

42803 to 42805—Continued.

42803 and 42804. CUCURBITA PEPO L. Cucurbitaceæ. Pumpkin.

"Seeds of the *Ayote de pelleja* (skin pumpkin) entirely without shell, but solid and good. It is for the temperate and cold highlands of tropical countries only; does not produce fruits in Philadelphia or Florida." (Wercklé.)

42805. MEIBOMIA sp. Fabaceæ.

42806. GOSSYPIUM sp. Malvaceæ. Caravonica cotton.

From the city of Guatemala, Guatemala. Presented by Mr. S. Billow. Received May 10, 1916.

"During the year 1912 I procured some seed grown from plants near the Pacific Ocean, at an altitude of about 300 feet. When I returned to Guatemala after my last visit to the States, I arranged to put in an experimental plat and planted some of this seed in October, 1913, but owing to many plants not showing the characteristics claimed for Caravonica cotton I exterminated them, only saving those which appeared to possess the true strain. These plants in about eight months gave the first crop, from which I obtained a very good quality of seed. The plants were in a private garden near the city, the altitude being 5,000 feet. I planted about an acre in July, 1915, and last month the plants commenced to have matured bolls, some of the plants having as many as 250 on them. During the time between planting and fruiting we had some very dry as well as cool weather, the thermometer falling to 45° F., and while it apparently retarded the growing of the plants it did not seem to have any effect otherwise." (Billow.)

42807. PROSOPIS VIDALIANA Naves. Mimosaceæ. Aroma.

From Manila, Philippine Islands. Presented by Mr. H. T. Edwards, director, Bureau of Agriculture. Received May 22, 1916.

"Considerable interest and argument has occasionally arisen with regard to the *aroma*, since many people casually acquainted with the Hawaiian *prosopis* species have insisted that our *aroma* is identical, hence have called it *algaroba*. Mr. Merrill, of the Bureau of Science, upon his return from his recent visit to the United States, secured adequate botanical material of the *Prosopis juliflora* in Honolulu for comparison with our so-called Philippine species. Mr. Merrill maintains that inasmuch as our species has much larger leaves and leaflets and the entire absence of the sweet substance in the pods characteristic of the Hawaiian form, the sinking of the *aroma* into *P. juliflora* is a serious mistake, although practiced by many reputable botanists. Our Mr. H. J. Gallagher, who has had extensive experience both in Hawaii and here in feeding animals, is of the opinion that the *aroma* is of considerable importance as a food for animals, citing his experience in Batangas Province in the southern part of Luzon. During the 11 years we have been observing the *aroma* its spreading has been quite noticeable, but it apparently tends to follow the sandy coast regions, yet does spread slowly up over the hillsides. The objection to the *aroma* is the presence of the long sharp thorns, which are much more pronounced than on the *P. juliflora* in Hawaii. Nevertheless, in Hawaii the thorns apparently vary with individuals, being longer on some trees than on others." (Edwards.)