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The Flower Beautiful

1911

“Mad. Ducel”

GEORGE H. PETERSON
Rose and Peony Specialist
FAIR LAWN, N. J., U. S. A.
Read Carefully Before Ordering

Why you should order early: Many peonies in the better
grades are in limited supply and are over-sold yearly. The propa-
gation of the Peony is slow, and we do not make varieties to order.
If your order is not sent in promptly after catalogue is mailed,
please name one or two possible substitutes or instruct us to
return money if that is preferred. Where selection is left to my
judgment, I always send greater value than remittance represents.

Roots may be shipped either by Express or Freight. By
the former method I guarantee roots to reach destination promptly
and in perfect condition. By freight, buyer must assume all risk.
The roots will arrive in good condition, but there will often be
vexatious delays. Under ordinary conditions, roots will stand a
two months' journey without injury. They are packed lightly in
moss, without soil, and are now entitled to a more favorable
express rate than ever. To illustrate. The regular rate to
St. Paul, Minn., is $4.50 per 100 lbs. Plants now go under the
“General Special” rate of $3.00, and the charge for each parcel of
plants is figured at this 100-lb. rate, with a minimum charge of
35 cents. Thus, a 15-lb. box or bundle of plants to St. Paul would
cost three cents per pound, or 45 cents; whereas the same weight
of ordinary merchandise would cost $1.10, being sent under a
graduated scale.

I can ship direct by Wells Fargo & Co. or U. S. Express, and
via Erie; D., L. & W., or N. Y., Susquehanna & Western R. R.
My nearness to New York City (16 miles) enables me to make
quick connection with any shipping route.

No charge for packing except on large orders at special
price. No charge in any case for delivery to Transportation
Companies mentioned.

Substitutions. Please state what is to be done in case some
variety is sold on receipt of your order; whether you wish money
returned or some equally valuable variety substituted.

Remittances may be made by Bank Draft, Express or P. O.
Money Order on Fair Lawn, N. J., Check, or Currency in Regis-
tered Letter; same to accompany order.

Open Accounts. Anyone desiring to open an account will
please send financial references, which he should understand will
take a few days to investigate. No account opened for an initial
order of less than $10.00.

Complaints, if made immediately on receipt of goods, will
be investigated, and if due to any fault or negligence on my part,
will be promptly satisfied.
Introduction

EIGHTEEN years ago a young man, by reason of his love for flowers, sought and found a position in the office of a large nursery. It happened that some two or three years previous this firm had imported a choice collection of Peonies from Europe and to this young man—who, as you no doubt already have surmised, is the writer—these flowers were a delight—a revelation.

During the blooming period I spent every hour of daylight, excepting office hours, in this Peony field, and there began a devotion which has placed this business where it is to-day.

That collection is, alas, no more. Even then the names were becoming obliterated on the labels, and other labels had been lost entirely by the carelessness of some driver when cultivating. Sometimes, when the man followed with the hoe, he found a stake either pulled out or broken off, and, thinking he might get blamed (being the last man through), he set up the label either to the right or left, and regardless of how far the label might have been dragged by the cultivator. I mention this as it is one of the chief reasons why Peony nomenclature is in such a sad state in this country to-day, and why it is, unless a buyer is absolutely sure of his man, more difficult to get Peonies true to name than any other flower in commerce.

And right here is this business' strong point. During the blooming season the flowers need constant watching to see that all are correctly labeled, and this is a work which I have never felt I could delegate to others. During this period I personally spend the most of my time among the flowers, and doing this year after year has brought me into intimate acquaintance with them, so that no matter when I may think of any variety I see it before me just as the thought of a friend brings his face before one and, as it is with some friends, the more I know the Peony the more I love it.

And knowing it, who does not love the Peony of to-day? It is, as you can well imagine, with feelings of great satisfaction that yearly I see here so many people spellbound as for the first time perhaps they behold the modern Peony. Perhaps, reader, you, too, still know only the Peony of your childhood, and so I briefly state its chief merits.

Hardiness—It is absolutely so in even the severest climates.

Permanency—It will last as long as the planter, and longer, increasing yearly in volume and beauty.

Size—Five to nine inches across, coming on stems three to four feet high.

Color and Fragrance—Every conceivable shade of white, pink, yellow and red, to deepest crimson maroon, often combining several colors in the most charming blending imaginable. Many varieties are deliciously fragrant, sweet as the sweetest rose.

This is the flower which seeks your approval—this the business which invites your support.

This is not a branch of a general nursery business delegated to disinterested employees, but for years I have personally devoted my time exclusively the year round to this flower and the Rose, with the result that among those who know, this business in
these two flowers to-day stands unequalled, unapproached. It is the logical result of love and enthusiasm for one's calling combined with a capacity for hard, unremitting work.

On paper, my peonies, compared with some others, may seem higher priced, but when you get the roots and, still better, when blooming-time comes, you will then see that they are really the cheapest. This at least has been the experience of thousands of others, as attested by the bulky files of letters received, a few of which are given at end of this booklet.

Neither labor nor pains are spared which will tend to produce the very best root it is possible to grow, and when this is done the price is fixed not so that we may become rich, but so our efforts will reward us with a reasonable living. Located in the richest agricultural region I know of in the East, our soil produces the strongest, cleanest peony root I have ever seen from any part of the world, and it is this quality, together with the fact that

PETE RSON'S PERFECT PEONIES

always come true that has, each year, regardless of "the times," brought us a largely increased business.

Remember that there is just as much (and more) difference between the real value of Peony Roots as there is between suits of clothes. One you buy for life service, the other for a few months. SAVE ON THE CLOTHES.

Cordially yours,

GEORGE H. PETE RSON.

Fair Lawn, N. J., July 1, 1911.

Since the above was written, my attention has been called to the fact that a certain good brother has decided that I cannot honestly call myself a Peony Specialist, because I grow and sell Roses also, apropos of which, in my desire to learn just what does constitute a Peony Specialist, I trust I shall be pardoned for asking the following:

May a man devote himself commercially to the Peony during its brief season, then for the balance of the year go into the coal or dry goods business, and yet be the only "true" Peony Specialist?

And, if in the coal or dry goods business during most of the year, is he then also a coal or dry goods specialist?

Really, now, to the only true-blue Peony Specialist should he not only do as well as "grow" nothing else?

If a Peony Specialist may not grow and sell Roses also, may he grow and sell Angora cats and still be the "real thing"?

Is a man who has "eliminated all similar sorts" and offers "only the most distinct," and yet continues to catalogue such varieties as Dr. Bretonneau (Verdier) and Lady Leonora Bramwell, Jeanne d'Arc and Golden Harvest, Edulis Superba and L'Esperance, the only one who does not "befool" his patrons?

Don't you think a real and only Peony Specialist ought, at least once in his career, exhibit and win a prize or two at the big shows?

Really, brother, we good-naturedly advise you to come down from that high horse, and if you can be persuaded to leave your home you will find several places where you may still learn something about Peonies and how to grow them, and also that some of us who stocked you are still very much in the business.
The History of the Peony

The Peony, like the Rose, can be traced back to ancient times, but the species P. EONIA ALBIFLORA (so popular to-day), or, as it is commonly known, the Chinese Peony, is of modern development.

The species OFFICINALIS is indigenous to Europe, and it isprobably this class which is referred to in the writings of the ancient Greeks, and concerning which there were so many peculiar and superstitious legends.

The ALBIFLORA and MOUNTAIN (Tree Peony) types can be traced back to China in the middle of the sixth century, when these classes received considerable attention at the hands of the Chinese gardeners. These subsequently found their way to Japan, where the Mountan class won much favor, was greatly improved, and is still very popular.

So far as can be learned, the Albiflora type, with which we are most concerned, did not reach Europe or America until early in the nineteenth century. It appears that at first there was little general and determined effort made to improve this species, but toward the middle of this period the French hybridists (the most skilful in the world) enthusiastically took hold of this flower with results that are little short of marvelous; as is shown in the varieties we possess to-day.

