

## DAHLIAS.

ingenuity in the invention of these unstable compounds as is now displayed in designs for wall paper and oil cloths. These things were catalogued under the "Fancy" class, for the English divide the large-flowering varieties into "Show" and "Fancy." The "Show" section contains the "selfs," that is those varie-

thirty pure, distinct single colors in forty different forms of expression!

There was not a single new or original idea in the evolution of the dahlia until 1873 at the very earliest, and whatever freedom or grace the dahlias now have is traceable to a single plant that bloomed for the first time that year. Instead



FIG. 1122.—MRS. A. PEART. A WHITE CACTUS DAHLIA.

ties each of which has but a single color."

In the evolution of the Dahlias too much attention has been paid to color, and not enough to form. Those 1,200 varieties of 1841 were too much like 1,200 variously painted balls of two sizes. How much better would it be to have

of short, stiff, artificially formed rays, this flower had long, loose, flat rays with pointed or twisted ends and the peculiar red that is associated with cacti. This variety was named *Juarezii*, in honor of Juarez, President of Mexico, and first offered for sale in 1874, by a Dutch merchant. This was the parent of the