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FLOWER SEEDS.

Our collection of Flower Seeds is especially designed for the farmers' flower garden. We have selected only such varieties as are easily grown.

Alyssum—This old favorite should be largely used in every garden. A novelty Little Gem. Very dwarf.

Asters—We have selected the best variety that can be found. Large and beautiful flowers.

Balsam (Lady Slipper)—The variety we offer is the superb Camella Flowered.

Cattopsis—Very handsome and showy plants.

Candytuft—Perfectly hardy. A mixture of varieties including White Rocket, Dark Crimson and New Carmine.

Cannas, or Indian Shot—All varieties, mixed.

Celosia (Cockscomb)—One of the most brilliant of annuals. Superb dwarf varieties mixed.

Chrysanthemum—Showy, garden favorites; splendid mixed double.

Cypress Vine—One of the most elegant climbers. Mixed varieties.

Dianthus—China and Japan pinks. Many distinct and most beautifully marked varieties. They are the best.

Miniature Sunflower (Helianthus cucumerifolius)—A novelty of great merit. Three feet high. Small flowers.

Marvel-of-Peru (Mirabilis)—The Marvel-of-Peru, or Four o'clock. We offer a dwarf variety, a great novelty, called The New Tom Thumb. Mixed colors.

Mignonette—The seed should be scattered liberally in sunny situations. Many fine new varieties, mixed.

Myosotis (Forget-Me-Not)—These charming little favorites succeed best in damp, sandy situations, but will thrive well in almost any soil.

Gourds—Dish cloth and all other ornamental varieties mixed.

Ipomoea—Rapid-growing, tender annuals, climbers.

Nasturtiums—Are among our most popular plants. Our packets contain a mixture of all colors of the superb Tom Thumb varieties.

Pansies—Our packet contains a mixture of all colors and shades of superb large flowering varieties.

Petunias—Most valuable plants. Our packets contain a mixture of superfine varieties of all different colors.

Phlox Drummondii—The improved Grandiflora varieties are exceptionally beautiful. Our packet contains all colors of the grandiflora or large flowering strain.

Sweet Peas—Finest mixed varieties; new large flowering.

Verbenas—Flower very quickly from the seed and thrive much better than from cuttings. Our packet contains a fine collection of all shades of color.

Zinnias—Superb double, mixed.

VEGETABLE SEEDS.

The seeds we offer are select, fresh and warranted, to be grown from select stock.

None better to be had, either as to quality or variety.

Beans—Black Lima. Best variety. Burpee's Bush Lima. Large beans; an immense yield.

Pole or Climbers. Golden Cluster Wax. A prolific bearer.

Golden-Eyed Wax. Hardy, prolific, rust-proof.

Beets—Early Eclipse. None better; universal favorite.

Lane's Imperial Sugar. The richest.

Cabbage—Brill's None such. The best of the new varieties.

True Jersey Wakefield. The old reliable.

Henderson's Succession. An all season cabbage.

Stonemason. The old reliable late cabbage; very large.

Carrots—The New Chantaney. We offer but one sort because it is the best.

Cauliflower—The Early Paris. One of the easiest to grow.

Celery—Kalamazoo Market or Broad Ribbed. Large, crisp.

Cucumbers—We offer one variety of cucumbers only this year; it is called Thorburn's Ever Bearing; it will produce the entire season.

Cress—Fine Curled. Crisp and choice.

Egg Plant—New Jersey Improved Large Purple. The best beyond question.

Leek—The New Giant. Unsurpassed.

Lettuce—Old reliable Black Seed Simpson. Fine quality.

Chartier's Mammoth Head. Fine quality.

Mangel—Golden Giant, a great prize taker. The newest and best. Has weighed 34½ lbs.

Muskmelon—New Superior. A Cantelope of extra fine quality.

Little Gem. Popular in Chicago market.

Onions—Yellow Globe Danvers. Standard crop.

The Prize Taker. This is American grown seed; immense size.

Extra Early Barletta, or English radish.

