

Established 1886.

W.W.WILMORE, DAHLIA SPECIALIST

P. O. Box 382, Denver, Colorado

Spring, 1899

Gardens, Cor. Prospect and Wadsworth Aves. <sup>13</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Miles West of the City

### HIGHEST NATIONAL HONORS

My display of Dahlias at the Great Exhibition was the only one that received a prize. Owing to the great distance I have never competed in eastern shows,

but when a prize is offered within one thousand miles of me my prize winners have never failed to bring the prize my way. They will do the same for you.

"Your exhibit was a good one and I am sure attracted sufficient attention to thoroughly repay you for having made it."

From F. W. TAYLOR, Supt. Dept. of Exhibits.





It is fitting and proper that in presenting my catalogue for the new year, I gratefully acknowledge the favors received at the hands of my friends and patrons in the past. By their cordial support I have attained to the position of the largest dahlia specialist in the United

States. The wonderful progress and improvement made in this popular flower in the past few years, has necessitated a rigid weeding out of inferior as well as many heretofore considered good varieties. By this careful attention to business I have kept to the front, and have never failed in taking the first premium of the State. Customers may select from my lists with assurance that the stock will be the best and that the varieties will be true to name and color. Each year I originate many new varieties and carefully note in a book kept for that purpose, the habits and qualities of each variety. The stock offered in this catalogue represents twelve years of careful study and selection of varieties. To all those who receive this catalogue, and have never tested my stock, I solicit a trial order, feeling confident that the stock will prove entirely satisfactory. W. W. WILMORE.

## TERMS ..... UPON WHICH I DO BUSINESS

1st. The cash must accompany the order.

2d. Remittances may be sent in any way most convenient to the purchaser, but where remittances are made by P.O. order or registered letter extra stock will be given to recompense for the extra cost.

3d. Prices quoted include postage or express charges.

4th. Club terms: In lots of five dozen or over to one address, those varieties priced at \$1 50 per dozen will be sent for \$1.25; all other stock in proportion.

5th, One-half dozen may be ordered at dozen rates. "Extras" are sent with all orders including half-dozen orders.

6th. GUARANTEE: I guarantee my stock true to name and of perfect germinating qualities, with the express understanding that should any not prove so. I will replace it with other stock or refund the money paid, but will not be liable for any damage beyond this.



# A FEW FACTS AND FANCIES

This interesting flower derives its name from Dr. Andrew Dahl, a noted Swedish botanist. The wild Dahlia is found in South America, and extends as far north as Mexico. There are but few species, but these have been propagated into a seemingly endless number of varieties of every hue. Just who should have the honor for first introducing the Dahlia as a domestic flower is a question upon which the authorities differ. But it is generally conceded that the first collection was sent to Madrid by Baron Humboldt, who was traveling in Mexico. They were first introduced into England in 1789 by the Marchioness of Bute, but they were grown in France and Spain several years prior to this. This collection, together with another received in 1804, was lost. Another lot was imported in 1815, and from this collection most of the Dahlias of the present time have been propagated. The flowers embrace all colors except blue. In their wild state they are single.

But to speak of the Dahlia of the present: It is wonderful to note the changes, not only in the Dahlia itself but in the popular attention paid to it. Eespecially is this true of some of the new cactus varieties which, with their long twisted or pointed petals, remind me more of a Chrysanthemum than a Dahlia. But, however popular this new type may be with some, it is plainly evident that it will not supplant the old show and fancy types. It, however, should be born in mind that the Cactus-Dahlia is still new, and it is quite probable that many of the weaknesses of the type may yet be eradicated. The capricious habit of the Dahlia to sometimes freak, and sport, has given rise to some popular delusions concerning them, as for instance drawing color from other plants through the contact of the roots, and making variegated varieties by drawing various colored yarn threads through the roots, etc.; all such beliefs are without foundation in fact. It must be admitted, however, that the laws governing these habits are but little understood.

