a delicate lilac feathering on the inferior petals. For cutting this variety is unsurpassed, as the flowers keep well, and if kept in water, the buds will open the entire length of the spike. The plant is strong, with a broad, rich green foliage. Fine, selected bulbs, \$1.50 per doz., \$9 per 100. (See illustration page 2.)
- Peachblow.** Attractive flower of a peach-blossom-pink, lined violet. 60 cts. each, \$6 per doz.
- Philadelphia.** Dark pink, ends of petals suffused with white. \$15 per 100.
- Princeps.** Rich crimson with white blotches. \$10 per 100.
- Princess Altieri.** White, shaded with carmine. \$15 per 100.
- Prophetesse.** Pearly white with crimson throat; early. \$10 per 100.
- Rochester White.** A pure white variety, with well-opened, large flowers; both anthers and pollen are also white. Plant averages 3 feet in height. 40 cts. each, \$4.50 per doz.
- Rosella.** Light rose, stained purple and white. \$20 per 100.
- Rutland (101 plus).** Practically one color—a deep claret, the lower petals marked with a small yellow line. \$10 per 100.
- Saleni.** Salmon-pink, maroon blotches. \$4 per 100.
- Scarsdale.** Pink-lavender, shaded dark rose. \$10 per 100.
- Scribe.** Rose, tinted white and striped with carmine. \$8 per 100.
- Senator Volland.** Blue, dark violet blotch with a yellow stain, striped blue. \$15 per 100.
- Shakespeare.** White, suffused carmine-rose, rosy blotch. \$8 per 100, \$60 per 1,000.
- Silver Star.** Large, white flowers, flecked with pale lilac; which glisten when held in the sun, and are of remarkable substance; a vigorous and strong grower. \$1 each, \$9 per doz.

- Snowbank.** White, red stain at base of petals. \$5 per 100.
- Snowbird.** An exceptionally pure white, with pale lilac lines on the inferior petals. 50 cts. each, \$5 per doz.
- Sulphur King.** Clear sulphur-yellow. \$15 per 100
- Taconic.** Pink, marked with deep crimson and thin stripe of pale yellow. \$15 per 100.
- Victory.** Best yellow. \$7 per 100.
- Vivid.** Plant is normally erect and of good constitution; the flower is round and well placed on the spike; rich velvety purple. 35 cts. each, \$3 per doz.
- War.** (Groff's.) Deep blood-red, shaded crimson-black. \$1.25 each, \$12 per doz. (See page 6.)
- White Cloud.** Pure white; branching. \$10 per 100.
- Witch.** Mottled red, inferior petals stained white with vein of old gold. \$10 per 100.



Three spikes from my *Silver Trophy Strain* (see page 15)

Cowee's Superb Collections of the World's Best Named Gladioli

THESE collections are my conception of what is most typical and best of the various classes of this flower. I have yet to find varieties which can surpass those named in the different groups. My one object has been to make each collection the very best value for the price. All my bulbs are selected with the utmost care—none but clean, sound bulbs go out from Meadowvale Farms.



Intensity Gladiolus (see page 10)

Everybody's Introductory Collection

I have called the Gladiolus "Everybody's Flower." I want everybody to know it for what it is. In making "Everybody's Introductory Collection," I have selected twelve named varieties, which I believe will be fairly typical of the different classes of Gladioli. I have made many splendid offers in the past, but I think this one is by far the best offer of Gladioli ever made in America. Postpaid, one bulb of each, 75 cts.

America. Lavender-pink.
Attraction. Crimson; white throat.
Canary-Bird. Light yellow.
Claude Monnet. Violet and crimson.
Cracker Jack. Dark red, throat spotted.
Emma Thursby. White, striped carmine.
Independence. Light scarlet.
Klondyke. Primrose-yellow.
La Marck. Cherry, with orange tint.
Madame Lemonier. White, with lemon tinge.
1900. Red, spotted white.
White Cloud. Pure white.