Parley—New Moss Curled. The finest.

Parley—Improved Guernsey. The best.

Peas—The Strategem. This is, perhaps, the most prolific pea in existence.

American Wonder. The earliest and best crinkled dwarf varieties.

Early Prize. A fine new sort. Extra choice.

Pepper—Mixture of the very best sorts—the Ruby King, Red Etna and New Celestial.

Pumpkin—Quaker Pie. It is early and keeps late.

Dunkard Winter. It will keep good nearly all winter.

Radish—White Tipped Scarlet Ball. Extra early.

Improved Chartier. Best market radish.

Rutabaga—Yellow Purple Top. The best yellow variety.

White Sweet German. For table use.

Spinach—New Long Standing. None better.

Squash—Giant Crookneck. A great improvement on the old variety.

Pike's Peak or Sibley Hard Shell. Just as good a keeper as the Hubbard.

Mammoth White Bush Scallop. Best early summer squash.

Pure Hubbard. Standard winter.

Tomato—Dwarf Upright Champion. Undoubtedly best.

Golden Sunrise—Yellow variety. Unsurpassed.

Turnip—Purple Top Strap Leaf. Best garden turnip for either early or late.

Watermelon—A luscious new variety called The White Gem.

Jordan's Gray Monarch—A large sort; deep red in color and of very fine quality.

FIELD SEEDS.

Alfalfa—Abundant fodder crop.

Corn—The Robinson Yellow Dent—Large ears, extra early, light yellow, 12 to 16 rows on ear. Of this corn Mr. Barnard writes: WASPI, Mich., Sept. 22, 1896.

J. W. WILSON: I have just come from my two corn fields, where the men are finishing cutting up corn. The field of that sort marked Robinson's Seedling, in package sent you to-day, is a very superior corn. You see the date on the cards, showing time of growth—and the King on new ground is not as early as the Robinson on older ground. The first three hills of the latter which I stepped up to test had three stalks in each hill, and there were nine ears on the three hills, every ear as fine as the two sent you (10 inches long). I came near sending the nine ears, but decided to get two of the King that you might examine and compare. The Robinson has been raised on my place now for four years and will be the only kind planted next year. Of course as we have not begun husking I can only estimate relative amounts, but it seems to promise at least 25 per cent more yield than the King. If you wish to see on seed list, let me know, as I can select choice seed and dry it well.

King of the Earlies, one of the best and most prolific of the earliest Yellow Dent varieties of corn.

The Famous Climax. A large variety of Yellow Dent. Undoubtedly the very best all around corn for middle latitude. It will materially increase your corn crop to plant this variety.

SPECIAL OFFER.

For your own clubbing, renewal and one new subscriber to each paper we will send a quart of either variety of the above corn by mail, prepaid, or a peck by express at your expense. For further information about this splendid corn address K. O. BARNARD, Waspi, Mich.

Crimson Clover—Best.

Kaffir Corn—A non-saccharine sorghum. Has the quality of resisting drought; early.

Popcorn—We confine our distribution this year to the new Mapledale Prolific.

Sweet Corn—We confine our distribution to one unsurpassed new variety, the new Country Gentleman.

Mammoth Prolific—A splendid late variety. The largest grown.

WHITE HOUSE BABIES

PAST AND PRESENT CHILDREN WHO WERE BORN THERE.

There Have Been Only Six Genuine White House Babies—The Lines of the Majority of Them Have Not Been Happy—Three Died In Abject Poverty.

It was afternoon. I was walking slowly along one side of Lafayette square, wondering why Jackson's statue was given the center, while Lafayette, the "rightful heir," was driven with his statue into a far and grudging corner of the plot. The grind of wheels attracted my attention. It was the White House carriage just turning out of the grounds.

Within were Mrs. Cleveland and the two older children, Ruth and Esther. Mrs. Cleveland looked a bit worn. She is growing very heavy these days—the scales say 186 pounds.