### CULTIVATION AND PROTECTION

#### .....READ THIS BEFORE PLANTING......

While the Dahlia is one of the easiest of all flowers to cultivate, it by no means follows that it requires no attention. In fact, no flower that I have ever cultivated will give such a generous response to good cultivation as the Dahlia. Deep and thorough stirring of the soil during the early growth of the plant is indispensable to success. With poor cultivation or reglect the flowers will rapidly degenerate—become semi-double and faded in color. The Dahlia, with but few exceptions, should be given an open, sunny situation for at least a portion of each day. It is a rank feeder and should be given rich soil and kept free from grass and weeds. Cultivation should cease when the blooms appear. After this a liberal supply of water in dry weather will be all they require. Plant the bulbs two or three feet apart, according to the size and habit of the plant. The bulbs should be planted about four inches below the surface of the ground, laying the bulb on its side. Varieties growing about three feet in height should be tied to stakes to prevent falling. Plant about the first of May in this latitude. As soon as the frost has killed the foliage, the roots should be carefully taken from the ground and the soil shaken from among them; they may be stored away in a cool place, not too dry, but secure from frost.

### CLASSIFICATION OF DAHLIAS

Dahlias are divided into six general classes and are amply illustrated on the back of this catalogue: Class 1. CACTUS.—This class embraces the long narrow-petaled varieties; the petals of which are generally pointed or twisted.

Class 2. DECORATIVE (so called for want of a better name).—This class is an intermediate form, having broad flat petals, and was formerly classed with the Cactus lists.

Class 3. FANCY .- This class takes in all variegated varieties.

Class 4. POMPONE.—This class embraces the small round Dahlias, the plants of which are generally of a dwarf bushy habit. The lines for this class, however, are not clearly drawn.

Class 5. SHOW.—The name Show generally applies to those varieties producing large, well-formed flowers, showing only solid colors but may frequently have shaded tips.

Class 6. SINGLE .- Too well known to require a description.

Note-There is of necessity more or less overlapping among the classes, and the above rules only apply in general.



## Twelve Grand Novelties



#### For Types and Forms see Last Page. Prices quoted include Postage.

Ft. High.

Approximate. CHANCELLOR SWAYNE. (Cactus.) This fine dahlia, although introduced in 1894, was but little known in this country until last year. It is a rich yiolet purple, of medium size, and so well formed that it might almost be said that every flower is fit for exhibition; quite pointed. 20c each; \$2.00 per doz. 4

- EARL OF PEMBROKE. (Cactus.) (See illustration, page 1.) A grand dahlia looking more like a chrysanthemum than a dahlia. Its petals are very long and narnow. Every flower is perfectly formed, and quite full to the center. Color, rich dark purple lake. 25c each; \$2.50 per doz.
- EARNEST GLASSE. (Cactus.) Another dahlia well deserving of a place in every collection. Its petals are very long and drawn to a sharp point. (See last page.) Color, rosy purple, shaded light purple. 20c each; \$2.00 per doz....
- FLORENCE WOOD. (Show.) This dahlia I originated three years ago, and now offer it for the first time. It is a large, exceptionally well formed flower, borne well above the foliage on stiff stems. Color, light violet purple. Early and free. 25c each; \$2,50 per doz.....
- **GLORIOSA.** A pure cactus type, with long, narrow petals like a chrysanthemum. Color, rich scarlet. One of the best cactus types yet introduced. 20c each; \$2.00 per doz.....
- **JOHN H. ROACH.** (Cactus.) The petals of this variety are considerably curved and twisted. It is an early and profuse bloomer. Color, canary yellow. 20c each; \$2.00 per doz.
- LADY PENZANCE. A beautiful yellow cactus, with long pointed petals like Gloriosa and Mrs. Peart, of faultless

