

46804 to 46820—Continued.**46818.** *VIRGILIA CAPENSIS* (L.) Lam. Fabaceæ.

"*Kearboom*, from Storms River, Cape Province. A small tree cultivated for its ornamental foliage and sweetly scented flowers. Its cultivation is most simple, but it dislikes drought and is subject to the red scale. The wood is rather light and soft and looks well when polished, but is subject to worm-eating. It is occasionally used for yokes, rafters, spars, fuel, etc."

46819. *CUCUMIS* sp. Cucurbitaceæ.

"Wild cucumber from the Kalahari Desert; said to be eaten by stock."

46820. *MUNDULEA SUBEROSA* (Roxb.) Benth. Fabaceæ.

"An ornamental, leguminous shrub from the warm-temperate, arid belt of the Transvaal."

46821. *CANNA EDULIS* Ker. Cannaceæ. **Edible canna.**

From Honolulu, Hawaii. Tubers presented by the Agricultural Experiment Station. Received April 1, 1918. Numbered December 31, 1918.

This plant, which is exclusively cultivated in Queensland, grows to a great height, often rising to 8 or 9 feet. It has very large, broad, ribbed leaves; and as many as 15 to 20 stalks rise from a single stool, each stalk representing a large bulb. In the flowering season the plant sends up a long, straight spike, from the head of which bursts a beautiful bunch of bright-scarlet flowers having the appearance of those of the common canna, known as "Indian Shot," but far larger. The seeds do not often mature, however, as do those of the canna family generally. The bulbs, from which the arrowroot of commerce is prepared, form a compact mass on and near the surface of the soil, and so prolific is the plant that I have dug from a single stool as much as 60 and even 80 pounds of bulbs. (Adapted from *A. J. Boyd, Queensland Agricultural Journal, vol. 10, p. 32.*)

For further information regarding its cultivation and manufacture, see above reference.

"The rootstocks are edible and palatable when properly cooked. More culinary experimentation with them, however, will be required before any definite decision regarding their probable popularity can be made. In Hawaii, where the experiment station officials have been growing an acre of this *Canna edulis*, Mr. F. G. Krauss informs us they have eaten it after boiling for 30 minutes and then mashing it as one does boiled potatoes, and he declares it is a good substitute for the potato. In his opinion it outyields the potato two to one. The tops have been used as forage for cattle and swine." (*David Fairchild.*)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 46313.

46822 to 46831. \times *CASTANEA NEGLECTA* Dode. Fagaceæ.

From Cape Henry, Va. Collected by Mr. J. B. Norton, physiologist, of the United States Department of Agriculture. Received December 10, 1918.

Quoted notes by Mr. Norton.

"While at the Virginia Truck Experiment Station at Diamond Spring, Va., in 1918, I had occasion to make an observation trip through the dune and desert region inside Cape Henry. Along the inside edge of the big dune were large trees of many kinds being covered up by the encroaching sand; and along the foot of the dune I found empty chinquapin burs. No bushes suggesting chin-