

rica, Sept. 23. "Seed of the Koreish Battekh (Inedible oil pumpkin.) Is sown by natives among their other crops, all of which depend on rain. The oil from the seeds of this pumpkin is used for cooking and other purposes as is the better known semsen oil. It is also used by the military and other officials with the addition of tobacco juice to protect their mules from the bite of the tse-tse fly."

SCHOENOCaulon OFFICINALE. 24195. "Cebadilla." From Veracruz, Mexico, Nov. 10. This seed is poisonous, containing veratrum and is therefore generally used in the form of a tincture for destroying body lice, etc., as also ticks on cattle. Cebadilla is a commodity procurable of druggists in the U. S.

SOYBEANS. 24173-24192. A collection of soybeans and cowpeas from Soochow, Kiangsu, China, presented by Rev. A. B. Haden. Rec. Nov. 14. The collection also contains one eggplant, 24176, a white variety.

VIGNA UNGUICULATA. 24369. From Biloxi, Miss., Nov. 25. "A variety of cowpea the vines of which were 50 feet long, and was stated by the owner to grow 100 feet long. The plants were dead when I saw them, but the owner says the plant is perennial. The pods are very large measuring 10 in. in length and $\frac{1}{4}$ in. in width, while the seeds closely resemble those of the ordinary Whippoorwill variety." (Tracy.)

The following numbers were brought from China by Frank N. Meyer, and given to the Dept. Oct., 1908.

AMARANTHUS SPP. 23984-988.

APIUM GRAVEOLENS. 23970. A Chinese variety of celery, quite strong. Might be of use in celery salt manufacture.

ASTER. 24087-24109. Various forms and varieties of garden asters.