Concerning the naming of this flower, Dr. Coit very interestingly relates:

"It is the species officinalis which probably secured for the genus its name. The genus Peonia was so named by the ancients in honor of Peon, a physician, who cured the wounds received by the heathen gods during the Trojan war. The ancient writers, who transformed simple facts into fabulous histories for the purpose of deifying favorite mortals, relate that Peon, who was a pupil of the great Æsculapius, first received the peony on Mt. Olympus from the hands of the mother of Apollo, with which he cured Pluto of a wound he had received from Hercules, but this cure caused so much jealousy in the breast of Æsculapius that he secretly caused the death of Peon. Pluto, however, retaining a grateful sense of his service, changed him into the flower which ever after bore his name."

In olden times this plant was supposed to have much medicinal value, and it appears that it was also the subject of much absurd superstition. Dr. Coit states:

"Antiquity celebrates the virtues of this plant and places it among the wonders of the vegetable garden. Fable gives us its origin, Æsculapius its properties, and superstition ranks it among miraculous plants, assuring that demons will fly the spot where it is planted, and that even a small piece of root worn around the neck is sufficient to protect the wearer from all kinds of enchantment.

"The ancient Greeks, when digging up the plant, were careful to do so at night only, as it was said that if anyone attempted to meddle with it in the daytime the green woodpecker, which the gods had assigned to the plant as a protection, would dart at the eyes of the intruder."
Planting and Cultivation

The Herbaceous Peony is of such simple culture, and so easy to grow, that but little instruction will be necessary in order that the beginner may produce the finest blooms. While it will grow and bloom under conditions in which most plants would perish, it will well repay, in largely increased size and beauty of bloom, a thorough preparation of soil.

Where such fancy blooms are wanted, it will be well to excavate the proposed beds to a depth of 2 to 2½ feet and fill in with good loam or garden soil which has been well pulverized and mixed with from 1-5 to 1-4 of its bulk with old, well-rotted manure. If only new manure is obtainable, it should be mixed well with the soil in bottom of trench up to within one foot of surface, and applied lightly as a mulch on the surface after planting.

In preparing beds do not put the manure in layers and let it remain so, as many do. The manure should be made as fine as possible and thoroughly mixed with the soil—not merely turned over. A flat-tined fork, such as is used for digging potatoes, is the implement needed here. The ordinary spade is of little use.

Should one decide in spring or summer to plant in fall, and only new manure is obtainable, the bed may at once be made, and, with a forking over every two weeks, ideal conditions will be had by fall. In the heat of summer manure quickly disintegrates when handled thus. The object of the above is to give the root abundant plant food and yet prevent hunks or lumps of decaying manure to come into direct contact with root.

Petite Renée (See Section 1)
CHARACTER OF SOIL.

Probably the very best soil for the Peony is one which is neither too heavy with clay nor too light with sand, one which might be termed a medium loam, and such as would make a good vegetable garden. Such a soil, mixed with manure, should be fairly retentive of moisture, and the Peony, being a strong grower, can absorb much water. In a dry season, watering before blooming time with a hose or otherwise, will be beneficial, and if one's soil is not sufficiently rich, a weekly application of liquid manure will aid materially in bringing forth specimen blooms.

WHEN TO PLANT.

The best season for planting the Peony is in fall, after the roots are well ripened. In this latitude, this occurs in most varieties after mid-September, and is shown in the foliage becoming dry and yellow. Many nurserymen begin digging September 1st and before, but a glance at your Peonies then will show the foliage still quite fresh and green. The roots, too, will suffer from shrivelling if dug and shipped while weather is hot.

This early digging, in many cases prompted by a desire to get the Peony out of the way before other nursery stock can be handled, will, in my opinion, if long persisted in, weaken the plant and bring on some fatal disease, just as is to-day the case with the Easter Lily. Here, in order to get their flowers on the market first, the florists' demands upon the grower have brought on a disease which makes the growing of this bulb most difficult.

My older patrons will recall seeing the above warning paragraph in the earliest editions of this booklet. To-day my warning is justified, as there is scarcely a Peony nursery in the land but that has a few varieties afflicted with an uncanny and seemingly hopeless fungous disease. This usually shows itself in small distorted roots, which more often than otherwise have more than their share of eyes, which, however, are small and weak. In the spring numerous dwarf weak shoots appear, but no flowers come, and this is repeated yearly. The root does not increase in size and yet the disease, while rendering the root useless, is apparently unable to destroy entirely the tenacious life of the Peony.

One encouraging and unusual phase or feature of this disease is that it does not communicate itself to nearby healthy stock and is increased only by propagation. To the credit of the American Peony grower I believe it but fair to state that, in my opinion, what stock has been and is being sent out so affected is due to ignorance rather than intent. One of the most estimable growers in this country, when I called his attention to some of his stock so affected, considered it at first nothing serious and thought it due to "over-timing of land." As this disease is not contagious, the amateur planter need not worry, but should realize the importance of getting his stock from a live specialist and one who thoroughly knows his business.

My own preference of time for planting is from September 20th to October 20th. We often plant in November, and one of the most successful of our plantings was made in last week of October. I have found that more depends upon preparation of soil and condition of root than upon an early planting.
DEPTH AND DISTANCE TO PLANT.

The root should be set so that the upper eyes are about three inches beneath the surface of the soil, and, if planted in permanent beds, should be about 2½ to 3½ feet apart, according to room at one’s disposal. When planted in field for cut-flower purposes, the plants should be set 3 feet apart in row, and rows from 4 to 5 feet apart.

WINTERING.

So far as protection from cold is concerned, the Peony does not ask it in even the most severe climate. It is well, however, to remove the foliage when dead, and, in late fall, apply a mulch of stable manure, which may be quite new. The crown of the plant should not be covered deeply. Two inches of loose manure directly over the plant is sufficient, as the Peony is cold-blooded and does not like to be smothered. If the ground is very rich, omit mulching after the first winter. If mulched, the manure should be removed from crown of plant as soon as frost is out, and dug in surrounding soil, using care not to disturb root.

DISEASES AND INSECTS.

The Peony is practically, if not absolutely, immune from disease. See to it that you get healthy plants to begin with, and then you will have nothing to fear.

The only insect which ever, even slightly, injures the Peony is the Rose Chafer, which will sometimes be found eating the petals of the flower. With the exception of the later varieties, the Peony is usually done blooming ere this pest appears, and so it would, perhaps, be wise, where the chafer is annually very troublesome, and one has no inclination to combat it, to omit the later sorts. The Peony is, however, so very large, with dense petalage, and this bug, when it does attack a flower, usually buries itself in the petals, and does not disfigure it as it does a rose or other flower.

Ants, which are often seen on the buds as they are developing, are there to gather a sweet, gum-like substance which the bud exudes. They do no harm to the coming flower nor to the plant, and will disappear on opening of flowers.
A Peony growth just after buds are formed

DISBUDDING.

Most Peonies usually set three or more buds to a stem. (See cut.) All but the central (largest) bud should be pinched off as soon as they can be gotten hold of, if the finest individual blooms are wanted.

USES.

There is probably no other plant with such varied usefulness. For effective massing in landscape work it is unequaled. As an edging or facing for shrubbery, it is likewise good. Planted in beds, borders or as specimen plants on the lawn, it is equally at home. It is particularly attractive when used to border a drive or walk.

An attractive use for the Peony is low, ornamental, lawn hedging. This, of course, applies where only ornament and not defense is required. The dark glossy-green foliage, untouched by disease or insects, is exceedingly attractive through the spring and hot summer months.

And the cost, too, in some of the most desirable low-priced sorts will prove quite moderate, since the plants for this purpose may be set two feet apart, and a single row is quite ample.