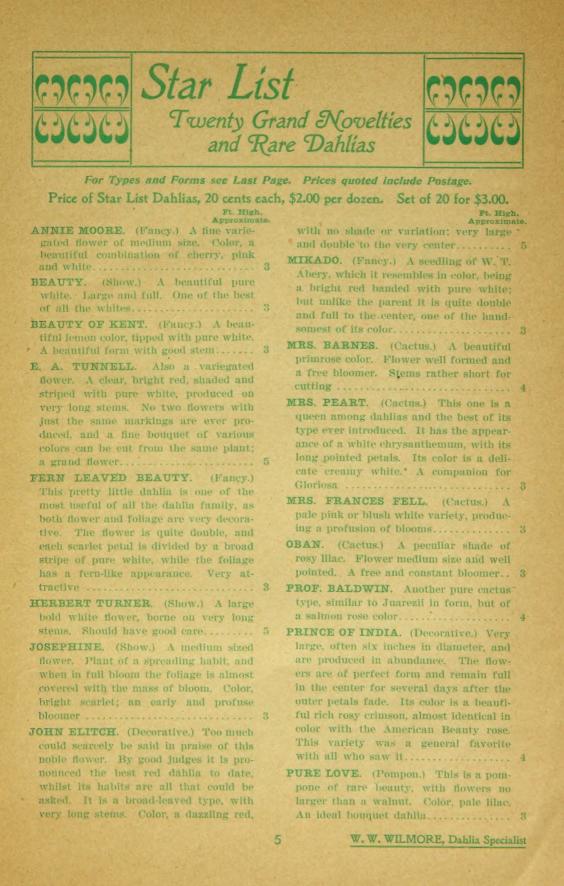
- MRS. BENNETT. (Cactus.) Soft erimson, large and well formed; petals broad and twisted. 20c each; \$2.00 per doz...
- **PRINCE OF ORANGE.** (Cactus.) This dahlia is a marvel of productiveness, the whole plant being nearly hidden with the large, well formed flowers; rarely, if ever, is a deformed flower seen. Color, a blending of apricot orange and bronze. (See illustration, page 1.) 25e each; \$2.50 per doz.

SPECIAL OFFER, One Each of the Twelve Novelties for ..... \$2.60

Many other Novelties in limited quantities.

W. W. WILMORE, Dahlia Specialist

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#### Star List Twenty Grand Novelties Continued Ft. High. Ft. High. Approximate Approximate SALISBURY WHITE. (Show.) In this STAR. This is a semi-double, and the only one I grow of this class. Its beauty, white we have one of the very best however, entitles it to the first place in whites for cutting. It is rather below any collection. Color, lemon ground, medium size with a good stem, and a flecked and striped with cherry red. free bloomer..... 3 Very fine for cutting..... SCARLET QUEEN. (Decorative.) A VERDIFLORA. Introduced from Engwonderful bloomer. The flower is rather land and is a natural curiosity. Its below medium size, and when in full flowers are as green as the foliage, and bloom is a perfect blaze of color. It is are produced in profusion. For designthe earliest of all and continues freely ing or decorative work with other colors throughout the season. Color, light it has no equal. Plant dwarf and comscarlet .....

Show and Fancy Varieties

See Illustration of Types and Forms on Last Page.

One to three strong germs to each Bulb. Price, 15c. each; per Dozen, \$1.50.

Ft. High. Approximate.
ALTA. Canary yellow. A medium sized
flower with very long stems 5
AMERICAN BEAUTY. Yellow ground,
tipped and shaded with crimson. A
superb flower 4
A. D. LIVONI. Rich pink. Finely
formed. A very handsome flower 3
BUTTERCUP. Golden yellow, tipped and
shaded with cherry red. Very large
and of exquisite form 3
COPPER KING. (Wilmore's.) Light cop-
pery red. A distinct shade of color.
Perfect form 4
COLONIST. Dark fawn. A distinct
color. Extra large size. A noble flower.21/2
CRIMSON KING. Deep crimson. Very
constant in color. An early and free
bloomer 3
CAMELIAFLORA. Pure white. A per-
fectly formed flower of medium size 3
COMET. A pompone of rare attraction,
producing an abundance of small, ball-

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with pure white. A valuable acquisi-ELLEN McGRAW. White ground, deeply edged with rosy lilac; flowers almost round. Very good..... 4 EMPEROR. Yellow ground, tipped with cherry; quite a free bloomer...... 3 GEN. BIDWELL. (Wilmore's.) Pure lemon yellow. Of superb form. One of the best of all yellows..... GLORI DE LYON. Pure white. The largest white dablia in cultivation, almost round as a ball..... 3 GEO. RAWLINGS. Maroon. Fine form. A grand flower..... HECTOR. Light cherry red. A fine form, with long stem ..... 3

COLUMBUS. Also a new introduction, which possesses many points of merit: Light cherry red, tipped and shaded

