DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF PLANTS

IN

THE EXOTIC COLLECTION

OF

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

PREPARED BY

WILLIAM SAUNDERS,
SUPERINTENDENT OF GARDENS AND GROUNDS.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
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NOTE.—This descriptive catalogue is prepared for the purpose of serving as a guide to those who desire to inspect and study the plants in the conservatories of the Department. It is not intended for distribution, but to remain in the building.

DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF PLANTS.

ABELMOSCHUS MOSCHATUS.—This plant is a native of Bengal. Its seeds were formerly mixed with hair-powder, and are still used to perfume pomatum. The Arabs mix them with their coffee-berries. In the West Indies the bruised seeds, steeped in rum, are used, both externally and internally, as a cure for snake-bites.

ABRUS PRECATORIUS.—Wild Liquorice. This twining, leguminous plant is a native of the East, but is now found in the West Indies, and other tropical regions. It is chiefly remarkable for its small oval seeds, which are of a brilliant scarlet color, with a black scar at the place where they were attached to the pods. These seeds are much used for necklaces and other ornamental purposes, and are employed in India as a standard of weight, under the name of Rati. The weight of the famous Koh-i-noor diamond is known to have been ascertained in this way. The roots afford liquorice, which is extracted in the same manner as that from the true Spanish Liquorice plant, the *Glycyrrhiza glabra*.

ABUTILON VENOSUM.—This Malvaceous plant is common in collections, as are others of the genus. They are mostly fiber-producing species. The flowers of *A. esculentum* are used as a vegetable in Brazil.

A. INDICUM furnishes fiber fit for the manufacture of ropes. Their leaves contain a large quantity of mucilage.

ACACIA HOMOLOPHYLLA.—This tree furnishes the scented Myall wood, a very hard and heavy wood, of an agreeable odor, resembling that of violets. Fancy boxes for the toilet are manufactured of it.

ACACIA BRASILIENSIS.—This plant furnishes the Brazil wood, which yields a red or crimson dye, and is used for dyeing silks. The best quality is that received from Pernambuco.

ACACIA DEALBATA.—The Silver Wattle tree of Australia. The bark is used for tanning purposes. It is hardy south.

ACACIA MELANOXYLON.—The wood of this tree is called Myall wood in New South Wales. It is also called Violet wood, on account of the strong odor it has of that favorite flower; hence it is in great repute for making small dressing-cases, &c.

ACACIA MOLLISSIMA.—The Black Wattle tree of Australia, which furnishes a good tanning principle. These trees were first called wattles from being used by the early settlers for forming a network or wattling of the supple twigs as a substitute for laths in plastering houses.

ACACIA CATECHU.—The drug known as catechu is principally prepared from this tree, the wood of which is boiled down, and the decoction subsequently evaporated, so as to form an extract much used as an astringent.

The Acacias are very numerous, and yield many useful products. Gum-arabic is produced by several species, as *A. vera*, *A. Arabica*, *A. Adansonii*, *A. verek*, and others. It is obtained by spontaneous exudation from the trunk and branches, or by incisions made in the bark, from whence it flows in a liquid state, but soon hardens by exposure to the air. The largest portion of the gum comes from Barbary. Gum-

senegal is produced by *A. vera*. By some it is thought that the timber of *A. Arabica* is identical with the Shittim tree, or wood of the Bible. From the flowers of *A. farnesiana* a choice and delicious perfume is obtained, the chief ingredient in many valued "balm of a thousand flowers." The pods of *A. concinna* are used in India as a soap for washing; the leaves are used for culinary purposes, and have a peculiarly agreeable acid taste. The seeds of some species are used, when cooked, as articles of food. From the seeds of *A. Niopo* the Guahibo Indians prepare a snuff, by roasting the seeds and pounding them in a wooden platter. Its effects are to produce a kind of intoxication and invigoration of spirits. The bark of several species is extensively used for tanning, and the timber, being tough and elastic, is valuable for the manufacture of machinery, and other purposes where great strength and durability are requisite.

ACALYPHA TRICOLOR.—A native of New Caledonia. This closely resembles the Stringwood plant of St. Helena, which is now supposed to be extinct. The name was given on account of the long spikes of reddish-colored flowers which hung in great profusion from the twigs, which are also possessed by *A. tricolor*.

ACROCOMIA SCLEROCARPA.—This palm grows all over South America. It belongs to the same tribe as the Cocoa-nut palm. The young leaves are eaten as a vegetable.

ADANSONIA DIGITATA.—The Baobab tree is a native of Africa. It has been called the tree of a thousand years, and Humboldt speaks of it as "the oldest organic monument of our planet." Adanson, who traveled in Senegal in 1794, made a calculation to show that one of these trees, thirty feet in diameter, must be 5,150 years old. The bark of the Baobab furnishes a fiber, which is made into ropes and also manufactured into cloth. The fiber is so strong as to give rise to a common saying in Bengal, "as secure as an elephant bound with Baobab rope." The pulp of the fruit is slightly acid, and the juice expressed from it is valued as a specific in putrid and pestilential fevers. The ashes of the fruit and bark, boiled in rancid palm oil, make a fine soap.

ADENANTHERA PAVONINA.—A tree that furnishes Red Sandal wood. A dye is obtained by simply rubbing the wood against a wet stone, which is used by the Brahmins for marking their foreheads after religious bathing. The seeds are used by Indian jewelers as weights, each seed weighing uniformly four grains. Pounded and mixed with borax, they form an adhesive substance. They are sometimes used as food. The plant belongs to the *Leguminosæ*.