AS A CUT FLOWER

It is hardly equaled. Cut as the bud is about to unfold and placed in water in a cool room, where the air is fresh night and day, most varieties will last several days. The blooms will then be superior to those left to open on the plant and exposed to the heat of the sun.

Set at once in a cold, dark cellar, the different varieties may be kept several days longer than their blooming period. Bring up as wanted.
MOST ECONOMICAL PLANT TO BUY.

While its first cost may seem high, it is really the most economical plant one can buy, from the fact that it represents a permanent investment and one which pays annual dividends of increase of at least 100 per cent. Almost every family, of even the most moderate means, spends annually quite a tidy little sum in Bulbs, Geraniums and other bedding plants, and at the end of the year has nothing left to show for it. Plant the Peony and it will last as long as you do—and longer. Plantings may be left undisturbed from ten to twenty years, or even longer, if soil is occasionally enriched.

HOW THE PEONY IS SENT TO YOU.

The Peony is sent out in the form of a root (see cut), from which, when dormant, will be seen protruding pinkish "eyes" or buds, the strongest of which will throw up next season's flowering shoots.

A Dormant Peony Root
Marie Jacquin (See Section F)

THE PLANTS I SEND OUT.

“One-year” plants are those which have grown a full year since division. “Two-year” plants have grown two years since division, and, where the cost can be borne, are, of course, more desirable, as the immediate effect is greater. “Three-year” plants are very heavy clumps, and are well worth the price asked. They will make a large, bushy clump at once.

Do not let the mere number of eyes claimed influence you too strongly, as a weak root with from six to ten small eyes may not flower for several years, while two or three good plump eyes, with strong roots behind them, will flower the first season. Even in one-year stock, I aim to send out only roots which will produce some bloom the first season, if well planted, and this we can invariably do if your order is received fairly early. When one-year roots are exhausted, we send a full equivalent in generous divisions. All orders are numbered when received, and are filled in numerical order.

QUALITY OF MY ROOTS.

Our soil and most thorough system of cultivation produce the best Peony root in the world. I have had them not only from all over our own country, but from various parts of the world, and know whereof I speak. Our soil seems especially adapted to the development of a strong fibrous root, which insures vigorous growth when transplanted.
Georges H. Peterson, Fair Lawn, N. J.

TRUENESS.

Desirable as it is to get fine, strong roots, it is even of greater importance that stock be true to name, and it is in this phase of the business that I specially challenge comparison. During blooming season my personal time is devoted almost exclusively to proving stock, and we maintain trial and test gardens such as cannot be found elsewhere in this country. The pith of all this is well, if briefly, expressed in the enthusiastic statement of a patron, "If you get it of Peterson, it's true."

WHEN SHIPMENT IS MADE.

We usually begin digging about September 15th, and ship after that date, unless shipment is especially requested earlier.

CAN BE SHIPPED SAFELY ANYWHERE.

The Peony in fall can stand without injury a journey of months, if kept from prolonged heat, which would start it into growth. There is, in fact, no flower which can be transported over long distances with greater safety.

Mad. de Galhau (See Section II)
WHY YOU SHOULD ORDER EARLY.

It will be to your interest to send in your order promptly on receipt of catalogue. This may save you disappointment, as some varieties are in very limited supply and cannot be obtained from reliable sources. Some varieties I can supply by the hundred. Early orders also get the strongest roots. The receipt of your order and remittance will be acknowledged by return mail.

EXHIBITION.

Annually, in early June, we invite the flower lover to visit our grounds. In our trial gardens will be found in alphabetical order two clumps of each variety we catalogue—and many more. This affords an unequaled opportunity to select such varieties as most appeal to the individual, without going all over the different field plantings.

Peonies usually reach their height here about the beginning of the second week of June, but, as the seasons vary, it is well for the intending visitor to have his name registered for notification.

Prices

Are net, as quoted, except as noted below, and are as low as a like quality can anywhere be obtained. The thorough cultivation given my Peonies, going over the fields with the cultivator and hoe every ten days the entire season, and the extreme care exercised in handling, labeling and packing, I have never seen equaled elsewhere. And remember that a Peony root quoted at a certain price may actually be worth two or three of same variety quoted for less money elsewhere.

DISCOUNTS.

Orders amounting to $10.00.............................. 5% off
" " " 25.00.................................. 10% "
" " " 50.00 and upward......................15% "

Above discounts apply to everything except the three collections on page 25, which are net at the special prices quoted.

Special prices will also be quoted on large lists, where not less than ten of one variety is wanted.

Each and every year we propagate some of practically all the varieties we catalogue, and set out a new plantation in ground that has never before known the Peony; and, while this is a big undertaking, it enables us to offer annually one, two and three-year-old roots. Our business is much too large for us to follow the simple plan of letting one planting do for years and then take up a root and cut off a section as we sell it. Neither have we ever resorted to the pernicious, yet not uncommon, plan of planting the same variety in the same row year after year.

I shall be very glad to have any one contemplating an important planting visit my nursery and inspect our methods and stock. This will prove more convincing than any words of mine could possibly do.
Herbaceous Chinese Peonies
(*Paeonia Alibiflora*)

Section A

1 year, 35 cents; 2 year, 60 cents; 3 year, $1.00 each.

Each variety can be supplied this year only in ages indicated by figures following description.


**AUGUSTE MIELLEZ** (Guerin). Large blooms in clusters, clear lilac and purple; center chamois and lilac. 2—3.

**DELECOURT VERHILLE** (Delecourt Verhille). Large flesh guard petals; center straw color. Good upright grower and very profuse, sure bloomer. 1—2—3.

**DUCHESS D'ORLEANS** (Guerin). Large, carmine-pink guard petals, with center of soft pink, interspersed with salmon. Nice pointed bud. Tall grower. An exceedingly good, perfect bloomer and very pretty flower. One of the most desirable of the low-cost sorts. 1—2—3.

**EDULIS SUPERBA** (Lemon). Beautiful brilliant pink, silvery reflex; large, well-formed, full flower on strong stems. Blooms earlier than Festiva Maxima. Lasts well. Fragrant and good in every way. A much worthier sort than its price would seem to indicate. There is quite a stock of it in existence. 1—2—3.

**RUBRA TRIUMPHANS** (Guerin). Brilliant dark crimson. The foliage is also very dark, with reddish stalks, presenting, especially in the early season, a pleasing contrast when planted with a light green foliage sort like Duchess de Nemours (Calot). A splendid low-cost sort for massing effect. 1—2.

**Couronne d'Or** (See Section D)
Section B

1 year, 50 cents; 2 year, 85 cents; 3 year, $1.25 each.

Each variety can be supplied this year only in ages indicated by figures following description.

ALEXANDER DUMAS (Guerin). A pretty shade of bright pink, with chamois, white and salmon intermingling; flowers large and very full. A most attractive and showy variety, combining several colors. 1—2—3.

ALICE DE JULVECOURT (Peclc). Well-built, full flower; a combination of rose, blush and cream that is most charming; center petals beautifully edged carmine; flowers in early mid-season. Good stiff stems. 1—2—3.

AUGUSTE LEMONIER (Calot). Large, anemone-shaped flower, brilliant blood red. Good grower. 1—2.


CANARI (Guerin). Outer petals fleshy white, with yellow center. Very tall grower; sweetly fragrant. Very prolific bloomer. 1—2—3.

CONFÉ DE PARIS (Guerin). Pretty anemone-shaped flower; outer petals pink, center soft pink and salmon-yellow, with tuft of bright pink petals edged with crimson. A very pretty and floriferous sort. 1—2—3.

Mad. Chaumy (See Section D)
DELACHEI (Delache). Large and full, deep, rich, dark crimson flower. Good grower and bloomer and fine for massing effects. Fragrant. Late mid-season. The true sort is better than its price indicates. 1—2—3.


