

# About Bodgers and Their Seeds

EARS ago I dealt with John Dodger, the founder of the Bodger business and the father of the members of the present firm. I found him an honest and honorable seed-grower, and his seeds could always be depended upon for vitality and quality. When he passed on he left a noble heritage to his family in like inherent virtues, as well as a prosperous business. That business is today a leader in the seed industry, enterprising and progressive; and everything they introduce and recommend is outstanding and acclaims the attention of the most wide-awake and up-to-date horticulturist in the world. It is my great pleasure, therefore, to offer their products to my friends because I know they will give unbounded satisfaction to all who get them. Let me mention and recommend here a few of those products:

Bodger's *New Wilt-resisting Double Asters*- Away back in my boyhood days I grew glorious beds of Asters and we never knew anything of Aster disease or wilt. Recently, however, the plants become diseased just when the buds are beginning to open, the leaves wilt and the plants die, if grown from ordinary seeds. The Bodgers, realizing this condition, have, by painstaking efforts and experiments, developed a way of overcoming this trouble; and once more we rejoice in being able to grow healthy and vigorous plants and firs from Bodger's seeds. This has proven a great boon to the hosts of Aster-loving people who were discouraged by their efforts with the common Aster seeds. But this was not all. By energy and skill they so improved the Asters in cultivation that we have today the very finest strains of dble Asters known. I will not enumerate them here, but refer you to page 27, where I offer and describe the best of these strains. My earnest advice is to get and sow only wilt-resisting Asters if you would avoid disappointment.

Bodger's *Dahlia-flowered Zinnias*- These, developed by Bodger's from the common double sorts are in size, form, and range of shades and form- The climate of California is just suited for the colors. The plants are vigorous, branching and wonderfully free-blooming, while the flowers are showy as Dahlias and almost as large. The Bodger's have not allowed the flowers to deteriorate, but have constantly given them the best attention and have improved them in size and general beauty from year to year. Today these *Zinnias* are perhaps the most popular annual flowers under cultivation. They have no enemies, begin blooming early and continue to bloom throughout the season, becoming more showy and beautiful with age. On page 50 I offer these magnificent *Zinnia* seeds of the new improved crop from the Bodgers, and every seed can be depended

upon for a fine plant and elegant flowers. I have all the new shades and colors, and they are all included in the fine mixtures which I supply. Sow only Bodger's *Zinnia* seeds if you want the best results.

*Snapdragons*- The Bodgers are now giving special attention to *Snapdragons* with a view of developing rust-resisting seeds of the finest named varieties, as we now offer *Aster* seeds- The rust is not as trou-blesome yet among *Snapdragons*, so that they can be satisfactorily grown from imported seeds of *Snapdragon* specialists. It is probable that err long the disease will become general, a condition much to be regretted-

Badger's *Double Nasturtiums*- The latest Bodger product is the improved double *Nasturtiums* in many bright and charming colors. *Golden Glean*, introduced by them several years ago, created a sensation, and it is indeed a grand acquisition for both greenhouse and garden- But this year new colors and shades some with peculiar and rich markings, surpassingly attractive and pleasing, are offered. And what is more, the flowers are giant in size, borne on long strong stems and produced in great abundance. They also show new shades of color not to be found in common *Nasturtiums*. If you want the finest bed of double *Nasturtiums*, be sure to get Bodger's new mixture- You can depend upon the seeds producing double (not single) flowers of the many rich colors, and not a great surplus of the *Golden Glean* variety which you may expect from other mixtures. I am glad to offer Bodger's *Gorgeous Glean Hybrids* in mixture prepared by the Bodgers for my use- I offer them with confidence that you will be more than pleased with the results. This should be a "must have" in every order.



BODGER'S MAMMOTH PERFECTION ASTER

Note: The above beautiful original engraving was prepared for me by the skillful flower artist Mr. Ousey. He drew the flowers on fine boxwood and carved every line with little tools made for that purpose. The art of wood engraving is passing out, being replaced by photo engraving, which in my opinion does not generally show the subject so vainly or satisfactory. Park

Bodger's *Gold Medal Dahlias*. These also should be mentioned as the Bodger's Dahlias are unrivaled in size, variety of colors, and charming graceful form- The climate of California is just suited for the perfect development of these flowers, and the seedlings afford the happiest results-

Now, in closing I want to say that Mr. John Bodger, has just made a tour of the world, going to Australia and from there to some of the year leading florists in the world with a view of getting information about foreign gardens and their products and getting a knowledge of new and rare firms that would be an acquisition to our present subjects- We may, therefore, look forward to other introductions of high character from this energetic and wide-awake firm during the coming months- It is a model of enterprise, activity and skill.