

38176 to 38182—Continued. (Quoted notes by Mr. F. N. Meyer.)

said to be red outside and inside. Of agreeable sour taste. Can be kept almost a year. A most excellent fruit for jellies, compotes, cake fillings, etc. Chinese name *Ta suan cha*, meaning 'large sour haw.'

Grafted trees and scions.

38177. *QSTERDAMIA* sp. Poaceæ.

"(No. 1212. Mountains near Taianfu, Shantung, China. March 22, 1914.) A grass of low growth and of spreading habits, thriving to perfection on thin, decomposed rock soil, along mountain paths where much tramping takes place; also found on inclines, where the mat of roots prevents the soil from being washed out. Of decided value, apparently, as a bank, lawn, and golf-course grass, especially for the drier parts of the United States."

38178. *AMYGDALUS PERSICA* L. Amygdalaceæ.

Fei peach.

(*Prunus persica* Stokes.)

"(No. 1213. Feicheng, Shantung, China. March 27, 1914.) A remarkable variety of clingstone peach, considered to be the best in all China. Size large to very large; shape round; very heavy, often over 1 pound apiece; skin quite downy and of a pale yellowish color with a slight blush on one side. Meat very juicy and sweet and of excellent aromatic flavor, of white color except near the stone, where it is reddish. Stone very large and pointed, meat strongly adhering to it. Ripens in early to middle October and possesses excellent shipping and keeping qualities. The trees are of erect growth when young; when older, however, they spread out considerably, but they remain of open growth. To reach their greatest perfection these peaches are fertilized every spring, while during a dry season they are irrigated from wells; the fruit is also thinned out. The soil wherein they seem to thrive best is a porous, light clayey loam of reddish color, retaining moisture quite well but not becoming too soggy. The local people calculate that on an average a tree supplies \$10 worth (Mexican) of fruit each season, and they consider an orchard of these trees a very valuable asset indeed. The climate around Feicheng is of a semiarid nature, and this variety of peach may be expected to thrive especially well in the regions west of the Rocky Mountains. Chinese name *Fei t'ao*, meaning 'Fei peach.'"

Grafted trees and scions.

38179. *SALIX* sp. Salicaceæ.

Willow.

"(No. 1179. Village of Chenkiao, Honan, China. March 8, 1914.) A willow of golden yellow color, much planted on the sandy flats along the Yellow River for sand-binding purposes. Of value for similar uses, especially for the drier parts of the United States."

38180. *ZINZIBER OFFICINALE* ROSC. Zinziberaceæ.

Ginger.

"(No. 1214. Feicheng, Shantung, China. March 26, 1914.) A variety of ginger grown on sandy loam in the vicinity of Minyang to the south of Taianfu. Much hawked about throughout Shantung and retailing at from 10 to 12 cents (Mexican) per pound. Is much relished as a condiment in soups and with meat dishes and considered to be very *healthful*, so much so in fact that Confucius advised his pupils to make ginger one of their relishes to be eaten daily. The Chinese plant the rhizomes as soon as the soil becomes warm and harvest the plants in the autumn after a light frost; the rhizomes are stored in cool dugouts and kept