

NOTES FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

CHINESE TURKESTAN. Kuldja. Among the notes sent in by Mr. Frank N. Meyer, Agricultural Explorer, on material collected in the Thian Shan Mountains, the following were appended to certain cuttings of wild apple which did not survive the journey. "The valley of the Chong Djighilan River (altitude 3700 feet) and its small tributaries is one vast wild apple and apricot garden, and these wild trees vary in all possible ways. The quality and sizes of the fruits of the wild apples exhibit great variations, ranging from small, sour, hard fruits up to medium sized apples of a very fair taste. The local people collect the best varieties in autumn, slice them and keep them dried for winter use, while bears and wild hogs come down from the higher mountains especially to enjoy both the apples and the apricots in late summer and autumn. These wild apples are apparently much slower growers than those we have in cultivation, but they make up for it in all round hardiness and one may expect to obtain from them strains able to stand much greater cold than most of the varieties that have been developed from the apples coming originally from moist and mild western Europe."

GERMAN EAST AFRICA. Amani. Dr. A. Zimmermann writes April 26 that he is sending us seed of *Sphenostylis stenocarpa*, a tuberous rooted legume, cultivated and eaten by the natives at Tabora. Seeds of *Dolichos pseudopachyrhizus* have not yet come to hand to send us.

MAURITIUS. Port Louis. Mr. G. Regnard writes April 15, that because of the severe cyclones from which the island has suffered this spring, he will not be able to send us the grafted mangos until next year. He will undertake to get for us seed of the Bay tree, *Pimenta acris*, from which bay rum is made.

NEW SOUTH WALES. Burringbar. Mr. B. Harrison offers to secure for us seeds of the native *Carissa Brownii* which we wish for breeding purposes, and of the native Mangosteen, *Garcinia Mestoni*, which is a semitropical fruit of good quality. He describes certain native trees, the *Melaleuca* or ti-tree, having "a covering of many sheets or layers of bark, which are used for roofing houses and sheds. The timber is durable, the bloom is profuse and contains a large amount of honey, and a volatile oil resembling *Eucalyptus* can be distilled from the foliage. The brown pine is another timber suitable for piles and resists the *teredo navalis*, or marine worm, and bears a plum like fruit, which makes a good preserve."