

40776 to 40782—Contd. (Quoted notes by Dr. A. R. Proschowsky.)

carving of Seharunpur, Farakhabad, Lucknow, and Nagpur and the inlaid work of Chiniot, Hosiarpur, Jallandhar, and Mainpuri are largely on shisham. In Rajputana, also, this wood is to a considerable extent employed by the wood carvers, but for particulars of the methods of treatment and styles of carving the reader should consult *Indian Art at Delhi, 1903* (pp. 103, 108-9). Owing to the fact that the sissu very rarely grows straight, the timber is not of much use for beams, though it is in much demand for knees of boats. It has been successfully tried for railway sleepers; it is an excellent fuel and makes very good charcoal, but it is too expensive to be utilized for these purposes. The wood is said to yield an empyreumatic medicinal oil, and the raspings of the wood are officinal, being regarded as alterative. Near towns the trees are largely lopped for fodder, and the fallen leaves collected and valued as fuel by the sweetmeat makers." (*Watt, The Commercial Products of India, p. 485-486.*)

40779. ANNONA CHERIMOLA Miller. Annonaceæ. **Cherimoya.**

"Quite hardy here and therefore wonderfully useful as a stock upon which to graft good varieties."

40780 and 40781. COCOS ODORATA Barb. Rodr. Phœnicaceæ.

40780. "Selected from the very best of the fruits." Received as *Cocos capitata*.

40781. "Edible and of pleasant taste but many fibers. There should be little doubt that by selection better fruits could be obtained."

40782. SANTALUM ALBUM L. Santalaceæ. **Sandalwood.**

See S. P. I. Nos. 6449 and 8679 for description.

"A small evergreen tree met with in the very dry regions of South India and in North India chiefly as a cultivated plant. It affects open forest lands with grass and patches of other trees, usually frequenting red or stony soils. It is a root parasite on a long series of host plants and hence apparently the difficulties experienced in systematic plantations where provision has not been made for this requirement. On rich soil the plant grows well, but the wood is deficient in odour, consequently inferior commercially. Lushington and other officers of the Forest Department have devoted much careful study to the cultivation of sandal, more especially in relation to the production of the maximum percentage of rich-scented wood. Lushington observes: 'On the whole I am inclined to think that the best way of aiding the reproduction of sandalwood artificially is to increase the scrub, and this is best effected by merely keeping out fire and grazing. As soon as the scrub reaches 2 or 3 feet sandal reproduces naturally from seed dropped by birds, and this may perhaps be further assisted by dibbling.' Rama Rao urges that weeding is dangerous and that only surface pruning when the scrub becomes too dense should be indulged in. Lushington mentions 8 inches' growth in girth per ten years as a safe average and the exploitable age of the tree as forty years, the minimum size being then 32 inches at 4½ feet from the ground." (*Watt, Commercial Products of India, p. 976.*)