

23474. ILLIPE LATIFOLIA (Roxb.) F. Muell. Mahwah.

From Baroda, India. Presented by M. A. Sitole, Director of Agriculture, Baroda State, India, through Mr. O. W. Barrett. Received August 20, 1908.

"A tree, growing 50 feet high, content with dry, stony ground, enduring slight frost. Wood so tough as to be adapted for plows and various machinery [Dr. Schlich]. The succulent corolla affords a never-failing crop of nourishing saccharine food to the rural inhabitants. Each tree supplies 2 to 3 hundredweight; each hundredweight yields on distillation about 3 gallons of spirits; essential oil is also obtained from the corolla. The flowers are also used for feeding cattle; they will keep for a long time. The seeds yield oil of thick consistence." (*Von Mucller.*)

23475. PASPALUM DILATATUM Poir. Large water grass.

From Coffs Harbor, New South Wales, Australia. Purchased from Mr. W. Seccombe, through Mr. C. V. Piper. Received August 22, 1908.

23476. DENDROCALAMUS STRICTUS (Roxb.) Nees. Bamboo.

From British India. Presented by Mr. Jean Houzeau de Lehaie, Saint Symphorien, Belgium. Received August 26, 1908.

"One of the most valuable bamboos; is not hurt by slight frosts and, it is said, is very drought resistant. Wood of the finest quality.

"I hope that this valuable species, designated by Sir D. Brandis as the most important for the Southwest of the United States, has now been introduced in sufficient quantity so that a distribution may be made for outdoor planting. I think that in order to be successful the young plants ought not to be planted outdoors until the spring of 1910, unless it is under exceptionally favorable conditions, and that in any case it will be necessary to irrigate or water them, to fertilize them, and to keep them covered with straw the first summer after they are planted out. It will of course be only the most vigorous and well rooted plants which will show all their power of resistance and all their good qualities." (*De Lehaie.*) (See Nos. 21548 and 22819 for previous importations.)

23477. VITIS VINIFERA L. Grape.

From Aberdeen, Cape Colony, South Africa. Presented by Mr. F. W. Eagle, at the request of Mr. R. A. Davis, government horticulturist, Transvaal Department of Agriculture. Received August 29, 1908.

Karoo Belle. "This grape is a really good table fruit, possessed of hardy qualities and largely resistant in this country to *oidium*; it would be quite at home in the Santa Clara Valley, and also, I think, farther south, even in Fresno." (*Davis.*)

"I have succeeded in rearing a cross between the vines *White Crystal* and *Muscat Hambro*, which I have named *Karoo Belle*. A magnificent grape, strong grower, enormous cropper, very large and most compact bunches (some cut this season weighed from 5 to 7½ pounds), round and very large, almost stoneless berries, which are a dark brownish purple where well exposed to the sun, but where hanging in the shade are only slightly tinted, or even quite green if very much shaded, and always with a great deal of bloom. Carries exceptionally well, as proved by a box of grapes sent to Johannesburg containing eight varieties, among which were *Hannepoot*, *Crystal Muscat Hambro*, *Vitenhage Blue*, etc., all of which were useless except *Karoo Belle*, bunches of which were perfect. As regards keeping qualities, we cut the first ripe bunch off the parent vine on January 15, and the last one on June 28, which were perfectly sound except a few berries stung by the bees through the bag, so that we have been cutting grapes from the one vine for nearly five and a half months." (*Mr. Eagle, Aberdeen, Cape Colony, in the Transvaal Agricultural Journal, January, 1907, p. 472.*)

"This variety of grape has been planted largely in different districts of the Transvaal. The vine arrived with a flattering reputation, but has, unfortunately, proved in the majority of cases quite worthless, owing to the fact that