Cowee's Gold Medal Collection

Groff's Extra-Select Gladioli

(See illustration, page 15)

In the preparation of this collection over 600 named varieties were discarded. Every desirable section is represented—Gandavensis, Lemoine, Nanceianus, Blues and New Hybrids. The flowers are of largest size in their respective types, and plants of great vigor and vitality. No better value could be desired. The Gold Medal Collection is offered in lots of 25, 50, 75 and 100 bulbs or upwards. Every collection is separately prepared, and in orders of 1,000 or more few duplicates will be found.

Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$3.25, or 50 bulbs \$6.25. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$12. If by express, 25 at 100 rate.

The Gold Medal Collection in Color Sections

These are especially select collections of new hybrids, prepared from the cream of the world's named introductions: Gandavensis, Lemoine, Nanceianus. In making up these collections, several hundred varieties, many possessed of great merit, were discarded. Customers who have purchased this collection have been highly pleased. *If by express, 25 at 100 rate.*

1. **Selected New Dark Hybrids.** All shades and combinations of red, scarlet and crimson. Quality the very highest. Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$2.75, or 50 bulbs \$5.25. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$10.
2. **Selected New White, Light and Yellow Hybrids.** No equal value offered elsewhere or otherwise obtainable. Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$3.25, or 50 bulbs \$6.25. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$12.
3. **Selected New Blue Hybrids.** Not offered elsewhere in the world (no smoky or slate-blues). Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$4, or 50 bulbs \$7.75. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$15.

Glory of the Garden Collection

This is an entirely new collection offered for the first time this year. It represents years of selection from the best among thousands of hybrids. The varieties offered are of the most advanced type of the perfected Gladiolus. They are distinct from my other collections, with fully as wide a range in colors. New developments in brilliant hues, worthy of a place in the choicest collections. By mail, 25 bulbs \$6.50, postpaid; \$25 per 100, by express collect. (See illustration, page 10.)

Cowee's World's Fair Collection

Groff's New and Rare Gladioli

Expensive named varieties have been selected for this collection. It includes many high-class novelties of recent introduction, and the cream of high-quality Gladioli of extra-choice type. The flowers are of exceptional size and the shades are of red, scarlet, crimson, cerise, yellow, blue and light colors, all of the purest quality. I have given special attention to growing these varieties, and I am sure you will be pleased with the size of the bulbs and the strength of the plants. Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$5.25, or 50 bulbs \$10.25. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$20. If by express, 25 at 100 rate.

In justice to you I think I ought to use this opportunity to thank you for the splendid bulbs which you sent me last year. The flowers produced by those bulbs were the most magnificent I have ever seen and the soil in which I planted them was not of a very good quality. I have never raised such Gladiolus flowers before, in fact I never believed that I could raise such flowers—it must have been in the bulbs.—T. P. S., Ohio, January 7, 1913.



Some of Groff's Hybrids in my Silver Trophy Strain

Cowee's Three-Dollar Collection

For my friends who wish to try a half-dozen of the latest novelties I have selected these as representing the very best of the recent introductions. I can tell you what colors appear in the flowers, but you cannot know their marvelous beauty until you have seen them blooming in your garden. One bulb of each, postpaid, for \$3.

Afterglow. Salmon-fawn, with violet center.

Berkshire. Dark to light pink, pointed with canary-yellow.

Lacordaire. Bright, glowing scarlet-vermilion.

Daytona. Mauve, shading darker toward base of petals.

Rochester White. Pure white.

Vivid. Rich, velvety purple.

Cowee's Imperial Two-Dollar Collection

For this collection I have selected six of the finest kinds of new Gladioli. One extra-choice bulb of each of these new introductions will be sent by mail, postpaid, for only \$2.

Peace. Grandest white known.

La Luna. Buds open as a pale yellow, passing to white when expanded. Throat is beautifully marked brown. Plant over 3 feet high.

Dawn. Strong, vigorous plant over 4 feet high. Flowers salmon, shading to white, claret stain on inferior petals.