GENERAL BERTRAND (Guerin). Deep rose-pink, large guard petals; center well filled with small salmony-pink petals edged with whitish pink. Splendid habit and foliage, nice elongated bud; in all of which points it resembles Modeste Guerin, and is sold, even by specialists, for that variety. It lacks, however, the solid color and firmness of guard petals found in Modeste Guerin. 1—2.

JENNY LIND. Large, full, bright pink variety. Very tall grower. Good bloomer. 1—2.

MEISSONIER (CroHsse). Very brilliant crimson. Full flower, coming late mid-season on very wiry stems. Foliage remarkably narrow. Color is wonderfully rich and brilliant, but plant is lacking in habit. 1—2—3.

RUBENS (Delache). Deep brilliant crimson, flower moderately full, showing golden stamens in center, making a beautiful and striking contrast. Fine for color effect. 1—2—3.

La Tulipe (See Section C)
Section C

1 year, 60 cents; 2 year, $1.00; 3 year, $1.60 each.

Each variety can be supplied this year only in ages indicated by figures following description.

CANDIDISSIMA (Calot). Large, cream-white guard petals; center sulphur-yellow, with green heart, very full and compact. Habit slightly drooping. The earliest of the white and yellow varieties to bloom. Under rich cultivation this is a flower of exceeding fullness and beauty. The blooms are quite heavy and the plant should be given some support.

1—2—3.

CARNEA TRIUMPHANS (Guerin). Very large, full flower; guard petals broad, flesh-pink. Center well filled with pale yellow and flesh, nicely fringed petals, blotched with crimson. Strong, tall grower; fragrance very agreeable and refreshing.

1—2—3.

DUKE OF WELLINGTON (Calot). Guard petals white, very broad; center petals sulphur-white. Narrow and very full. The large, finely formed flowers come on long, firm stems. A good free bloomer; deliciously fragrant. Late mid-season.

1—2—3.

EDOUARD ANDRE (Mechin). Deep, brilliant crimson-red, with metallic reflex, showing golden yellow stamens. A globular-shaped bloom of great effect. Earliest of the dark reds to bloom.

1—2—3.
FESTIVA MAXIMA (Micilez). Very large and full pure white flower, with few center petals, usually tipped with blood-red spots. A very vigorous grower, with massive foliage, flowers coming on long, stiff stems. Fragrant, early, and blooms most abundantly. Perhaps the very best all-around white we possess. It is certainly the most popular. 1–2.

JEANNE D'ARC (Calot). Soft pink, sulphur-white and rose; center spotted carmine. A unique and charming combination of colors. Moderately strong grower, but a sure and very free bloomer, flowers invariably coming perfect. The most popular of the tri-colored sorts. 1–2.

LA COQUETTE (Guerin). A jaunty little flower of moderate height; good bloomer. Nicely formed, full rose-colored flower, with center of carmine and salmony flesh. 1–3.

LA TULIPE (Calot). Flesh pink, shading to ivory white; center petals tipped and outer petals freely striped with carmine. Large, very fragrant, globular flower, borne on long, stiff stems; very strong grower. Very distinct and desirable. Late mid-season. 1–2–3.


SULPHUREA (Lemon). Large, globular, sulphur-white bloom. Very chaste and beautiful flower, but stems are not firm enough to hold the large blooms up, which should consequently be staked. 1–2–3.

VAN DYCK (Crousse). Large bloom, convex anemone-shaped, very fresh salmoned pink; center shaded chamois. 1–2.

ZOE CALOT (Micilez). Very large and full globular bloom; soft pink, shaded lilac. 2–3.

Mad. Calot (See Section D)
Section D

1 year, 75 cents; 2 year, $1.25; 3 year, $2.00 each.

Each variety can be supplied this year only in ages indicated by figures following description.

CHARLEMAGNE (Crousse). Rosy white, shaded lilac and chamois. Very full and well-rounded bloom. Opens very slowly. Fragrant and exquisite when in perfection, but some seasons and in some soils the flowers do not all open fully. Very late variety. 2—3.

COURONNE D'OR (Crown of Gold) (Calot). Very large and full imbricated flower of superb form. Color white, reflecting yellow; center petals bordered with carmine; golden stamens showing through and lighting up flower. Solidly and perfectly built from edge to center. Fragrant, a good grower and reliable bloomer; it is, in my opinion, the attainment of perfection in the Peony. Blooms moderately late, preceding Marie Lemoine. 1—2—3.

DUCHESS DE NEMOURS (Calot). Guard petals white; center lemon-yellow, with greenish reflex. Large, cup-shaped, full bloom. Among all Peonies there is nothing so exquisitely chaste as this variety in a half-open state. A good, profuse, sure bloomer; delicately fragrant. Splendid cut flower. 1—2—3.

FESTIVA (Donkelaer). Large, full, glossy cream-white flower; center spotted carmine. Very much like Festiva Maxima in fully developed flower, but blooms later and plant is dwarf. Indispensable, as it takes the place of Festiva Maxima when that variety is gone. 1—2—5.

FLORAL TREASURE (Rosenfield). Very delicate salmon pink, with green heart. Rosy tinge on first opening. Good upright grower and bloomer. Flower large and full; foliage light green. A charming flower where delicacy of coloring is desired, and very popular among the florists. 1.

LUTEA PLENISSIMA (Buyeck). Very full convex bloom; white and sulphur-yellow, with tufts of white in center, whole flower fading to white. Blooms early. 1—2—3.


MAD. CHAUMY (Calot). Large, very full and compact flower, beautifully formed. Silky petals, soft pink, shaded with bright rose. Slightly drooping, graceful habit. Superb on well-established plants under rich cultivation. Late bloomer. 1—2—3.

MAD. CROUSSE (Calot). Extremely large and full flower. Snow-white, edged in center with bright carmine. One of the most delightfully fragrant of peonies. Beautiful both in bud and open flower, and, coming on good, strong stems, it is most valuable for cut and general purposes. Blooms medium late. 1—2.

MATHILDE DE ROSENECK (Crousse). Exceedingly tall grower and good late bloomer. Flower extremely large and full. Color flesh-pink, shaded with chamois and delicately edged carmine. 1—2.

SOUV. DE L'EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE (Calot). Very large, full flower; rich, clear, brilliant cherry, with silvery reflex. 1—3.

For Discounts See Page 12

See Special Collections on Page 25
Upper—Livingstone (See Section G)
Lower—Mons. Dupont (See Section E)
Section E

1 year, 85 cents; 2 year, $1.35; 3 year, $2.00 each.

Each variety can be supplied this year only in ages indicated by figures following description.

ARMANDINE MECHIN (Mecchin). Large, full, clear amaranth flower. Probably the most brilliant and dazzling red peony in cultivation, but it is not a profuse bloomer. 1—2—3.


L'INDISPENSABLE. An enormous, heavy flower of wonderfully solid petalage. Color very soft, pleasing, sea-shell pink. The outer petals often become brown and dry, which should be removed to permit the flower to open. This variety is wonderfully sold as Eugene Verdier. 3.

MAD. BARILLET-DESCHEMPS (Calot). Very tender pink, bordered with white and shaded with lightly silvery tints. Golden stamens reflected throughout flower. An immense, full ball of silk and satin, very sweetly perfumed. Tall grower, with very distinct broad foliage. 1—2—3.

MAD. EMILE GALLE (Crousse). Large, cup-shaped, imbricated flower, soft lilac pink; center shaded soft flesh and cream, fading to rosy white. Splendid bud. Very fresh coloring. Foliage very distinct dull green. Late. Extra. 1—2—3.

MARIE LEMOINE (Calot). Enormous, sulphur-white, full flower, delicately shaded chamois, with narrow carmine edge. The massive bloom comes late on a very stout, erect stem of medium height. A sort the peony enthusiast raves over, as well he may. 1—2—3.


