

**45589 to 45591—Continued.**

"An East Indian palm 20 to 30 feet in height, with a thick, round crown, commonly met with throughout Assam, but most plentiful in the Nowgong District. The leaves are in universal use throughout Assam for covering the tops of doolees (palanquins) and the roofs of boats, also for making the peculiar umbrella hats (jhapees) of the Assamese. For all these purposes the leaves are admirably adapted by their lightness, toughness, and durability. The leaves are similarly employed by the Lepchas for thatching and umbrellas." (Watt, *Dictionary of the Economic Products of India*, p. 86.)

**45592 and 45593.**

From Kingmen, Hupeh Province, China. Seeds collected by Mr. Frank N. Meyer, Agricultural Explorer for the Department of Agriculture. Received December 19, 1917. Quoted notes by Mr. Meyer.

**45592.** *PYRUS CALLERYANA* Decaisne. Malaceæ.

**Pear.**

"(No. 2453a. October, 1917.) Over 100 pounds of seed of a small-fruited wild pear which has proved to be highly resistant but not totally immune to fire-blight in the inoculation experiments of Prof. F. C. Reimer, at Talent, Oreg. This pear grows in a variety of habitats, as at edges of ponds, in dense thickets, on rocky mountain slopes, in crevices, etc. It is used by the Chinese as a stock for improved pears and seems to make a good union. When left alone it grows into a large tree, reaching an old age. Where this pear occurs around Kingmen, *Pyrus betulae-folia* also is found, and since the latter resembles *P. calleryana* to a striking degree, it is impossible when collecting a large number of fruits to keep out the first entirely. A certain percentage of seed of this pear therefore is mixed with the true *P. calleryana* pear.

"As *P. betulae-folia* is highly susceptible to blight, roguing in the seed beds or nursery plantings should be carefully done.

"To insure pure seeds for future stock purposes, groves should be set out here and there away from other species and varieties of pears, so as to minimize hybridization, and in localities where spring frosts are of rare occurrence.

"Where *Pyrus calleryana* occurs wild, one finds it associated with *Ligustrum lucidum*, *L. quihoui*, *Pistacia chinensis*, *Xylosma racemosum*, *Celtis sinensis*, *Ulmus parvifolia*, *Ziziphus jujuba*, *Pinus massoniana*, *Vitex negundo*, *Cudrania tricuspidata*, *Phyllostachys* sp., *Poncirus trifoliata*, *Zanthoxylum alatum*, etc. In gardens with it one finds cultivated *Citrus ichangensis*, *C. grandis*, *C. nobilis*, *Osmanthus fragrans*, *Meratia praecox*, *Prunus pseudo-cerasus*, *Hovenia dulcis*, *Eriobotrya japonica*, *Paulownia tomentosa*, and others.

"The fruits of *Pyrus calleryana* when ripe become soft and assume a brown color, while those of *P. betulae-folia* also become soft but turn quite black. When not soft, however, the fruits of the two species can not be separated when once mixed unless there are leaves attached to them. Chinese name *Yeh T'ang li* (wild crab-apple pear)."

**45593.** *PISTACIA CHINENSIS* Bunge. Anacardiaceæ. **Chinese pistache.**

"(No. 2454a. October, 1917.) Over 200 pounds of seeds of the Chinese pistache, a very promising shade tree for those sections of the