

The chingma, the so-called China jute or Tientsin fiber (S. P. I. No. 39361), which yields a harsher and stronger fiber than the Indian jute and is used for carpet making, has been introduced from Ichang, China, and, if improved methods for extracting the fiber can be devised, may prove a profitable crop in America.

The attempt to save from extinction the last survivor of a species of tree closely related to our cultivated cotton, in order that hybrids with it may be made, has a great deal more than a sentimental interest. Seeds from the dying tree of this *Kokia drynarioides* (S. P. I. No. 39354) from Molokai, have been secured by Mr. Rock, of Hawaii.

The doorn boom of the South Africa veldt (*Acacia horrida*), the most widely distributed of all South African trees and the characteristic landscape tree in the pictures of big-game hunting in South Africa, appears to be a promising hedge plant and windbreak for trial in Texas (S. P. I. No. 39355).

The most beautiful of the flowering trees of Java (*Spathodea campanulata*), introduced from Africa into that island, which is in bloom there almost throughout the whole year, was sent in by Dr. B. T. Galloway several years ago and has flowered in southern Florida, and new importations of seed have consequently been made (S. P. I. No. 39415). To Mr. W. M. Matheson will go the honor of the first introduction of this tree into Florida, for he brought it in earlier from Jamaica.

The success of various species of Tamarix as low windbreaks in Texas has made it advisable to get together the other species of this genus, and two of these have been imported from the desert of Farab, Bokhara, Turkestan (S. P. I. Nos. 39628 and 39629).

The accounts of the Mahwa tree (*Madhuca indica*, S. P. I. No. 39325), the fleshy flowers of which produce food annually in India worth over a million dollars, have made it seem desirable to introduce it into Florida and Porto Rico, even though these dried flowers have an unpleasant odor of mice and appear to be somewhat indigestible. The value of this tree seems truly remarkable, and it deserves investigation from an American point of view.

The rapid growth of avocado groves in California and Florida and the growing realization that a fruit which produces over 29 percent of fat is more than a mere table delicacy make the dissemination of the Guatemalan and Mexican hard-shelled spring and winter ripening seedlings of remarkable shipping qualities, which have in recent years been grown in California, of much more than passing interest (S. P. I. Nos. 39369 to 39375).

American Consul Charles K. Moser's discovery of a delicious Ceylonese mango almost as large as a coconut, with a striking red blush and almost no fiber, shows that all of the most desirable types