PHILOMÈLE (Calot). Guard petals soft pink; center a real deep golden yellow, with center tuft of rose, bordered carmine. Very distinct and sweet syringa-like fragrance. Possesses the deepest yellow to be found in peonies. Good lasting qualities. One of the most striking varieties. 1—2.

RUBRA SUPERBA (Richardson). Deep, rich, brilliant crimson. Large full flower; strong grower. Blooms when nearly all other peonies are gone. Good bloomer on established plants, but does not do much the first year or two. Undoubtedly the best very late crimson. 1—2.

SARAH BERNHARDT SYN: UMBRELLIATA ROSEA (Dessert). Broad guard petals, delicate rose-pink. Center petals short, straw-yellow, with tufts of whitish pink. Habit ideal, flowers are borne on stiff upright stems. Fragrance delicate and agreeable. Blooms young and abundantly. The first of the Albiflora sorts to flower; usually in bloom here at Decoration Day. A lovely peony, which I recommend very highly. 1.

SOUV. DU DR. BRETÔNNEAU (Dessert). Brilliant red, shaded with amaranth. Very showy. 2—3.

SEE SPECIAL OFFER
OF LARGE EXHIBITION CLUMPS
ON PAGES 26-28
Section F

1 year, $1.00; 2 year, $1.60; 3 year, $2.50 each.

Each variety can be supplied this year only in ages indicated by figures following description.


MAD. BUCQUET (Dessert). Very pretty, perfectly shaped bloom; color dark velvety amaranth. Good upright habit and free bloomer. 1.


Mlle. MARIE CALOT (Calot). Centifolia rose shape; fine fleshy pink; glossy background lighted with silvery tints. Late. 1—2.

MARIE JACQUIN. Glossy, flesh-white, with rosy tinge to bud. Exquisitely beautiful, moderately full, cupped flower, retaining this form. Flowers on newly set plants and weak growths often come near single. With its wealth of golden stamens in center, this flower suggests our native pond lily. Fragrance very rich and languorous. Very distinct. Mid-season. 1—2.

MATHILDE MECIN (Mecin). Very pretty anemone, ball-shaped bloom, perfectly built; fleshy pink, mixed with small salmon petals. Very profuse bloomer and lasting flower. One of the first in bloom. 1—2—3.

MODELE DE PERFECTION (Crousse). Immense, well and evenly formed flower. Color flesh-pink, marbled with bright rose, deepening in center. Flower opens cup-shaped, then develops to high-pointed center, which afterward opens up, making a very high built-up flower. Good erect habit, strong stems and a prodigious bloomer. Very distinct and desirable. Blooms late. 1—2—3.
MODESTE GUERIN (Guerin). — Very large, anemone, ball-shaped bloom, perfectly built. Bright lilac, carmine-pink, solid color. Splendid habit and foliage. Very fine elongated bud. This is a superb and distinct peony, very superior to one offered under this name by some other growers. One of the best all-around varieties we possess. 1—2.

SOIFATARE (Calot). — Guard petals pure white; center petals narrow, sulphur-yellow. Large, full, fragrant flower on long, upright stems. Exquisitely beautiful. The true Calot variety of this name is one of the most valuable peonies we possess. In my opinion it leads all of those most charming class—white and yellow. 1.


Section G

1 year, $1.25; 2 year, $2.00; 3 year, $3.50 each.

Each variety can be supplied this year only in ages indicated by figures following description.

ALBERT CROUSSE (Crousse). — Large, very full, evenly formed bloom; fresh pink; center shaded with clear pink. Petalage small and very dense. An uncommonly high-class late peony. 1—2—3.


CAMELON (Crousse). — Large, imbricated flower; brilliant violet-red, shaded with velvety hue. Blooms very late, in fact, is the "last word" in peonies. 1—3.

DORCHESTER (Richardson). — Delicate salmon-flesh. Beautifully formed, full flower, on erect stems of moderate height. A flower that would attract attention at any time, it comes into bloom when most peonies are gone, and hence is doubly prized. 1.

EUGENE VERDIER (Calot). — Very large, cup-shaped flower; flesh-pink, shaded yellow and salmon. Good, strong, erect grower, of moderate height. A fine and distinct peony, rather late. This is the authentic Eugene Verdier. There is another sort advertised under this name, which is very different and which frequently comes one-sided. 1—2—3.


MARIE LOISE MERE (Calot). — Large, flesh-pink, changing to fleshy white, large petals of great substance, few in center delicately bordered carmine. Flower lit up with small bright yellow petals. Very stiff, erect stems. Late. 1—2—3.


OCTAVIE DEMAY (Calot). — Very large and full, well-built flower. Rosy white, with occasional coloring of carmine in center. Color of exceeding freshness. Plant is somewhat dwarf, but bears regularly and prolifically its very large flowers on stiff, upright stems. Early bloomer. Fragrant. In my opinion this variety is one of the most charming and meritorious of all peonies. 1—2.

SUZANNE DESSERT (Dessert and Mechin). — Large and full, broad-petaled flower of a clear china pink color, with silvery border. Good bloomer, distinct in coloring and very showy. 1.

VICTOR HUGO (Crousse). — Very full flower of large size and fine form. Very brilliant deep red. The most profuse and sure bloomer of all red peonies. Do not omit it. 1.
Section H

Each variety can be supplied this year only in ages indicated by figures following description.


CONSTANT DEVRED (Calot). The last of all peonies to bloom. Very large, full and evenly formed violet-pink flower, coming on exceptionally strong, upright stems. 1—2.

GLOIRE DE CHAS. GOMBAULT (Gombault). Pretty globular flower, extra full. Outer petals fleshy pink; center petals narrower and of a clear salmon-flesh color, shaded with apricot, with tuft of pink petals striped with carmine. A very showy and beautiful mani-colored variety. 1—2.

MAD. CAMILLE BANCEL (Crousse). Very large and full globular bloom; color fresh glossy lilac-pink, shaded salmon. One of the extra good late sorts. 1—2.

MAD. DE GALHAU (Crousse). Enormous imbricated flower, coming on tall, firm, erect stems. Color soft, glossy, flesh-pink, shaded with transparent salmon. A superb late variety of ideal habit, and a good, profuse bloomer. This variety as exhibited by me in Boston overshadowed all other pinks there. 1—2.

MARGUERITE GERARD (Crousse). Immense, full flower. Flesh, changing to soft flesh-white, with creamy white center. A profuse bloomer, opening all its flowers perfectly. A very choice variety. 1—2—3.

Mons. JULES ELIE (Crousse). Immense, globular, very full flower; glossy, fresh pink, deeper at base of petals; silvery reflex on whole bloom. Erect habit; glossy light green foliage. 1.

Mad. de Verneville, (See Section C)
Section I

A few rarely beautiful things for the connoisseur.

ALBA SULPHUREA (Calot). Large, superbly built globular or bomb-shaped flower; very full. Guard petals pure white; center sulphurish yellow. Nice erect habit. The true sort is very rare and beautiful and must not be confounded with the variety sent out under the same name by growers in this country. 1 year, $2.00; 2 year, $3.50.

AVALANCHE (Crouse). Very large and full milky-white flower of perfect form, reflecting yellow from base of petals; few center petals, very delicately edged with carmine. Fine, strong grower, good bloomer and delightfully fragrant; late mid-season. Really superb. 1 year, $2.00; 2 year, $3.50.

BARONESS SCHROEDER (Kelway). Large, full, creamy-white flower. Fine habit. One of the few most talked of novelties of the year. 1 year, $3.00.

CARNEA ELEGANS (Calot). Large, perfectly formed, full flower; glossy flesh, with circles of shorter clear yellow petals. The true sort is one of the most distinct and wonderfully beautiful of all peonies, and must not be confused with the Guerin variety. 1 year, $2.50.

