



A BEECHI POND NEAR CANTON.

(*Eleocharis tuberosa* (Roxb.) Schult., S. P. I. No. 44573.)

The culture of the beechi in South China forms an important plant industry, which is peculiar in that it utilizes shallow ponds made for the purpose. The bulblike rootstocks are planted close together on the bottom of the pond and a few inches of water turned on them, and as their slender grasslike stems grow the water is deepened. After six months or so the water is drained off and the rootstocks are dug from the mud. The possibility of utilizing this plant on certain of our undrained lands in the extreme South should make its preliminary trial worth while. (Photographed by David Fairchild, Canton, China, December, 1901; negative No. 0.504.)