

## 50359 to 50373—Continued.

over 3 inches long; the bracts are densely brown velvety, with a very long, rigid point. The flowers are said to be eaten in Kangra as a potherb. This shrub is prized as a fodder for sheep and goats. (Adapted from *Hooker, Flora of British India, vol. 2, p. 102*, and *Watt, Dictionary of the Economic Products of India, vol. 4, p. 385.*)

50370. *PHOTINIA* sp. Malacææ.

Received as *Photinia integrifolia*, but the seeds do not agree with a previous sample from the same source.

50371. *PUERARIA PEDUNCULARIS* (Benth.) R. Grah. Fabacææ.

A copiously twining plant with slender branches clothed with short deflexed deciduous hairs. The membranous green leaflets are gray with a thick down. The reddish flowers with a deep purple tipped keel are in moderately close racemes 6 inches to 1 foot in length. Native to the temperate regions of the eastern Himalayas, Khasi Hills, Nepal, Sikkim, and Mishmi, at altitudes of 5,000 to 9,000 feet. (Adapted from *Hooker, Flora of British India, vol. 2, p. 197.*)

50372. *THEMEDA GIGANTEA VILLOSA* (Poir.) Hack. Poacææ. Grass.

A stout grass 8 to 16 feet high, with glabrous or scaberulous branches and branchlets, linear leaves 4 to 8 feet long, and a large decoupled panicle. Native to Assam, the Khasi Hills, Java, and Malacca. (Adapted from *Hooker, Flora of British India, vol. 7, p. 217.*)

50373. *TRACHYCARPUS MARTIANUS* (Wall.) Wendl. Phœnicacææ. Palm.

A tall, slender tree, 40 to 50 feet high, stunted on dry ground or in otherwise unfavorable localities, with a globose crown of dark shining leaves. The trunk below the crown is clothed with a network of brown fibrous rhomboid meshes formed by the sheathing bases of the 3-foot petioles. The blade is roundish, consisting of 30 to 40 linear segments, 15 to 20 inches long, joined for half their length, emarginate at the top. The drooping compound panicle bears only one berry, which is oblong, yellow at first, dark glossy blue when ripe. The fruit is eaten, though the pulp is scanty and almost tasteless. (Adapted from *Brandis, Forest Flora of India, p. 546.*)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 48281.

50374 and 50375. *SACCHARUM OFFICINARUM* L. Poacææ.

## Sugar cane.

From Coimbatore, South India. Cuttings presented by T. S. Venkatraman, Agricultural College. Received May 27, 1920.

"Indigenous Indian canes of the type of the Japanese forage cane which seems to be immune to the mosaic disease, which apparently attacks more or less severely all other sugar-cane types." (*C. O. Townsend.*)

50374. "*Shamsara*. A hardier variety than the following one, chiefly grown in North India, green when young, turning greenish brown at maturity. It yields in northern India 15 to 20 tons in cane, with 16 to 17 per cent sucrose in the juice, and a purity ranging from 80 to 85 per cent. It matures in 10 months. Probably an introduction into this country." (*Venkatraman.*)

50375. "*Vellai*. A thick, juicy cane of South India, green or greenish yellow when young, turning golden yellow at maturity. It yields 20 to 25 tons in cane, with 17 to 18 per cent sucrose in the juice, and a purity ranging from 85 to 90 per cent. It requires 12 to 14 months to mature, is rather delicate, requires careful cultivation, and can not stand water-logging. Not an indigenous cane, but apparently introduced into this country about a century ago." (*Venkatraman.*)