CLAIRE DUBOIS (Crouse). Very large, globular flower, very full. Convex, tufted; petals lacinated and incurved. Color of the finest original pink; glossy reflex. A real gem. Late mid-season bloomer. 1 year, $2.50; 2 year, $4.00.

GRANDIFLORA NIVEA PLENA (Lemon). Superb, very large and full flower; white, tinted delicate sulphur, with carmine stripes at center. An early variety of wondrous beauty. Good grower and bloomer. Indispensable to every fine collection. 1 year, $2.00; 2 year, $3.50.

MAD. FOULD (Crouse). Enormous, globular flower; very dense petalage; soft flesh, changing to shady white. Very late and rare variety. Requires good culture. 1 year, $2.50; 2 year, $3.50.

MLLE. ROSSEAU (Crouse). Very large and full flower, with broad petals. Sulphur-white, pinkish flesh-colored center, shaded salmon; fragrance strong and agreeable. A gem of the first water. 1 year, $2.00; 2 year, $3.50.

MONS. MARTIN CAHUZAC (Dessert). Large to very large, full and well-formed flower. A solid ball of very deep maroon, with blackish luster. Good erect habit and bloomer. A new variety of surpassing merit and by far the darkest peony yet produced. Every plant we offer is absolutely true and very strong—not such as are usually sent out in high-priced novelties. The most striking and distinct of all the new sorts. It is, in fact, a sensational novelty. 1 year, $4.00.

PETITE RENEE (Dessert). Very odd carmined-pink, beautiful and airy flower. A new and exceptionally distinct variety of commanding merit. 1 year, $2.00.

Extra Large 6-Year Clumps

In the following few varieties we have some massive roots, which will give a maximum showing of bloom at once:

ACHILLES, DUCHESSSE D'ORLEANS, EDILIS SUPERBA, ALBENA, FESTIVA MAXIMA, GENERAL BERTRAND, QUEEN VICTORIA, SARAH BERNHARDT, SOLEFATARE,

\[ \text{Section A} \quad \text{\$2.00 each.} \]

\[ \text{A} \quad \text{2.50} \]

\[ \text{B} \quad \text{2.50} \]

\[ \text{C} \quad \text{3.50} \]

\[ \text{D} \quad \text{2.50} \]

\[ \text{E} \quad \text{4.00} \]

\[ \text{F} \quad \text{4.50} \]

24
Peony Collections

These are made up from our best stock and are especially recommended to any one desiring a small collection and who is unacquainted with the merits of the different sorts. The Standard Collection embraces the best among the low-cost sorts. The Royal Collection is made up of gems of the first water, and will make a Peony enthusiast of anyone possessing an appreciation of the beautiful in nature.

The Diamond Collection is for those who desire something extraordinarily fine and rare and not likely to be found in one's neighbor's garden.

### STANDARD COLLECTION.

<table>
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<td>COMTE DE PARIS,</td>
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<tr>
<td>DELACHEI,</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>DR. BRETONNEAU,</td>
<td>A</td>
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<td>DUCHESS D'ORLEANS,</td>
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<td>EDULIS SUPERBA,</td>
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<td>RUBRA TRIUMPHANS,</td>
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The set for: $4.75 $8.05

### ROYAL COLLECTION.

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<td>JEANNE D'ARC,</td>
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<td>LA TULIPE,</td>
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The set for: $9.50 $16.15

### DIAMOND COLLECTION.

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<tr>
<td>BARONESS SCHROEDER,</td>
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<tr>
<td>CARNEA ELEGANS,</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLAIRE DUBOIS,</td>
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<tr>
<td>GRANDIFLORA NIVEA PLEXA,</td>
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<tr>
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<td>MILLE. ROSSEAL,</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARGUERITE GERARD,</td>
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<td>MONS. MARTIN CAHUZAC,</td>
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The set for: $23.00

The set for: $20.00
An Unusual Opportunity

Last fall we set out a new exhibition garden of Peonies, all in one alphabetical section, and, so, this fall we shall sell the plants in the old exhibition garden, which, planted in three sections, was not so conveniently arranged.

Planted and cared for under the best possible conditions, these clumps are remarkably strong and vigorous, and are the identical plants which have borne our prize-winning flowers of the past three years. This garden is famous to many annual visitors, some of whom purchased a considerable number of these plants during the flowering season just closed, paying up to $25 per clump for the very rarest and choicest.

The following varieties from this garden, one section of which may be seen photographed (after several hundred best blooms had been cut for exhibition) on back cover of this catalogue, are now offered publicly, and, for him who desires extraordinary results at once, this opportunity is a unique one never before presented. While the age of each root is stated, this is really not a fair criterion, since, under the special care these plants have received, they are immeasurably superior to plants of same age under ordinary field culture.

Where the section letter is not given, we did not have enough general stock this year to publicly offer the variety. The chief color is, however, stated. Some of these are very rare sorts.

The usual discounts, as stated on page 12, apply also to these prices.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Old</td>
<td>Each</td>
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| 2 ACHILLE, |  |  | $2.50 |
| 1 ADOLPH ROSSEAU, |  |  | 8.00 |
| 4 ALBA SULFUREA, |  |  | 7.00 |
| 8 ALBERT CROSSE, |  |  | 6.00 |
| 2 ALEXANDER DUMAS, |  |  | 3.50 |
| 2 ALFRED DE MUSSET, |  |  | 7.00 |
| 2 ALICE DE JULVECOURT, |  |  | 3.00 |
| 2 ALICE DE JULVECOURT, |  |  | 4.50 |
| 1 ARMANDINE MECHIN, |  |  | 3.50 |
| 1 ARMANDINE MECHIN, |  |  | 4.50 |
| 1 ATROSANQUINEA, |  |  | 5.00 |
| 1 AUGUSTE LEMONNIER, |  |  | 3.50 |
| 2 AUGUSTE MIELLEZ, |  |  | 2.50 |
| 1 AUGUSTE VILLAUME, |  |  | 3.50 |
| 1 AVALANCHE, |  |  | 7.50 |
| 2 BARONESS SCHROEDER, |  |  | 12.00 |
| 2 BEAUTE DE VILLECANTE, |  |  | 4.00 |
| 2 BELLE DOUAISIENNE, |  |  | 3.50 |
| 2 BOULE DE NEIGE, |  |  | 3.00 |
| 2 BUYCKE, |  |  | 5.00 |
| 1 CAMERON, |  |  | 6.00 |
| 2 CANARI, |  |  | 4.00 |
| 2 CANDIDISSIMA, |  |  | 10.00 |
| 2 CARNEA ELEGANS (Calot), |  |  | 5.00 |
| 2 CARNEA ELEGANS (Guercia), |  |  | 4.00 |
| 2 CARNEA TRIUMPHANS, |  |  | 3.50 |
| 4 CHARLEMAGNE, |  |  | 10.00 |
| 2 CLAIRE DUBOIS, |  |  | 5.00 |

