

37822 to 37869—Contd. (Quoted notes by Mr. Dorsett and others.)

37868. *ATTALEA FUNIFERA* Martius. Phœnicaceæ. **Piassava palm.**

“(No. 218a. Bahia, Brazil. March 20, 1914.) A large, pinnate-leaved palm, found in certain sections of the State of Bahia. It is valuable because of the fiber which it furnishes, as well as for its hard, black fruits, which are used to make buttons. The oily kernel, elliptical and nearly 2 inches in length, is used as an article of food by the natives of the poorer classes. Piassava fiber is an important article of export at Bahia, and the manufacture of piassava brooms forms an industry of considerable extent. The fiber is extracted from the leaf stalks, and is coarse, stiff, cinnamon brown in color. For trial in the warmest sections of the United States.”

37869. *ELAEIS GUINEENSIS* Jacq. Phœnicaceæ. **Dendé palm.**

“Bahia, Brazil. Seeds of the dendé palm. See No. 39a [S. P. I. No. 36973] for description.”

37870 and 37871. *PANAX QUINQUEFOLIUM* L. Araliaceæ.

(*Aralia quinquefolia* Decne. and Planch.) **Ginseng.**

From Peking, China. Presented by His Excellency Ts'ao Julin, twice Minister for Foreign Affairs, through Dr. Paul S. Reinsch, American minister, Peking, China, at the request of Mr. Frank N. Meyer, Agricultural Explorer for the Department of Agriculture. Received April 18, 1914.

“Kwantien and six other places in Fengtien Province have always been famous for the cultivation of ginseng. There are two varieties—‘Mountain ginseng’ (*Shan shên*) and ‘Garden ginseng’ (*Yüan shên*). Mountain ginseng is popularly known as ‘Great Mountain ginseng’ (*Ta shan shên*), or ‘stick’ (*Pang chi*). The popular name of ‘Garden ginseng’ is ‘Sprouting ginseng’ (*Yang shên*).

“‘Mountain ginseng’ is cultivated at high altitudes. The length of the root in the soil is over 2 feet. The stalk puts forth branches. The plant commences to grow in the spring and ceases in the autumn. It is not injured either by drought or by floods, and is consequently easy to cultivate.

“‘Garden ginseng’ has always been grown on shady slopes and in black earth. Every year at harvest time the seeds are stripped off and soaked in clear water. The outer skin is rubbed off and the seeds dried in the sun. They are then mixed with clean earth and placed on the ground. At the end of a year they are taken out and replanted. In the second year they will put forth buds, and in the fourth they will bear seeds.

“If, after stripping off the seeds, it is not desired to plant them the coming year, the soaking process should be omitted and the seeds left in their skins and wrapped up and placed in a high place, out of reach of the least dampness. They may then be left for any number of years. When planted they should be left in their skins in 2 inches of earth. After two years they will begin to put forth buds, and after four years they will bear seeds. But after first being planted they should be covered with mats and kept moist by fine rain.” (*Ts'ao Julin*.)

37870. “Seeds of the wild ginseng from Tunghwahsien, located in Hsingking Subprefecture, Shengking Province, Manchuria, east of Mukden, latitude 41° 37' north and longitude 128° 7' east.” (*Ts'ao Julin*.)

37871. “Seeds of the wild ginseng from Fusung.” (*Ts'ao Julin*.)