As I glanced at the White House party in the carriage I noted that the two babies looked hale and well. Why doesn't one see pictures of the White House babies scattered through the land? Cleveland won't allow any to get out. A picture of Baby Ruth or Baby Esther would be as hard to find as King Solomon's mine and be almost as valuable. The president is opposed to scattering the likenesses of his near and dear ones abroad in the general land.

Speaking of babies born in the White House, Baby Esther was the last. The first White House baby was also a girl and made her debut during the faraway reign of Jackson, back in 1880. There was the space of 68 years between the first and the last White House baby. Who was the first? She was the daughter of President Jackson's niece, who was the wife of Andrew Jackson Donaldson.

This first White House baby, Baby Donaldson, grew up and married a Mississippi gentleman—once a congressman—named Wilcox. General Wilcox has now been dead full 30 years, and Mrs. Wilcox, who was the first to try the White House as a place wherein to be born, has since Grant's time been a clerk in the treasury department.

Jackson's administration produced two more White House babies, both Donaldsons, both children of his niece. The second and the third White House babies were, respectively, John Samuel Donaldson and Rachel Jackson Donaldson—the latter named after the president's dead wife, for whom to the day of his own taking off the stern Jackson mourned like a lover.

The world waited until President Tyler's time for the next White House baby to be born there. This baby was Robert Tyler Jones, the child of President Tyler's daughter Mary, whose husband, Captain Jones, was a South Carolinian. This, the fourth White House baby—practically the second, for the two Donaldson babies, the second and third of the line of White House babies, died long years ago as children—grew up to be a soldier of the Confederacy. He served as captain in Armistead's brigade and was wounded several times. He is dead now, and his grave is very new. He passed away a broken, shattered man, in bitter poverty, only a year ago.

Until Robert Tyler Jones was dismissed the curious, searching the treasury, could find two White House babies—Mrs. Wilcox and Tyler Jones—earning their meager salaries at desks from which they could overlook the great house they were born in, not a stone's throw away. But the great house had changed hands many times since their cradle days, and the new tenants were cold strangers to them.

The fifth baby was Julie Dent Grant, daughter of Colonel Fred Grant, who was born there while her grandfather, the silent Grant, was president. There is nothing to remark about the fifth White House baby, beyond the fact that she was christened in the blue room, whereas the Jackson babies had been christened in the east room. Old Hickory loved children almost as well as he hated the British. "There cannot be too many children," said Jackson—and never had one himself.

The sixth White House baby, and the last one to date—was and is Baby Esther. When she was born, her father was entitled to remark that of all the chief magistrates since the dignified days of Washington, in buckles and silk hose, he, Cleveland, was the first to become a parent during his term of office.

Thus it will be observed the list of genuine White House babies is but a short one—only six in all, Baby Esther the last of the line. Three of the White House babies are dead—the two Donaldson babies and Tyler Jones, who died in the coils of abject, savage want. Of the others, the first, gray haired and old, bends over her desk for the bread she eats. The last baby has life all untied before her. There is the record. Nor would it show that to be born a White House baby is any absolute advantage. The hovel baby may live to be wiser, happier and better off.—Alfred Henry Lewis in New York Journal.

Dead's History.

Dr. Cyrus Teed of Chicago, the originator of a queer religion called Koorah, has evolved a theory of the earth that is just as queer. He says that the earth is an enormous hollow globe, with a crust about 100 miles thick. Thus far his theory does not differ greatly from that of the late Captain Symmes, but he parts company with the captain in saying that the human race and all the visible heavenly bodies are inside of the earth. Consequently nobody knows anything about the outer convex surface of the earth.—New York Tribune.

In all the cities of Arabia, even at the present day, dried locusts, strung on threads as dried apples used formerly to be treated in this country, are exposed for sale as an article of food.

To mail in position 1,000 feet of flooring 68 pounds of temporary nails the day of the year.

BUSY QUEEN VICTORIA.

Very Considerations About Letter Writing. How She Gets the Daily News.

