

like a black cherry than any other northern fruit I can think of. When I remember the size of the wild fruit -which the common cherry is supposed to have originated from, I think this little fruit promises to repay cultivation well. I would suggest trying it in Florida or California or Texas. The latter place might, I think, be the best for it. From mid-August to the end of September is the time of fruiting, i. e. early spring here." (Birch.) For distribution later.

#### NOTES FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

CHINA. Canton. Pres. C. K. Edmunds, of Canton Christian College, writes October 7 that he has just returned from a trip through Kwangtung and Kiangsi provinces, and expects to leave shortly for a journey in Yunnan and Szechuan, but so far has failed to find the wild-rice, *Zizania*, which we requested of him.

EGYPT. Assiout. Mr. Aaron Aaronsohn, collaborator of this Department, who is at present studying the Egyptian varieties of dates, with a view to the importation of the best varieties, writes October 25 that he has received the greatest assistance from the officers of the Department of Agriculture of Egypt, who have undertaken to bring together, pack and ship offshoots of all the varieties decided upon by him as the best suited for trial in this country. In an earlier letter he describes the "Dry land date culture" of the Mediterranean shore between Alexandria and Rosetta, where tremendous crops are grown entirely without irrigation, and a rapidly increasing area is being brought under cultivation.

Mr. Aaronsohn also writes from Assouan, October 29, that he has succeeded in finding at Assiout, the true "Wahi" date, and is arranging to secure the offshoots through the American consular agent at the place. From Assouan he is sending five selected varieties, and hopes to obtain specimens of some fine dates at the Luxor market.

FRANCE. Paris. Mr. Walter T. Swingle, who has been attending the International Congress of Genetics in Paris, writes November 5, that he has been investigating the citrus relatives of Africa, and has found two new genera and a new species. The governor general of Algeria has promised that Dr. Trabut, and M. Brunel, the Director of agriculture for Algeria, soon to be appointed, shall visit America next year. November 12 he writes, "I shall bring back in my cabin living plants of the new African bael fruits, one of these able to grow in brackish water and will be a rival of *Gonocitrus angulata* as a stock for Citrus in alkali lands. I go to