

CHINA, Chengtu. Mr. E. W. Wilson writes December 16, 1910, that he is leaving for home soon, and hopes to reach Boston early in April. He has had a fairly successful time, though he met with the misfortune of a badly broken right leg.

CHINESE TURKESTAN. Mr. Frank N. Meyer, Agricultural Explorer for this Office, writes January 7 that he has returned to Kashgar. Both his Chinese and Russian interpreters wish to return to their homes, his permit for work in Russian Turkestan, to which he wishes to return because of the poorness in plants of Chinese Turkestan, has run out, and he is ill from exposure and bad quarters. He hopes, however, to return to Russian Turkestan for some of the interesting things seen on his way to Kashgar.

INDIA, Saharanpur. Mr. A. C. Hartless, Superintendent of the Government Botanical Gardens, Saharanpur, in reply to our request for alfalfas, writes that he has requested the Superintendent of Farms, Kashmir, to send us what alfalfas he can, and sends the following reply received from him: "Our staple leguminous fodder crop in this province (Kashmir) is known as *Trifolium suaveolens* (Shaftal) a kind of vigorous lucerne. It is wonderfully vigorous and can be cut many times between early January and late May. I have six acres sown on the Peshawar Agricultural Station. I am afraid there is no one across the border who knows botany sufficiently to enable him to collect species of *Medicago*. The photograph you have sent should enable me to spot anything unusual."

PALESTINE, Jerusalem. Mr. E. F. Beaumont of the American Colony writes January 20 that they are interested in the variety of cactus called Indian fig. "We have observed here apparently two varieties; one with a long offensive spine over the leaf, and another which seems to be more abundant with scarcely any spine and those existing are only from one-eighth to one-fourth of an inch long and so inoffensive as to be eaten readily by the cattle, singeing not being at all necessary."

PERU, Perene Colony. Mr. James A. Furlong writes January 9 that he will try to get us anything we wish that grows in his region. He will try to get us *Rollinia*, Golden tree, and *Cucurbita maxima*, as soon as he can get in touch with ways of getting them. The *Sapium* rubber does not grow in his region but he hopes to obtain seed for us from the missionary priests who travel throughout the interior.