Blue Jay. Best blue variety ever offered. The pronounced blue, relieved by white shading, strikingly resembles the coloring of the bird from which it is named. Plant vigorous, often 6 feet high. Flowers large.

Victory. Without doubt this is the best yellow. Flowers of medium size, of delicate sulphur-yellow and well arranged on a straight spike.

Faust. Deep, velvety crimson flowers of large size, arranged on a spike about 4 feet high. The two lower petals are suffused with white.

Cowee's Novelty Dollar Collection

Composed of six fine sorts, selected to cover a rich range of color. For \$1 I will send, postpaid, one fine bulb of each of the following named varieties:

Baltimore. Light salmon, with deep salmon throat.

California. Deep lavender-pink, throat marked with white.

Eldorado. Clear yellow, spotted maroon and black.

General de Nansouty. Bluish purple, marked crimson and lemon-yellow.

Meadowvale. A fine white, throat tinged crimson, lower petals marked faint pink.

Taconic. Bright pink, flecked and striped; lower petals crimson, shading into lemon-yellow.



Ten named Gladioli for 50 cents (see page 15)

Cowee's Superb Dollar Collection

For only \$1 I will mail, postpaid, one strong, blooming bulb of each of these six Gladioli:

Baron Hulot. Dark violet or blue.

Giant Pink. Large flowers of rich pink, lower petals marked with dark red.

Jean Dieulafoy. Creamy white, lower petals stained maroon.

Mephistopheles. Flowers large; dark red, stained with black and yellow.

Rosella. Beautiful light rose, stained purple and white.

Scarsdale. Pink-lavender.

Ten Named Gladioli for Fifty Cents

Each variety is of distinct merit, and very desirable. Because of the extremely low price, I can allow no changes. For 50 cts. I will send, postpaid, one good bulb of each of the ten following varieties:

Augusta. White, with blue anthers.

Senator Volland. Blue, dark violet blotch with yellow stain.

Brenchleyensis. Brilliant vermilion-scarlet.

Eugene Scribe. Tender rose, blazed carmine-red.

Gil Blas. Salmon-rose, with red blotch on primrose. Early.

George Paul. Deep crimson, slightly stained yellow, spotted with purple.

Prophetesse. Pearly white, with crimson throat.

May. White, finely flaked rosy crimson.

Mrs. Beecher. Rosy crimson, with white throat.

Snowbank. Pure white, with dot of red at base of petals.

Silver Trophy Strain

Groff's World's Best New Hybrid Seedlings

Only large, blooming bulbs are offered. In the three classifications as given in this list, you have an assortment of colors that will make a most charming grouping in any part of your garden.

If by express, 25 at 100 rate

1. **Newest Reds, Scarlets and Crimson.** The world's commercial strains offer few equal to and none better than these. Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$1, or 50 bulbs \$1.75. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$3.
2. **New White, Light and Yellow.** All shades of white, cream and yellow in many combinations, relieved by stains and blotches of rich colors. Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$1.25, or 50 bulbs \$2.25. Express collect, 100 bulbs, \$4.
3. **Rare Blues in Clematis, Lilac and Heliotrope Shades.** New hybrids of *Papilio major*. Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$1.50, or 50 bulbs \$2.75. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$5.



Cowee's "Gold Medal" Collection (see page 12)

Cowee's Midway Collection

This collection is prepared from all sections in new named varieties of European origin, which, until the introduction of the Gold Medal and Silver Trophy strains, led the world; also a few of the earlier introductions of Groff's hybrids.

Postpaid, 25 bulbs \$1.50, or 50 bulbs \$2.75. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$5. If by express, 25 at 100 rate.

Special and Miscellaneous Mixtures

No orders accepted for less than 25 bulbs. If by express, 25 at 100 rate, 250 at 1,000 rate

COWEE'S "NIAGARA STRAIN." Contains named white, light yellow and variegated American hybrids and named Childsi. Postpaid, 25 bulbs 90 cts., 50 bulbs \$1.50. Express collect, 100 bulbs \$2.50.

