

*Olea europea.* (Oleaceae.) 38336. Cuttings of olive from Bermuda. Collected by Mr. Peter Bisset, of this Office. "Cuttings from an olive that fruits sparingly in Bermuda. For trial in Florida where soil and climatic conditions are similar and where the olive does not fruit." (Bisset.)

*Oryza sativa.* (Poaceae.) 38327. Seed of a rice from Dakhla Oasis, Western Egypt. Purchased from Sheikh Abu Bakr, through contract made by Prof. S. C. Mason, of this Bureau, on his visit to the Oasis in October 1913. "This rice is a variety grown in the Oases of Kharga and Dakhla, and regarded by the natives as quite distinct from the so-called valley rice which is used in reclaiming the salty lands in the delta of lower Egypt. Mr. Wright, manager of the Corporation of Western Egypt at Kharga, and Sheikh Abu Bakr, the chief man of Dakhla Oasis, both especially recommended this rice as being a valuable crop for reclaiming salty lands. They stated that it can be grown successfully on land quite too strong for barley. My idea in bringing this in was not that it would be of sufficient importance to use as a main crop on high priced irrigated lands, but that it should be given a test as a useful crop in reclaiming lands at present too salty for the growing of alfalfa and barley. There are considerable areas of land of this character in the Coachella valley accessible to a good flow of artesian water. In Dakhla the land is bordered up with quite high ridges, and the water kept almost continuously on the rice, it being essential, of course, that there be some wash or lower tract into which the surplus water can be thrown. My idea is that it is this excess of water that really does the chief work of improving the alkaline ground rather than the rice crop itself, but if a crop of rice can be raised toward the expense of reclaiming such land and bringing it into condition for usefulness with other crops, the rice certainly justifies itself." (Mason.)

*Osterdamia* sp. (Poaceae.) 38177. Cuttings of a grass from the mountains near Tai an fu, Shantung, China. "A grass of low growth and of spreading habit, thriving to perfection on thin decomposed rock soil, along mountain paths where much tramping over takes place; also found on inclines where the mat of roots prevents the soil from being washed out. Of decided value apparently as a bank, lawn and golf-course grass, especially for the drier parts of the United States." (Meyer's introduction.)

*Paeonia albiflora.* (Ranunculaceae.) 38339. Plants of herbaceous peonies from Tsaochou fu, Shantung, China. Among these are said to be yellow, green and black peonies. (Meyer's introduction.)