

37613 to 37622—Continued.

37617. *MALUS PRUNIFOLIA* (Willd.) Borkh. Siberian crab apple.
(*Pyrus prunifolia* Willd.)

See S. P. I. Nos. 27124 and 30251 for previous introductions and S. P. I. No. 37590 for description.

37618. *MESPILUS GERMANICA* L. Medlar.

See S. P. I. No. 29197 for previous introduction.

"A low deciduous tree of crooked, picturesque habit, usually under 20 feet high; young branchlets very hairy, older ones armed with stiff, straight spines one-half to 1 inch long. Leaves almost without stalks, lanceolate or oval, 2 to 5 inches long, minutely toothed; downy on both surfaces, but more so beneath. Flowers solitary at the end of short leafy branches; about 1 inch across, white or slightly pink, produced on a very short, woolly stalk in May or early June. Petals five, roundish; sepals covered with gray wool, triangular at the base, drawn into a long, narrow point standing out beyond the petals. Fruit five celled, apple shaped, brown, with a broad, open eye, surrounded by the persistent calyx, and showing the ends of the bony seed vessels.

"The wild medlar is a native of Europe and Asia Minor and is found wild in the woods of several counties in the south of England, notably Sussex and Kent, but it is not believed to be truly indigenous. It has long been cultivated for its fruit in English orchards, and several named varieties exist. The cultivated forms are distinguished by thornless or nearly thornless branches, by larger, broader leaves, and by larger fruits, up to 1½ or 2 inches across. Although much esteemed by those who have acquired the taste for them, medlars are not a popular fruit. They should be left on the tree until the end of October or later, then stored in a fruit room until they are 'bletted'—a term given to indicate a state of incipient decay. A jelly made from the fruits meets a more general taste. The medlar is most closely allied to *Crataegus*, differing in the solitary flower, etc. It is very hardy and not particular as to soil." (W. J. Bean, *Trees and Shrubs Hardy in the British Isles*, vol. 2, p. 81-82.)

37619. *PRUNUS DOMESTICA INSITITIA* (Jusl.) Schneider. Bullace.
(*Prunus institia* Jusl.)

"This species of *Prunus* is a tall, much-branched shrub, which sometimes attains a height of 20 feet. The flowers are white and appear on the branches before the leaves. The lateral clusters are only one to two flowered. The fruit of this species is globose, nearly black, and in the wild state about one-half inch in diameter." (*Britton and Brown, Illustrated Flora of the Northern States and Canada.*)

"A small deciduous tree with foliage similar to that of *Prunus communis*, but with some of its branches spiny. Fruit globular, three-fourths inch in diameter, black or yellow; several white-fruited varieties are grown in orchards. The bullace is a native of Britain and other parts of Europe. Being found in many hedgerows, the typical form scarcely deserves a place in the arboretum, but the double-flowered variety is more ornamental. *P. spinosa*, *insititia*, and *communis* are by some authorities considered as all forms of one species. It is easy enough to distinguish *P. spinosa* by its black bark, its small, sharply toothed