GROFF'S HYBRID SEEDLINGS. Much stock which never originated with Mr. Groff is offered as his hybrids by unscrupulous dealers. Meadowvale-grown bulbs are the pure Groff strain. Large, blooming bulbs, \$1.50 per 100, \$12 per 1,000; second-size bulbs, \$1 per 100, \$9 per 1,000; small bulbs, 60 cts. per 100, \$5 per 1,000.

MEADOWVALE MIXTURE. This includes the largest number of magnificent varieties of any popular mixture. First size, \$12 per 1,000; second size, \$9 per 1,000.

LEMOINE HYBRIDS. Includes hundreds of the more modern colors and many novelties. Extra-fine mixed, \$15 per 1,000; fine mixed, \$10 per 1,000.

NANCEIANUS. Good variety in colors. \$2.50 per 100, \$20 per 1,000.

CHILDSI. Choice selections. \$2.50 per 100, \$20 per 1,000.

PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS. \$8 per 100, \$60 per 1,000.

EXTRA PRIMULINUS HYBRIDS. (Groff's.) These new hybrids cover the full range of sections known as Concolor, Erecta, Ligneata and Maculata, in addition to many intermediate variations. The bulbs are superior in size and blooming qualities. \$15 per 100.

Mixtures to Color

	Per 1,000		Per 1,000
Extra white and light shades.....	\$20 00	Scarlet and red shades.....	\$12 00
White and light shades.....	15 00	Extra orange and yellow shades.....	50 00
Extra pink and rose shades.....	20 00	Orange and yellow shades.....	40 00
Pink and rose shades.....	15 00	Striped and variegated.....	18 00
Extra scarlet and red shades.....	15 00	Botanical hybrids.....	\$2 per 100.. 15 00

If by mail, add 25 cents for packing and postage if either 25 or 50 are desired. If by express, 25 at 100 rate, 250 at 1,000 rate

A box of Gladioli bulbs sent to a friend makes a present that will be a pleasure for the whole summer. Send the order, with the proper address, and I will ship the bulbs to arrive at the desired time.

Just How to Order

Order early. This is important from your standpoint and mine. By so doing you insure getting just what you want, whereas late orders cannot always be properly executed, especially those received on the very edge of the planting season. At that time I may be out of certain choice varieties, perhaps the very ones you want most. *I make no substitutions* unless so instructed. Bulbs for greenhouse forcing are ready for shipping in the late fall as soon as thoroughly cured. To encourage large plantings, all prices quoted are practically wholesale, quality taken into consideration.

Upon orders for more than fifty bulbs by mail, remit 8 cents for each additional twenty-five bulbs to cover postage. Our mailing-size bulbs are much larger than those sent out by most growers, but still larger bulbs can be sent by express, and we advise having shipments made in this way wherever possible. We have a special rate, which is 20 per cent below the regular charge on merchandise.

Special Discount to Seedsmen and to those ordering in lots of 5,000 or more.

Remittances Must Accompany All Orders from unknown purchasers, and may be by post-office order, express order, New York draft, or cash by registered letter. Postage stamps accepted.

Carefully Sign Your Name, post office, county and state. Write clearly. Address all orders to

ARTHUR COWEE

PROPRIETOR MEADOWVALE FARMS

BERLIN, RENSSELAER COUNTY, N. Y.

The McFarland Publicity Service, Harrisburg, Pa.

BERLIN is in Rensselaer county, N. Y., near the eastern state line, on the Chatham division of the Rutland Railroad. We have good train service by way of Troy, Albany and Chatham, and visitors may leave Troy at 7:45 a.m., Albany at 7 a.m., arriving at Berlin at 9:15 a.m. and 9:53 a.m., respectively. The journey is through some of the most picturesque portions of New York state.

Especially fine highways permit comfortable motoring through our section from the cities mentioned and from the Berkshire summer resorts.

ARTHUR COWEE
MEADOWVALE FARMS
BERLIN • NEW YORK