

height before branching; the young saplings have much the appearance of young *Castilla elastica* (rubber). The bark is light gray, thick, smooth or laminated, astringent in taste, and reminds one of quinine, - hence the native name "Umbaba" (to be bitter). The hard red timber has a handsome grain, is fairly easily worked, and weathers well above ground. It is untouched by Bostrychidae or termites. The tree makes an enormous crown of handsome glossy foliage. The old trees are in full bloom the first of November, and the fruits begin to ripen at the end of the following September, continuing to fall till December and littering the ground for some distance in every direction. (E. G. Baker, Journal of the Linnean Society, vol. 40, p. 42.)

Notes from Correspondents.

Mr. H. J. Elwes, Colesborne, Cheltenham, England, has kindly acceded to our request that we be allowed to quote the following excerpts from his letter of April 4, 1921:

"Your papers on 'Plant Immigrants' are certainly very valuable to horticulturists in all countries, and I thank you again for sending them, considering that at my age I can do little to reciprocate and make return for them.

"In Plant Immigrants No. 177, (Jan. 1921, pl. 278) I notice that the Chinese ginger (*Zinziber officinale*) has been successfully grown in Maryland. Have you tried the Japanese species *Z. mioga*?* If not, I can send you either strong plants in pots or dried roots.....

"I am much interested in Mr. Rock's notes from Siam. The mountains in the interior of that country are undoubtedly one of the finest unexplored regions for the botanist and horticulturist and I am assured by a neighbor who is the most intimate personal friend of the King of Siam (who lived in his house for a year to learn English) that every facility would be given to a suitable man who wished to explore there. I only wish that Forrest had gone

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*The Japanese ginger which we have grown, under S.P.I. No. 44579, does not compare with the Chinese ginger in quality.