

places at an elevation of from 10000 to 14000 feet. Though closely allied to the Himalayan *S. ligulata* and the Siberian *S. crassifolia*, it is extremely different from, and far more beautiful than either of those species. Nothing indeed can exceed the bright glossy green of the leaves which are elegantly margined with red, or the deep, bright, vinous, red-purple of its scape and inflorescence." (Curtis's Botanical Magazine, pl. 5066.)

*Sorbus* spp. (Malaceae.) 39133-135. Seeds from Darjeeling, India. Three species, all native of the higher Himalayas, and one with small edible fruit. May be of value for stocks for other malaceous fruits.

*Vaccinium glauco-album*. (Vacciniaceae.) 39141. Seeds from Darjeeling, India. A shrub with large white persistent bracts under the pinkish flowers which are borne in dense racemes, found on the slopes of the Himalayas at an elevation of from 7500 to 10000 feet, from Sikkim to Bhotan.

#### NOTES FROM CORRESPONDENTS ABROAD.

Frank N. Meyer, Agricultural Explorer, writes from Ping yang fu, Shansi, China, August 1, 1914: "It is about one month ago since I wrote you last and so far as real distance is concerned I have not advanced much, but we went over some very interesting territory and I was lucky to discover the *real wild peach*, growing in loess ravines some 2-3 days to the East from here, near a village called *Tchao yu*. The plants are of smaller dimensions than our cultivated strains and the stones are somewhat different as regards shape and grooves, but still on the whole there is little difference between a very poor seedling peach and this wild one.

These wild peaches are locally cut for firewood, for the fruits are pretty near inedible, being small and having hard, sourish flesh. They grow at the edges of deep loose ravines and on the steep, sloping bottoms of such ravines, in company with such plants as *Pyrus betulæfolia*, *Hippophae rhamnoides*, *Prunus armeniaca*, *Prunus bungei*, *Xanthoceras sorbifolia*, *Syringa oblata*, *Ziziphus sativa*, *Celtis sinensis*, *Elaeagnus multiflora*. All of these plants are very drought-resistant and do well in semi-arid regions. The Chinese locally do not call this peach "yeh tao or "shan tao" but "mao tao," meaning "hairy peach." In the vicinity where they grow, no peaches are cultivated, although half a day's journey lower down, one meets with some poor looking trees in gardens.