## 10624 to 10627.

From Moscow, Russia. Received from Immer & Sons, seedsmen, thru Mr. E. A. Bessey, April 23, 1904.

Seeds, as follows:

**10624.** AVENA SATIVA. **Oat.**

*Belyak.* A race of oat bred from the *Sträloff* oat and especially valuable in regions of limited rainfall, where it gives large crops when other sorts fail.

**10625.** PANICUM MILIACEUM. **Broom-corn millet.**

*Orenburger.* A low sort, especially bred for large yield in dry regions by the owner of a large estate. Not on the market. Obtained by Immer & Sons from the breeder as a personal favor to them.

**10626.** TRIFOLIUM PRATENSE. **Red clover.**

Red-clover seed from an estate at Kostroma, 150 miles north of Moscow, a region of very cold winters, almost at the edge of clover-seed production.

**10627.** TRIFOLIUM PRATENSE. **Red clover.**

Red-clover seed from an estate in the northern part of Simbirsk government, a region of cold winters with little snow.

## 10628. BETA VULGARIS. Beet.

From Catania, Sicily. Received thru Mr. Alwin Berger, La Mortola, Ventimiglia, Italy. Received April 21, 1904.

"Sample of beet seed from the director of the Royal Botanic Gardens in Catania for the breeding experiments of Dr. C. O. Townsend and Mr. E. C. Rittue, of this Department." (*Fairchild.*)

## 10629 and 10630. BETA MARITIMA.

From Sicily. Received thru Dr. Carl Sprenger, Vomero, near Naples, Italy, April 25, 1904.

"Sample of seed from two different localities in Sicily for the breeding experiments of Doctor Townsend and Mr. Rittue, of this Department. No. 10629 was marked 'I' and No. 10630 was marked 'II.' No further information." (*Fairchild.*)

## 10631. CAESALPINIA BREVIFOLIA. Algarobillo.

From New York. Received thru A. Klipstein & Co., 122 Pearl street, New York, N. Y., March 23, 1904.

Pods of the tannin shrub "algarobillo." This is a small tree found growing wild on the foothills of the Andes in Chile. It is said to occur in the driest portions of the arid coast and to produce large quantities of pods very rich in tannin. According to Dr. Louis E. Levi, of the Pfister & Vogel Leather Company, of Milwaukee, Wis., "it is an excellent tanning material, but gives a very light yellow color to the leather, which is partially objectionable, yet I think in mixtures with quebracho, or the like, it would answer the purpose of the tanner. The same contains about 50 per cent of tannin. The tannin material has as yet not been used very much in the United States on account of its objectionable color and easily fermentable properties when in solution. I think this is not very objectionable, as an experienced tanner would be able to get around this fault."

Mr. C. A. Spencer, importer and dealer in tanning materials, 183 Essex street, Boston, Mass., says: "Regarding the value of this material as a tanning agent, we may say its use for the purpose is very limited. While it is very strong in tannin it does not have the filling properties that make it a desirable material for the manufacture of leather, altho there is a limited quantity used in Great Britain and Europe, but from the best information we have been able to obtain, there are only about 1,000 tons yearly of this article available. As compared with other tanning materials grown in the United States, and with quebracho extract, gambier, etc., the price is somewhat higher, which no doubt accounts, to a certain extent, for its limited consumption. We formerly imported this article regularly, but the demand for it has grown much less during the past two years, and there are now practically but