Page 26
1 COMTE DE GOMER, Deep red . . . . . . . 4 7.50
1 COMTE DE PARIS, Section B . . . . . 6 3.50
1 CONSTANT DEVRED, " H . . . . . . . 5 6.00
10 COURONNE D'OR, " D . . . . . . . 5 3.50
2 COURONNE D'OR, " D . . . . . . . 6 5.00
1 DE CANDOLLE, " E . . . . . . . 5 4.00
2 DELACHEIL, " B . . . . . . . 6 3.50
2 DELECOURT-VERHILIE, " A . . . . . . . 6 3.00
2 DENIS HELYE, Red . . . . . . . 4 4.00
1 DR. BRETONNEAU, Section B . . . . . 5 3.00
2 DUCHESS DE NEMOURS (Calot), " D . . . . . . . 5 4.00
1 DUCHESS DE NEMOURS (Calot), " D . . . . . . . 6 5.00
2 DUCHESS DE NEMOURS (Guerin), Pink . . . . . . . 5 4.00
2 DUCHESS D'ORLEANS, Section A . . . . . 5 3.00
2 DUKE OF WELLINGTON, " C . . . . . . . 6 5.00
2 EDULIS SUPERBA, " A . . . . . . . 5 3.50
2 EUGENE VERDIER, " G . . . . . . . 4 6.00
2 EUGENIE VERDIER, Flesh . . . . . . . 5 10.00
2 FELIX CROUSSE, Section F . . . . . . . 5 6.00
1 FESTIVA, " D . . . . . . . 6 5.00
2 FESTIVA MAXIMA, " C . . . . . . . 4 4.00
2 FLORAL TREASURE, " D . . . . . . . 4 5.00
2 GEN. BERTRAND, " B . . . . . . . 6 4.50
2 GLOIRE DE CHAS. GOMBAULT, " H . . . . . . . 5 10.00
2 GRANDIFLORA NIVEA PLENA, " I . . . . . . . 4 8.50
2 HERMAN, Straw . . . . . . . 4 3.50
2 HUMEI, Pink . . . . . . . 6 3.50
2 HUMEI CARNEA, Pink . . . . . . . 6 4.00
2 JEANNE D'ARC, Section C . . . . . . . 4 3.50
2 LA COQUETTE, " C . . . . . . . 5 4.50
2 LA TULIPE, " C . . . . . . . 4 4.00
1 LAMARTINE, Pink . . . . . . . 3 6.00
1 LA ROSIERE, White . . . . . . . 4 8.00
1 LA ROSIERE, White . . . . . . . 5 10.00
2 LOUIS VAN HOUTTE, Crimson . . . . . . . 6 3.50
8 LOUISE RENAUT, Slaty pink . . . . . . . 6 7.00
2 LUTEA PLENISSIMA, Section D . . . . . . . 6 5.00
2 MAD. BARILLET-DESCHAMPS, " E . . . . . . . 6 7.50
2 MAD. BREON, Straw . . . . . . . 6 4.00
2 MAD. BUCQUET, Section F . . . . . . . 6 6.00
2 MAD. CALOT, " D . . . . . . . 6 5.50
2 MAD. CAMILLE BANCEL, " H . . . . . . . 3 5.00
2 MAD. CHAUMY, " D . . . . . . . 6 5.00
2 MAD. CROUSSE, " D . . . . . . . 5 4.00
12 MAD. CROUSSE, " D . . . . . . . 6 5.50
14 MAD. DE GALHAI, " H . . . . . . . 6 8.00
2 MAD. DE GUERLE, Lilac . . . . . . . 5 7.00
2 MAD. DE VATRY, Fleshy . . . . . . . 5 5.00
2 MAD. DE VERNEVILLE, Section C . . . . . . . 6 5.00
5 MAD. DUCEL, " F . . . . . . . 6 7.00
1 MAD. EMILE GALLE, " E . . . . . . . 5 5.00
2 MAD. LEHON, Cherry . . . . . . . 4 3.00
2 MAD. LEMONNIER, Lilac . . . . . . . 5 10.00
2 MAD. LOUISE MERE, Section G . . . . . . . 6 6.00
2 MILLE. MARIE CALOT, " F . . . . . . . 6 6.00
2 MILLE. RENEE DESSERT, Lilac . . . . . . . 5 8.00
2 MILLE. ROSSEAU, Section I . . . . . . . 5 10.00
12 MARECHAL MacMAHON, Red . . . . . . . 6 5.50
2 MARGUERITE GERARD, Section H . . . . . . . 6 9.00
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Modele de Perfection (See Section F)

28
Tree Peonies

This is a remarkable species developed from P. Moutan, a native of China and Japan. In habit of growth it is not unlike a deciduous shrub. The growths are short and stocky, the plant, slow of growth, eventually attains a height of four or more feet, and of large circumference. The foliage is quite distinct, and the immense flowers, which usually appear some two weeks ahead of the Chinese Herbaceous class, are most remarkable for their superb size and gorgeous colorings. Splendid for grouping or as specimen plants on lawns. While a hardly plant, it will be found desirable to give it some protection in very cold latitudes.

It may safely be said that in all floriculture there is nothing so impressive as a well-developed bush of the Tree Peony in full bloom.

Plant so that buds are above ground, and protect with litter.

**VARIETIES.**

*I offer only a few varieties, embracing the cream of those in cultivation to-day.*

**BIJOU DE CHUSAN.** Very large bloom, transparent glossy white, very lightly shaded purple; silky petals, mixed with golden stamens. $1.50 each.

**CAROLINA D’ITALIE.** Very large, full bloom, fine form; very fresh flesh, nankin color, salmon reflex. Very floriferous and one of the very best of its color. $1.25.

**COMTESSE DE TUDER.** Very large, full bloom; bright salmon, with satiny white border. Very floriferous. $1.50; extra large, $2.00.

**JEANNE D’ARC.** Very pretty imbricated flower, chamois and salmon, with bright copper-colored reflex. Very good bloomer. $1.50; extra large, $2.00.

**MADAME STUART-LOW.** Large cup-shaped flower; bright, rich salmon-red, with broad silvery border and golden stamens. Color of exceptional brilliance. Very floriferous. $1.50.

**Mlle. MARIA CLOSON.** Large, full bloom of perfect shape; broad petals, glossy white, lightly shaded clear violet. $1.25.

**REINE ELISABETH.** Very large, full bloom; bright salmon-pink of exceptional brilliance. Vigorous and very floriferous. The Queen of all Tree Peonies. $1.25.

**SOUVENIR DE DUCHER.** Large, full, globular bloom; fine dark violet, with velvety purple reflex. Vigorous and floriferous. A superb sort. $2.00.

**SOUVENIR DE MAD. KNORR.** Large flower, soft flesh, slightly tinted salmon; border of petals frequently shaded and marbled with purple. $1.50; extra large, $2.00.

**OFFICINALIS RUBRA PLENA.** This is the old-fashioned red herbaceous Peony, of old-time gardens. It’s season of bloom is between that of the Tree and Chinese or Alibiflora classes. The flower is of moderate size, full and brilliant red. 1 year, 30c.; 2 year, 60c.; 3 year, 85c.; 4 year, $1.25.
Making Good

It was, I believe, Patrick Henry who said, "I know of no other way to judge of the future but by the past," and so I, in soliciting your patronage, earnestly invite your perusal of the following extracts of letters that have come to me absolutely unasked for. They are but a few of hundreds of similar letters on file and, as may well be imagined, I naturally feel a sense of satisfaction and, yes, pride in their possession.

It will be observed that a few of the first ones are unsigned, in explanation of which I would say that it was not until the proof of this edition came in from the printer that I saw there would be room for a few more letters of appreciation, and so decided to use them. The printer being already behind, I had no time to seek permission of the authors as before.


I was so well pleased with the peony roots purchased of you last October, and I ordered from several specialists, that I decided to place an order for roses with you, which I enclose. If your roses are equal to your peonies, no one need ask more.

(Later from above party.)

Dowagiac, Mich., October 18, 1910.

The thirty peony roots I ordered came last week in fine condition, well packed, not a bud bruised or broke in your roots are certainly large and fine. The thirty roots I bought of you last fall gave a profusion of bloom this spring, and I look forward in anticipation of added pleasure next spring.

JERSEY CITY STOCK YARDS COMPANY.

Jersey City, N. J., October 22, 1910.

My order for peony roots was filled very satisfactorily, and, by comparison with some roots I bought of another party, are very cheap. I think the old maxim that "the best is the cheapest" certainly holds good in this case.

170 West Bayand Street, Denver, Colo., July 17, 1910.

The seventeen varieties of peonies received from you certainly outdid themselves this season, and we are one mile above sea level, where many plants will not thrive. My peonies were a dream and the admiration of my neighbors.

