

46573. AZADIRACHTA INDICA Juss. Meliaceæ. Neem tree.
 (*Melia azadirachta* L.)

From Sibpur, near Calcutta, India. Presented by Mr. G. T. Lane, curator of the Royal Botanic Garden. Received September 14, 1918.

A large tree, sometimes 50 feet tall, native to India. The pinnate leaves are made up of 9 to 15 ovate, serrate leaflets. The white, fragrant flowers hang in graceful panicles and are followed by clusters of ovoid, dark-purple drupes the size of an olive. The wood resembles mahogany and takes a beautiful polish. It is used in making furniture, carts, ships, agricultural implements, and Hindu idols. The sap is used in the spring in making a cooling drink. A gum, which exudes from the bark, is used as a stimulant. Margosa oil, extracted from the pulp of the fruits by boiling or by pressure, is an acrid, bitter oil used in medicine and in dyeing. The seeds are employed in killing insects. (Adapted from *Brandis, Forest Flora of India*, p. 67.)

46574. PERSEA AMERICANA Mill. Lauraceæ. Avocado.
 (*P. gratissima* Gaertn. f.)

From Coyacan, Mexico. Presented by Mrs. Zelia Nuttall. Received September 25, 1918.

"When Mr. Popenoe was here lately he asked me what variety of aguacate I thought the best I had ever tasted, here or in other countries. I told him that I considered those of a certain kind grown on my own place, Casa Alvarado, the finest in flavor and creaminess; besides, the skin was so thin it could be peeled off as readily as that of a ripe peach. I was able to let him try the first ripe ones of this year's crop, and he was delighted with them and asked me to send him lots of seeds." (*Mrs. Nuttall*.)

46575. DACRYDIUM CUPRESSINUM Soland. Taxaceæ. Rimu.

From Auckland, New Zealand. Presented by Mr. H. R. Wright. Received September 24, 1918.

"Rimu seed. Prettiest of all our native trees: a real treasure." (*Wright*.)

This pine is one of the most beautiful objects in the New Zealand bush. Its pale-green drooping branches differ from those of any other forest tree. The leaves are only small prickles running up a long stem, from which branch other small stems whose united weight causes the main stem to hang like the branches of the weeping willow. The whole tree, when young, has the appearance of a lycopodium. The fruit is tiny, but beautiful, the nut being blue-black and the cup red. The timber is red and yellow and beautifully marked. It is used to great advantage in dadoes, panels, and for ceilings. The Tarauaki rimu is especially straight in the grain and very resinous. It is much used for bridge building in that district. (Adapted from *Laing and Blackwell, Plants of New Zealand*, p. 74.)

46576 to 46586.

From eastern Asia. Cuttings collected by Prof. F. C. Reimer, superintendent, Southern Oregon Experiment Station, Talent, Oreg. Received April 16, 1918. Numbered September 31, 1918. Quoted notes by Prof. Reimer.

46576. PYRUS sp. Malaceæ. Pear.

"(No. 51. *Mi li*. Obtained at Maoshan, near Malanyu, Chibli, China.) This is a roundish medium-sized pear, about 2 inches in diameter. It is yellow in color, and the calyx is deciduous. The flesh is firm and