Queen Victoria's private letters number many hundreds every year. She writes to her numerous relatives, forgetting no anniversary or occasion on which a letter might be welcome. The London Chronicle says that to the younger members of the royal family she never fails to send birthday gifts, accompanied by a few loving words of greeting. Every day the birthday book is consulted—not that birthday book in which singers, actors and other personages are asked to write, but that smaller volume reserved for relatives and intimates. Then there are numerous letters of a semi-private nature which are written by the queen herself—letters of condolence, letters of congratulation to brides who have been connected with the court, letters to foreign monarchs. Besides all these epistles, written in the blackest of ink on paper slightly edged with black, there are thousands which are penned by the private secretary and his assistants.

The queen's day begins early and ends late. After breakfast—a meal which she still enjoys eating in the open air when possible—there are the newspapers and private correspondence claiming attention. With regard to the former, portions of The Times and other journals are read aloud to the queen by a lady specially appointed for this purpose. Very rarely does the queen comment on the news, except in the case of a calamity, when her sympathy is quickly expressed in a telegram. Inaccuracy in an important newspaper as to royal matters gives the queen grave annoyance, and The Chronicle's writer has known an official to call and complain of the misstatement and demand a rectification. Not long ago an illustrated London paper gave a picture in which her majesty was represented as holding the arm of her Indian attendant. Within a short space of time a member of the royal household called on the editor to state the absurdity of such an error. "The queen is much annoyed at this mistake on the part of your artist, as it might give grievous offense to important persons in India. She could never take the arm of a servant." This will show how closely she watches even the pictorial press. When a good illustration appears of any state function, it is a common incident for the artist to be requested to visit the queen, very likely to receive a commission.

Interchangeable 1000-Mile Tickets.

Every traveling man should have one. They cost but \$20 each and can be purchased of any agent of the Monon route. They are good for one year from date of sale and good for passage on the following lines: Baltimore & Ohio R. R. (Lines west of Pittsburgh and Benwood, including Wheeling & Pittsburgh Division); Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern R'y. (Form L 38), all divisions; Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh R'y; Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton R. R. (Form L. D. 2), all divisions; Cincinnati, Portsmouth & Virginia R. R. (between Cincinnati and Portsmouth only); Cleveland Terminal & Valley R'y; Columbus, Hocking Valley & Toledo R'y; Columbus, Sandusky & Hocking R. R. (Form J); Findlay, Port Wayne & Western R'y; Indiana, Decatur & Western R'y; Indiana, Illinois & Iowa R. R.; Louisville, Evansville & St. Louis R. R. (Form B) (Good only for continuous passage between Louisville and Evansville, Evansville and St. Louis, and Louisville and St. Louis); Louisville, New Albany & Chicago R'y; New York, Chicago & St. Louis R. R.; Pittsburg, Shenandoah & Lake Erie R. R.; Toledo, St. Louis & Kansas City R. R. (Form L 8); Wheeling & Lake Erie R'y (Form L).

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FRANK LESLIE'S POPULAR MONTHLY is the first of the Christmas magazines to appear, and it is in every respect a beautiful number. Under the title "A Magic Island," Beatriz B. de Luna writes entertainingly of the picturesque Catalinas of California; Cornell University described by Herbert Crombie Howe in the second paper of the profoundly illustrated series on "American Universities and Colleges;" Major-General O. O. Howard tells something of the "Character and Campaigns of General Robert E. Lee;" and among the illustrations to this article is the last portrait of the great Confederate; there is an interesting paper on pottery by Lawrence Mendenhall; an excellent Christmas story is contributed by Margaret E. Sangster; in "Canoeing Down the Rhine," Rochefort Calhoun takes the readers pleasantly from Basel to Heidelberg; Francis Wilson's new play "Half a King," is described and pictured with portraits and views of the principal scenes; Virginia Anne Jefferson Davis, the "Daughter of the Confederacy," has something to say of the proposed Battle Abbey of the South; and there are numerous short stories and poems, and an attractive young folks' department. More than the usual one hundred illustrations are given in this number.