LOUISVILLE WATER COMPANY.

Louisville, Ky., October 17, 1910.

This is the third successive fall that I have had peonies from you, and again I thank you for the splendid roots sent me. I don't suppose a finer lot was ever sent out than I received last week, and I have had experience with several purchases from Eastern growers, advertising the very best.

It is a pleasure to find in your line of business one man who tries to see how much, instead of how little, he can give the buyer.

Cordova, Ala., October 24, 1910.

The peonies received. While my past orders had caused me to expect fine peonies, these are far superior to my expectations.

241 Midland Avenue, Montclair, N. J., November 7, 1910.

I want to tell you how greatly pleased I was with the great big peony roots you sent me. I never put in such splendid roots.

LAW OFFICES OF PHILLIPS & AVERY.

CITY HALL SQUARE.

New York, September 26, 1908.

The peony roots arrived yesterday in good order, and I thank you. A horticulturist of long experience who happened to be visiting at my place (Sparta, N. J.) pronounced the stock to be by far the finest he had ever seen sent out by any one.

FRANK M. AVERY.
Escanaba, Mich., October 8, 1908.

The peony roots came through safely and I saw personally to the proper planting, for they were the nicest roots I ever received. I am perfectly delighted with them.

You will certainly hear from me again.

MRS. M. K. BISSELL.

July 14, 1910.—"You certainly may use my name in recommending your peonies. I am going to send you an order for at least twenty more roots next month, and now enclose my check for $20.00 on account of some."

Bath, N. Y., October 24, 1908.

The roots you sent me were the best one-year roots I have ever seen. I could hardly believe that some of them were not two years old.

MRS. AMBROSE KASSON.

Williamson Building, Cleveland, Ohio, June 14, 1910.

I wish you would send one of your Peony and Rose Catalogues to ————. This is a very well-to-do party, who will buy large quantities of roses and peonies of you hereafter. Based upon my opinion of your stock as shown from results in my garden, the like of which nobody around here has ever seen grown by an amateur.

I set 20 of your one-year-old peony roots on the 1st of October, 1908, 20 two-year-old roots on the 31st of October, 1908, and 24 more on the 13th of October, 1909. Of these 72 I have observed, I have had 64 roots, and every single one of them lived, and, although they were young in years, these 64 peony plants actually had over 500 buds, which have bloomed and are blooming from day to day. The foliage has a dark olive green appearance, and the flowers themselves are from six to eight inches wide, in every variety of color that can be conceived of.

SHELDON PARKS.

July 13, 1910.—"You are at liberty to print the whole, or any part, of my letter as you see fit, since I am only too glad to render you any service I can in view of the excellent quality of stock you have sold me in precious years."

219 Boggs Avenue, Pittsburg, Pa., September 6, 1909.

In the fall of 1906 I purchased from you two dozen peony roots (one-year stock), which I planted as you directed. Sixteen of these bloomed the following spring, having from three to five flowers on a stock. The next year every one bloomed, and you should have seen them! They were the admiration of the whole neighborhood. This year some of them had from eighteen to twenty blooms each, with some flowers eight to ten inches in diameter, and people came from all directions to see them.

I am proud to get acquainted with one honest peony and rose grower. You have surely made good, as I never expected one-half you told me about the peony. I have a dozen peonies from other growers which have never had a flower on them, and I do not believe ever will. You are the King Peony Grower of them all.

JOHN PAISLEY, JR.


I should like a few more peonies in the autumn. Those I got of you two years ago are fine; all bloomed the first season. Couronne d’Or and Marechal MacMahon had from fifteen to twenty immense blooms, and last year all were beautiful.

MRS. WM. P. WOODBURY.

July 13, 1910.—"You are at liberty to use my letter. I will add that your peonies were even more beautiful this year than ever and were loaded with very large, perfect blooms."


Possibly you may remember sending me some peonies last fall for a new bed I was making, and that I left the selection to your judgment and taste. They have just begun to bloom and I am so filled with delight and enthusiasm over them that I feel impelled to tell you of our success.

MRS. CHARLES E. SMITH.

Saratoga Springs, N. Y., October 8, 1909.

The order of peonies was received in fine condition and I was very much satisfied with them. They were the best roots I ever planted in two-year-old stock.

J. A. FITZGERALD.

Head Gardener to Col. E. M. Green.

July 13, 1910.—"Your peonies were a grand success. They were, indeed, a show in this village."

I want to thank you for the FINE ROOTS of peonies you sent me. I shall certainly deal with you in the future.

(MISS) R. VARICLE.

July 12, 1910.—"Yes, you may use my letters. I meant to write ere this to tell you how delighted I was with the peonies you sent me eighteen months ago. This year, their second of bloom here, they have been more beautiful than ever. They are the handsomest flowers I have ever seen, each one of them a beautiful study—\"a wonder.\""


The thirty peonies I ordered of you came yesterday in fine condition, and I am highly pleased with them. They are both larger and better than I expected.

(DR.) J. H. JONES.

July 14, 1910.—\"You are at liberty to use the letter you mention. The peonies I purchased of you last fall made a vigorous growth and bloomed vigorously this season. The beauty of the blossoms is beyond description, and I wish you all success in your good work. I shall order more for this year's planting.\"


The peony roots received, all in fine condition. They were far beyond my expectations and I am delighted.

T. MONTEATH.

July 13, 1910.—\"Yes, you may use any letter from me. Every Peony I got of you last fall bloomed for me this summer, coming true to name, and gave a great amount of pleasure. A year before, I bought some peonies of \"none of which have yet bloomed. I may say I am waiting for the 1910 Peony catalog to get some more of your best kinds.\"

Miamisburg, Ohio, June 3, 1908.

Peonies purchased from you have done fine and all prove true to name, which is a great satisfaction to me, I assure you. You certainly have my best wishes and if you keep sending the grade of stock you sent me, you will soon have no need of advertising, as you will have an army of customers doing it gratis.

I enclose order for five dozen of your best varieties for a friend.

S. E. WATERS.


I received my order of peony roots last week. Surely it was a very unexpected surprise when I opened the box and spread them out for inspection. I thank you very much for the interest you took, as a finer and more healthy lot of roots I never saw. Surely your soil must be ideal for health and growth of the peony.

CHARLES PIPER.

July 12, 1910.—\"Yes, with pleasure. Of the peonies purchased of you last fall, will say they all bloomed with the exception of three. Such beautiful flowers I never expected, and they were admired by all who saw them in bloom. I have several friends who intend planting peonies this fall, and will send you their addresses.\"

Danbury, Conn., September 30, 1908.

The peonies arrived in fine condition and I must thank you for the fine plants you sent me. They were far beyond my expectation and were the finest plants I have ever received from any one.

PHILLIP SIMMONS.

Peabody, Kan., October 4, 1909.

Peony roots arrived October 1st in fine condition. Without exception, they excel any roots of the kind I ever saw.

F. B. MCKEERCHER.

July 14, 1910.—\"I shall have no hesitation whatever in allowing the use of my name. I can only reiterate what I said before that the roots you shipped me were the finest specimens I ever saw, and the blossoms this year more than fulfilled my expectations.\"
A Little Book About Roses

is the title of my annual Rose catalogue, published February 1st. It is a unique and beautiful booklet which has found a warm place in the hearts of thousands of rose lovers the world over. It represents a business that, for quality, stands alone, and which increases yearly beyond our anticipation and preparation.

My entire time the year round is devoted to the study, cultivation and shipping to various parts of the world these two flowers, and if the enthusiastic testimony of thousands of successful amateurs is a fair criterion, this little book is fulfilling its mission beyond all my fondest hopes.

It is sent free to intending purchasers—to anyone on receipt of 10 cents in coin or stamps.
A section of my exhibition garden, the plants from which are now offered for sale on pages 26-28.