Ft. High. Approximate

JOHN FORBES. Fawn color, striped maroon. Very large and free, possessing all the properties of a first class flower

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## Show and Fancy Varieties & & Continued & & &

Ft. High. Approximat	5.5
JOHN BENNETT. Buff orange shaded	10
to crimson. Flowers very large and	
full	3
JOHN KEYNES. A beautiful lemon yel-	
low. Good form	3
KATE HASLAM. A beautiful soft pink.	
Petals beautifully quilled	3
KAISER WILHELM. One of the grand-	
est flowers in cultivation. Of immense	
size and perfect form. Deep yellow,	
tipped and shaded with cherry red	4
LYDIA DIETER. (Wilmore's.) A beau-	
tiful soft lavender shade. One of the	
most attractive colors in the entire col-	
lection	3
LONDON BEAUTY. Clear purple. Good	
form	3
LUCY FAWCETT. Straw color, flecked	
with scarlet and purple; sometimes solid	-
colors. An interesting and desirable va-	
riety	1/2
LADY MILDMAY. A very beautiful	
flower. White ground shaded to pale	
lilac. Very large and full, A free	
bloomer	3
LA VILLA. Rosy purple. Very large	
and free	3
MURIEL. A very large flower. Color,	
chrome yellow	3
MISS DODD. Purest yellow. Of ex-	
quisite form and color. A remarkably	
handsome flower	3
MRS. WYNDHAM. Buff ground. Deeply	
edged with rosy purple. Very fine3	31/2
MISS THATCHER. Sulphur yellow.	
Producing its flowers well above the	
foliage; very productive. Should be in	
every collection	3
MISS CANNELL. Another English va-	
riety, of perfect form and texture. A	
tall, robust plant. Flowers very large	
and on long graceful stems. Color,	
light purple, shading to pink. Very	-
showy	5
MAD EUGENE. Rich wine color, shaded	
to deep yellow at the base of petals; a	0
most beautiful color	3
MRS. ASKINS. Deep fawn color, a pe-	
culiar shade. Fine form	4

Ft. High.
IAD FURTRADO. Pure white. Ex-
ceptionally large 8
IRS. STANCOMB. Buff, shaded pale
crimson. Quite full, with good stem 4
IRS. LANGTRY. Light buff, heavily 1
tipped and shaded with crimson 3
IRS. GLADSTONE. Pale soft pink. A
lovely color and form 3
IRS. CARTER. Dark purple tipped ,
with pure white 3
RINE EMERSON. (Wilmore's.) A very
handsome flower, borne on long stems.
Was much admired by all who saw it
last season. Color, rich dazzling red, shaded light cherry red. 5
Character inghts cheers, souther the state
<b>PRATOR.</b> Very large and free. Buff salmon; a distinct color
BRANGE PRINCE. A round, ball-
shaped flower of perfect form. Buff
ground, shaded and tipped with cherry
red. Very fine
PEARL. Of immense size, with long
stem. Color, pale lavender, shaded to
lilac 3
RINCESS MATHILDA. Pure white.
A large, finely formed variety. So pro-
lific that the whole plant appears one
solid mass of white
PIONEER. The nearest approach to a
black dahlia of any yet introduced. For
combined excellence it has no superior. $.2\frac{1}{2}$
PRINCE BISMARCK. Purple lake. A
most pleasing color. Very fine form. One of the best
<b>STATESMAN.</b> Rich purple. Very large and constant. A grand flower 4
SNOWFLAKE. A small, pure white
<b>VISTA.</b> Pure white. Very free bloomer with long stems, which make it desir-
able for cutting purposes 4
and for extends parposed to the terminal a

Many other new and old varieties of established merit can be furnished in limited quantities.....

A Choice Collection of Thirteen \$1.00.

For one dollar I will send a choice collection in thirteen separate varieties, my choice from the foregoing list, including red; scarlet, white, yellow, variegated, etc. All good varieties. Prepaid for \$1.00.

W. W. WILMORE, Dahlia Specialist



For Illustrations of Types and Forms see Last Page.

