58461. AMARANTHUS GANGETICUS L. Amaranthaceæ.

From Manila, Philippine Islands. Seeds presented by P. J. Wester, Bureau of Agriculture. Received February 13, 1924.

With its multicolored tops, ranging from pale yellow to dark red in various shades, this variety, known here as hauin, is one of the most gorgeous ornamental plants I have ever seen. It is rare in Manila, but it is common in Cebu, where the tender leaves are eaten like spinach. It ought to do well in Florida and possibly in southern California. (*Wester.*)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 53896.

58462. RHUS CORIARIA L. Anacardiaceæ.

From Palermo, Italy. Seeds presented through Edward I. Nathan, American consul. Received March 22, 1923. Numbered January, 1924.

Immense groves of this species are cultivated in Sicily for the purpose of extracting tannin from the leaves. The product is light and free from discolorations and therefore commands a high price in the world's markets. Large quantities of sumac extract are imported annually into the United States, since it is difficult to obtain from American sumacs extracts which are as clear and as light colored as the Sicilian product. The establishment of commercial plantings of *Rhus coriaria* in this country seems worthy of serious consideration.

58463. BERBERIS REPLICATA W. W. Smith. Berberidaceæ. **Barberry.**

From Wisley, Ripley, Surrey, England. Plants presented by Fred J. Chittenden, director, Royal Horticultural Society Gardens. Received February 16, 1924.

An evergreen barberry originally collected by George Forrest in thickets on the Shweli-Salwin Divide, southwestern China, at an altitude of 11,000 feet. The rather small leaves have recurved margins and are gray beneath. It is an early and profusely flowering species, bearing its blossoms all along the branches in a very attractive fashion, and the deep-crimson berries make it handsome in the fruiting stage. It appears to be quite hardy in England. (Adapted from *The Garden, vol. 87, p. 186.*)

58464. MALUS SYLVESTRIS Mill. (*Pyrus malus* L.). Malaceæ. **Apple.**

From Simla Hills, Punjab, India. Scions presented by S. E. Stokes. Received February 16, 1924.

A russet apple of good size and excellent flavor, greatly appreciated in Simla by the English. The tree, which is a strong grower and heavy cropper, ripens its fruit in October, and we have often been able to keep it until April or May. While in storage the fruit turns to a golden yellow. At the altitude of 7,000 feet in Kotgarh, where this tree grows, many other temperate crops are also grown, such as potatoes, corn, and barley, and such fruits as cherries, plums, and apricots. (*Stokes.*)

58465. DIOSPYROS DECANDRA Lour. Diospyraceæ.

From Algiers, Algeria. Seeds presented by Dr. L. Trabut. Received February 13, 1924.

A wild persimmon from Cochin China, whose yellow, edible, sweet fruits, about an inch in diameter, are sold in the native markets of the small towns. The tree is large, with spreading branches, and produces excellent heavy timber, which is white marked with black veins; the heartwood is sometimes black.

58466. CROTALARIA ANAGYROIDES H. B. K. Fabaceæ.

From Buitenzorg, Java. Seeds presented by Dr. P. J. S. Cramer, director, general experiment station, Department of Agriculture, at the request of Charles L. Hoover, American consul, Batavia, Java. Received February 14, 1924.

The crotalarias are tropical leguminous plants, of value for cover crops and green manure, for which purposes they are used in the same manner as cowpeas and velvet beans. Doctor Cramer, in his letter of transmittal, writes that *Crotalaria anagyroides* has proved more desirable than other species in Java, mainly because it produces a larger amount of foliage and the plants remain erect. He says: "It is especially satisfactory at high altitudes and is in such great demand for the tea plantations in the higher mountains that we have to limit our seed distributions to small quantities."

Though cultivated in Java, this species is not native to that part of the world. It is widely distributed in tropical America, where it occurs, according to Grisebach (Flora of the West Indies), from Mexico to Peru, and in the West Indies. The same authority states that it is somewhat shrubby in character, with erect puberulous stems and leaves composed of three ovate-lanceolate leaflets.

58467. SPATHODEA NILOTICA Seem. Bignoniaceæ.

From Entebbe, Uganda. Seeds presented by the chief forestry officer, forestry department. Received February 14, 1924.

Spathodea campanulata is proving to be an ornamental tree of unusual value for southern Florida. For this reason the arrival of another member of this genus is a matter of considerable interest. *S. nilotica,* which is native in the upper Nile Valley and the Belgian Congo, is a bushy tree reaching about 20 feet in height. The leaves, which are opposite and composed of 9 to 15 leathery leaflets, are covered beneath with dense, short hairs. The scarlet flowers, produced in short, compact terminal clusters, are said to resemble closely those of *S. campanulata,* which means that they are strikingly beautiful. The behavior of this tree in southern Florida will be watched with interest.

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 47502.

58468 to 58470.

From Yunnan, China. Seeds collected by J. F. Rock, National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C. Received February 18, 1924. Notes by Mr. Rock.

58468. ABIES FORRESTII Craib. Pinaceæ. **Fir.**

(No. 10673. December, 1923.) A handsome tree 70 to 80 feet in height with a trunk 2 feet or more in diameter, common on moist mountain meadows and steep limestone slopes of the Likiang Snow Range at altitudes ranging from 10,000 to 13,500 feet. The needles are white beneath, and the cones are purplish blue to black.

58469. ABIES sp. Pinaceæ. **Fir.**

(No. 10887. December, 1923.) A tree 60 to 80 feet high with a trunk 2 to 3 feet in diameter, found along meadows below Ladsakodjo, on the eastern slopes of the Likiang Snow Range, at an altitude of about 13,000 feet. The needles are silvery beneath, the large, ovoid cones are bluish black, and the scales have a central pointed spur which is absent in *Abies forrestii.*

58470. PICEA sp. Pinaceæ. **Spruce.**

(No. 10888. December, 1923.) A tree 60 to 80 feet with long drooping branches, found back of Nguluke, growing wild around the village temple, at an altitude of 9,600 feet in the Likiang Snow Range. The needles are short, the cones are larger, and the scales broader than No. 10890 [S. P. I. No. 58498].