

(*Malus baccata*). There is very much variation in the trees as regards appearance, pubescence of leaves, size of fruits and of flowers, etc. Some trees present a silvery-gray appearance while others are quite green. Whether all of these strains will be equally immune is yet to be solved.

"This pear will be of immense value as a stock for the very greater part of the United States, but more especially so for those parts where the summers are hot and the winters only moderately cold. As a factor in hybridisation work it offers but little prospect since the fruits are ridiculously small, often only the size of a small choke-cherry. *Pyrus ussuriensis* however offers much better promise for breeding work, that is, to obtain a hardy pear for cold regions, but as a stock it probably cannot be grown in regions where summer temperatures go high. Professor Reimer stated to me last September that the leaves of it got slightly scorched at Talent during a hot spell in July, I believe. In China, to my knowledge, I have never seen a specimen of *Pyrus ussuriensis* in a real hot part of the country; it always occurs there where the real *Malus baccata* thrives and *Juglans mandshurica*. Both of these plants love relatively cool summers, just like I do myself.

"And now as regards collecting a large quantity of seeds of the wild *calleryana* pear, for which purpose I made this special sixteen-day trip. Well, around Ichang itself there are too few trees and they are too small; around Kingmen, however, four to five days march due northeast, we found many trees and I have advanced my interpreter 100 Hupeh dollars, which he has been paying out as bargain money to various parties around Kingmen and in the early days of September of this year the natives will try to bring to us in Kingmen about 5000 cattles of fresh ripe fruits and we will have to arrange about prices and about cleaning methods.

"So we have to be again here in early September and if not, the advance money is spent in vain and of course no seeds will be received by anybody.

"The climate around Kingmen is much more continental than in Ichang, as the cold winds from Honan strike right down there on their way into Hunan. The Rev. J. S. Johnson, of the Swedish-American Missionary Covenant, who is stationed at times in Kingmen, told me that this winter the ice was 7 to 9 inches thick and his mandarin orange trees had suffered very