#### Price, 15c. each; \$1.50 per Dozen.

Ft. High		Ft. High.
CACTUS QUEEN. (Wilmore's.) Pale sil-		LANCELOT. Orange red on long stem. 4
very pink, suffused with light purple. • Very large. A distinct variety		MARCHIONESS OF BUTE. A delicate soft pink. Very pretty
<b>CORA GLEASON.</b> Color, deep purple lake Very constant, and will never show an open center. No finer cactus has ever been introduced		MRS. HOLMES. Crimson maroon. Some- times tinged with a brownish shade. A free bloomer
<b>EMPRESS OF INDIA.</b> Crimson maroon. Very tall and showy; one of the best of the cactus types	7	MRS. HARTONG. Very large and of exquisite form. Color, light fawn, suf- fused with pink. Very handsome
GERMANIA NORVA. Color, bright pink; petals heavily serrated. (See light		MRS. GRANT. Rich silvery pink. Ex- cellent for bouquets
flower on trade mark)	3	MAID OF ATHENS. A dwarf growing
JUAREZII. (Cactus.) Bright scarlet, with long, twisted or pointed petals, A		plant, producing an abundance of pretty pink flowers. Should have slight shade.2½
distinct variety	4	NYMPHAEA, A pale pink flower of me- dium size. Very valuable for cutting
KING OF CACTUS. A beautiful large		purposes
red flower, perhaps the largest cactus grown	4	HENRY PATRICK. Pure white. Be- yond all question this is the best white
LADY MARSHAM. Salmon rose color,		cactus yet introduced. Flowers are very
densely double	4	large and pure in color
LYNDHURST. Scarlet or vermilion. Distinct in its color from all others. A		SALMON CACTUS. / Large well formed flower, full to the very center. 'Color,
noble flower	4	deep salmon red 3
LUCILE. A remarkably free bloomer; so-much so that the whole plant appears one mass of yellow. Color, pure sul-		WM. PEARCE. Rich orange yellow. A fine variety, either for cutting or show purposes
phur yellow. Double to the center,	3	ZULU. Almost black. The darkest of
MAID OF KENT. (GRAND MOGUL.) Intense scarlet, variegated with pure		all the cactus varieties. Should be in every collection 2
white; frequently a solid scarlet. A		WHITE QUEEN. (Single.) A pure white
pure cactus of large size. Extra fine	4	variety for cutting

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CANNAS

As a decorative plant the Canna has no equal. Its immense foliage, of various shades of green and bronze, contrasting beautifully with the gorgeous blossoms, which are produced in profusion. The improved Cannas produce flowers as large as the Gladiolus. The following nine are extra fine varielies......



10 Cents Each \$1.00 Per Dozen EXCEPT WHERE NOTED

**AUSTRIA.** Green foliage of a remarkably strong growth; flowers very large. Color, pure yellow, with light blotches of red in the throat. Belongs to the Orchid flowered class. 15 cents.

ALPHONSE BOUVIER. Deep red.

ENGDALE. Bright red, bronze foliage.

FLORENCE VAUGHAN. Yellow ground, thickly dotted with red.

PAUL MARQUANT. Deep salmon,

- **ITALIA.** Green foliage. Flowers Irisshaped, belonging to what is called the Orchid flowered section. Its color is bright red, bordered with golden yellow. 15 cents.
- J. D. CABOS. Purple-bronze foliage; flowers clear apricot,

MAD CROZY. Vermilion, banded with gold.

**QUEEN CHARLOTTE.** Bright scarlet, with a broad band of golden yellow in the center of each petal.



Tuberose

Too well known to require a description. Plant in very rich soil and keep moist. If planted early it will bloom well out of doors. 5c each; 50c per doz.

Tiger Lily

An old-time favorite, deserving of a place in every garden. Once planted, it requires no further attention for many years. 10c each; \$1.00 per doz.

Gladiolus

A beautiful flower, too well known to require an extensive description. Succeeds well in any good garden soil. Assorted colors of yellow, pink, red, variegated and light shades. Extra large bulbs that will produce two or three spikes of bloom mixed. 5c each; 40c per doz.; named varieties 10c each; \$1.00 per doz.







