

INVENTORY.

40389. PYRUS COMMUNIS L. Malaceæ. Pear.

From Novospasskoe, Russia. Presented by Mr. A. D. Woelkoff, director, Jardin Expérimental de l'École Horticulture, Cholmy. Received April 7, 1915.

Var. *caucasica*.

40390. PHASEOLUS VULGARIS L. Fabaceæ. Bean.

From Foxboro, Mass. Presented by Rev. Father C. N. Field. Received April 2, 1915.

"Flowering beans, grown at St. Augustine's Children's Farm, Foxboro, last year. Quite pretty bunches of flowers, the seeds of several kinds of which were brought me from Jamaica." (*Field.*)

40391. CAMOENSIA MAXIMA Welw. Fabaceæ.

From Loanda, Angola, Africa. Presented by Mr. J. Gossweiler. Received April 7, 1915.

"The plant upon which this genus was founded was discovered in Angola by the late Dr. Welwitsch when in the Portuguese service, and by him it was in consequence named after the famous Lusitanian poet. It is a climbing shrub, 'common in the dense forests of the Golungo Alto, adorning the loftiest trees of the outskirts with its splendid bunches of pendulous milk-white flowers, tinged with gold on the edge of the petals.'

"The specimen before us is slightly puberulous, with long-stalked trifoliate-acuminate leaves, minute stipules, and close racemes of flowers, which under cultivation are erect rather than pendulous, as originally described and figured, but which, when growing over tall trees, as described by Dr. Welwitsch, might well be pendent, as he described them. The inflorescence and outer portion of the calyx are thickly covered with dense, felted, coarse brown hairs. The bracteoles are about half an inch long, lanceolate, deciduous. The calyx tube, measuring about 2 inches in length, is leathery, cylindric, curved, dividing into a relatively short, irregularly 5-lobed limb, of which the thick segments are imbricate in the bud. The five petals, which are twice the size of the calyx, all have long white, narrow stalks, and all expand above into a spoon-shaped limb, somewhat papery in texture, plicate and crumpled in the bud, reticulate in venation, and edged with a narrow border of rich orange yellow, which Mr. Woodall describes as tipped with gold lace, so delicate and fairylike is the frilled edging. The uppermost petal, or standard, is much larger than the others, and has the inner surface of the disk as well as the margins flushed with yellow. The side petals, or wings, are at first upright and rigid within the standard, but, as the artist remarked while making his sketch, they are endowed with elasticity when touched by the pencil, and after the discharge of the pollen they become drooping. The two lower petals and the stamens are also at first quite rigid, but subsequently fall. The snow-white stamens are shorter than the petals, 10 in number, forming a tube at the base, filamentous above. The narrow, angular