

**25538 to 25540—Continued.**

"I then put several melons on ice—imagine in February—and they were served. At first they hesitated, and could not believe that a green looking melon, at that time of the year, could be eaten. They tried it, and asked that others be put on ice, as they had never tasted so delicious a fruit in their lives. They took with them a large quantity and asked me the address of a dealer to have a lot sent to them in New York. The next day they wrote me a letter and asked if they could come to tea and if I would have some more of these melons on ice.

"This fact will show you really what they are. These melons can easily be kept until March by paying great attention to the dryness of the cellars where they are kept. The yield per acre is very large and the great question is to obtain pure seeds. There are, however, planters who pay great attention to the matter and grow on their estates only the pure melon. In Guadalajara there are some and in Valencia there are the best.

"They are never hung in the sun to ripen. They are picked just before ripening, covered with a jute net, and hung up in a dark, dry place. When they are to be eaten they are taken out, hung in the sun for a short time, and when soft at the ends are ready for use." (*Extract from letter of Hon. Maddin Summers, April 20, 1909.*)

**25541 and 25542.**

From Sibpur, Calcutta, India. Presented by Prof. A. T. Gage, superintendent, Royal Botanic Garden. Received June 2, 1909.

Seed of each of the following:

**25541. TERMINALIA BELLERICA (Gaertn.) Roxb.**

"A handsome tree, native in southern Asia, the fruits of which, collected when full grown but still unripe, and dried in the sun, form the Beleric myrobalans of commerce. These fruits contain about 12 per cent of tannin, but as a tanning material are inferior to the fruits of the following species." (*W. W. Stockberger.*)

*Distribution.*—A large tree, found throughout India, and in Ceylon and the Malay Archipelago.

**25542. TERMINALIA CHEBULA Retz.**

"A large deciduous tree, occurring chiefly on the mountains of India. The fruits, known as Chebulic myrobalans, are extensively used in tanning, over 20,000,000 pounds being imported into the United States in 1908 for that purpose. These fruits yield from 30 to 40 per cent tannin, which occurs chiefly in the pulp surrounding the kernel. The tree is occasionally cultivated up to 5,000 feet in the Himalayas. Seedlings grown at Chattanooga, Tenn., were cut down by frost." (*W. W. Stockberger.*)

*Distribution.*—A tall tree, native of India, extending from Kumaon to Bengal, and in Ceylon and the Malay Archipelago.

**25543. ACACIA CATECHU (L.) Willd.**

From Saharanpur, United Provinces, India. Presented by Prof. A. T. Gage, superintendent, Royal Botanic Garden, Sibpur, Calcutta. Received June 2, 1909.

"A leguminous tree, native of India and East Africa, naturalized in Jamaica, where it is common in dry locations. It is said to bear some frost and may prove hardy in favorable localities in the southern United States. The extract from the