T is surprising that so noble a flower, almost ribaling the rose in brilliancy of color and perfection of bloom, should not be planted more. Amateurs and dealers seem to have lost sight of the many improbed varieties introduced within the last felw years. The first point is their hardiness; in the severest climate the plants require no other protection than that which they afford themselves. They thrive in almost every soil or situation, and when planted in large clumps on the lawn make a magnificent display of flowers and foliage. Some of the varieties are very fragrant. The following six varieties will, I am sure, prove very satisfactory......

> ... PRICE 25 Cents Each Set for \$1.35

- OLD RED. Flowers of a bright scarlet crimson and quite double and globular; very early, rare and fine.
- **EARLY ROSE.** Early pink variety; blooms right after the Old Red; the flowers are large and in clusters.
- WHITE. (With Golden Center.) This is not a very large peony but a very nice one. It is white outside with a cream color in the center.
- HUMEI. A pink peony; very full and double; very large and showy; one of the latest in bloom. It wants to be mulched heavily in order to bring its flowers into perfection.
- LATE ROSE. Similar to Early Rose, only it blooms later in the season. It is a fine rosescented flower.
- WHITTLEJI. White center, slightly yellowish; very large; clusters large, sweet, fine.



IRIS .....

Large flowering varieties. In blue, bronze, lavender, pink, etc. Price, 10c each; \$1,00 per dozen.

PHLOX

(Perennial). One of the best of all Autumn flowers, blooming at a time when most all other flowers are gone. A superb assortment in lavender, pink, red and pure white. Price, 10c each; \$1.00 per dozen.

W. W. WILMORE, Dahlia Specialist

## A GRAND NOVELTY FOR 1899



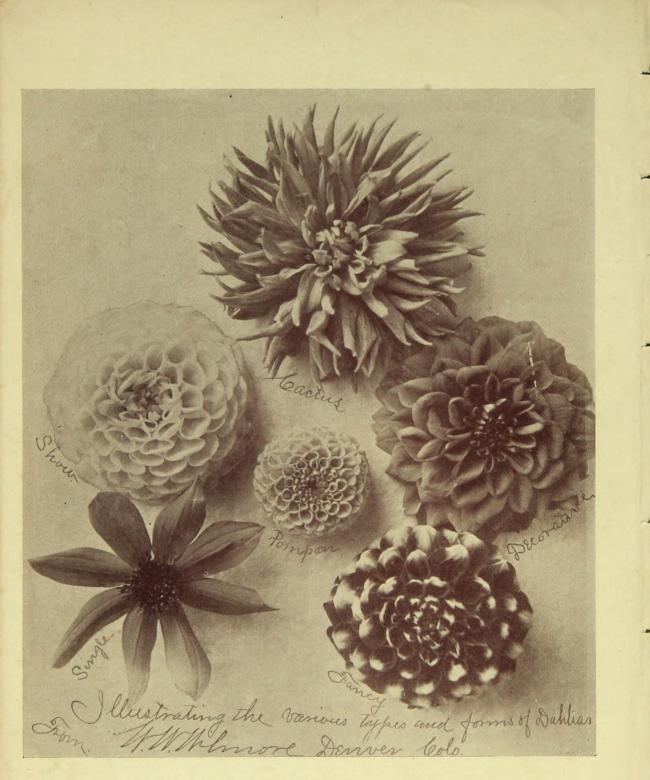
# "CURIO"

THE subject of this illustration originated with me among a lot of seedlings which I planted in 1896. I was at once impressed by its distinctively unique formation and color. Another odd characteristic of Curio is that it often blooms in clusters of three. The flower from which the above illustration was made, was one of a cluster of three, but unfortunately the cluster could not be so arranged that all would show without making an ill-shaped illustration. The plant is an erect, strong grower, with but little foliage aside from its stems. The flower is of medium size and quite rounded in form. Its color is a rich orange bronze, bright and clear, and in this respect is also quite different from all others. It is not recommended for cutting purposes, as it is too heavy, but as a show variety it will undoubtedly become very popular. Should have good cultivation and rich soil.

PRICE, 50c EACH; \$5.00 PER DOZEN.

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SPRING, 1899

## W. W. WILMORE, DAHLIA SPECIALIST

P. O. BOX 382, DENVER, COLORADO