

**45923. TELFAIRIA PEDATA** (J. E. Smith) Hook. Cucurbitaceæ.

From East Africa. Presented by Mr. M. Buysman, Lawang, Java. Received March 20, 1918.

Mr. Charles Telfair, for whom the plant is named, says of it: "It is dioecious. The fruit is 3 feet long, 8 or 10 inches in diameter, and full of seeds as large as chestnuts (264 in one fruit), which are as excellent as almonds and have a very agreeable flavor; when pressed they yield an abundance of oil equal to that of the finest olives. It is a perennial plant and grows at the margins of forests, enveloping the trees with its branches, while its trunk is frequently seen with a circumference of 18 inches." Its name among the Indians of Zanzibar is *koumé*. (Adapted from *Curtis's Botanical Magazine*, pls. 2751 and 2752.)

For an illustration of the so-called "nuts" of this cucurbit, see Plate II.

**45924. CERATONIA SILIQUA** L. Cæsalpiniaceæ. Carob.

From Valetta, Malta. Scions procured by Mr. Wilbur Keblinger, American consul. Received February 13, 1918.

"The carob tree, or St.-John's-bread, is a handsome, slow-growing, leguminous tree with evergreen, glossy, dark-green pinnate leaves, forming a rounded top and attaining a great size. It grows well in the semiarid hills all around the Mediterranean, preferring limestone soils; it is sensitive to cold and does not succeed north of the orange-growing regions. The staminate and pistillate flowers are borne on different trees, and it is necessary, in order to insure a crop of pods, to have a considerable proportion of staminate trees in the plantation. The large pods, which are chocolate colored when ripe, are usually borne in great quantities and contain an abundance of saccharine matter around the smooth, hard seeds. Italian analyses show the pods to contain more than 40 per cent of sugar and some 8 per cent of protein, more than 75 per cent of the total weight being digestible. Unusually large trees may reach a height of 60 feet, with a crown 75 feet in diameter, and they may produce as high as 3,000 pounds of pods. These pods are a concentrated feed for horses, milk cows, and fattening stock; to a certain extent they replace oats for horse feed. Sirups and various sweetmeats are sometimes prepared from the carob pods; they are relished by most children and are sometimes offered for sale by fruit dealers in America." (*W. T. Swingle.*)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 3112.

**45925. ALECTRYON SUBCINEREUM** (A. Gray) Radlk. Sapindaceæ.  
(*Nephelium leiocarpum* F. Muell.)

From Nice, France. Presented by Dr. A. Robertson Proschowsky. Received March 21, 1918.

A shrub or small tree, native to New South Wales, Australia, which has compound leaves composed of one to three pairs of shining, coarsely serrate, oblong leaflets 2 to 4 inches long and very small flowers in short axillary panicles; the two to three lobed capsules inclose globose seeds with fleshy arils. (Adapted from *A. Gray, U. S. Exploring Expedition, vol. 15, Botany, p. 258, as Cupania subcinerea.*)

See S. P. I. No. 44520 for previous introduction.