ADHATODA VASICA.—This plant is extolled for its charcoal in the manufacture of powder. The flowers, leaves, roots, and especially the fruit, are considered anti-spasmodic, and are administered in India in asthma and intermittent fevers.

ÆGLE MARMELOS.—This plant belongs to the Orange family, and its fruit is known in India as Bhel fruit. It is like an orange; the thick rind of the unripe fruit possesses astringent proprieties, and, when ripe, has an exquisite flavor and perfume. The fruit, and other parts of the plant, are used for medicinal purposes; and a yellow dye is prepared from the skin of the fruits.

AGATI GRANDIFLORA.—A genus of the Pea family, a native of the East Indies, but cultivated in many tropical countries for the beauty of its flowers. The seed-pods are very peculiar, being about eighteen inches in length, and not thicker than a common quill. In India the flowers, pods, and young leaves are used in curries. The juice of the

flowers is used in curing dimness of sight. The bark is powerfully tonic and bitter, and considered effective in small-pox. Being a rapid grower, and but thinly covered with leaves, the tree is used for the purpose of training Betel Pepper.

AGAVE AMERICANA.—This plant is commonly known as American Aloe: but it is not a member of that family, as it claims kindred with the *Amaryllis* tribe of plants. It grows naturally in a wide range of climate, from the plains in South America to elevations of ten thousand feet. It furnishes a variety of products. The plants form impenetrable fences: the leaves furnish fibers of various qualities, from the fine thread known as pita-thread, which is used for twine, to the coarse fibers used for ropes and cables. Humboldt describes a bridge of upward of one hundred and thirty feet span over the Chimbo in Quito, of which the main ropes (four inches in diameter) were made of this fiber. It is also used for making paper. The juice, when the watery part is evaporated, forms a good soap, (as detergent as Castile,) and will mix and form a lather with salt water as well as with fresh. The sap from the heart-leaves is formed into pulque. This sap is sour, but has sufficient sugar and mucilage for fermentation. This vinous beverage has a filthy odor; but those who can overcome the aversion to this fetid smell indulge largely in the liquor. A very intoxicating brandy is made from it. Razor-strops are made from the leaves; they are also used for cleaning and scouring pewter.

AGAVE SISALANA.—The Sisal Hemp plant was introduced into Florida many years ago, for the sake of its fiber, but its cultivation has not been prosecuted to a commercial success. Like many others of the best vegetable fibers found in leaves, it contains a gummy substance, which prevents the easy separation of the fiber from the pulp.

ALEURITES MOLUCCANA.—The Candleberry tree, much cultivated in tropical countries for the sake of its nuts. The nuts or kernels, when dried and stuck on a reed, are used by the Polynesians as a substitute for candles and as an article of food; they are said to taste like walnuts. When pressed, they yield largely of pure palatable oil, used as a drying-oil for paint, and known as artists' oil. The cake, after the oil has been expressed, is a favorite food for cattle. The root of the tree affords a brown dye, which is used to dye cloths.

ALGAROBIA GLANDULOSA.—The Mezquit tree, of Texas, occasionally reaches a height of 25 to 30 feet. It yields very hard, durable wood, and affords a large quantity of gum resembling gum-arabic, and answering every purpose of that gum; but as it has not to be imported, it is not much used.

ALLAMANDA CATHARTICA.—This plant belongs to the family of *Apocynaceæ*, which contains many poisonous species. It is often cultivated for the beauty of its flowers; the leaves are considered a valuable cathartic, in moderate doses, especially in the cure of painters' colic; in large doses they are violently emetic. It is a native of South America.

ALOE SOCOTRINA.—Bitter Aloe. A plant of the Lily family, which furnishes the finest aloes. The bitter, resinous juice is stored up in greenish vessels, lying beneath the skin of the leaf, so that when the leaves are cut transversely, the juice exudes, and is gradually evaporated to a firm consistence. The inferior kinds of aloes are prepared by pressing the leaves, when the resinous juice becomes mixed with the mucilaginous fluid from the central part of the leaves, and thus is proportionately deteriorated. Sometimes the leaves are cut and boiled, and the decoction evaporated to a proper consistence. This drug is im-

ported in chests, in skins of animals, and sometimes in large calabash-gourds, and although the taste is peculiarly bitter and disagreeable, the perfume of the finer sorts is aromatic, and by no means offensive. It is common in tropical countries.

ALSOPHILA AUSTRALIS.—The beautiful tree-fern attains a height of stem of 25 to 30 feet, with fronds spreading out into a crest 26 feet in diameter. These plants are among the most beautiful of all vegetable productions, and in their gigantic forms indicate, in a meager degree, the extraordinary beauty of the vegetation on the globe previous to the formation of the coal measures.

ALSTONIA SCHOLARIS.—The Pali-mara, or Devil tree, of Bombay. The plant attains a height of 80 or 90 feet; the bark is powerfully bitter, and is used in India in medicine. It is of the family of *Apocynaceæ*.

AMOMUM MELEGUETTA.—Malaguetta Pepper, or Grains of Paradise; belongs to the Ginger family, *Zingiberaceæ*. The seeds of this and other species are imported from Guinea; they have a very warm and camphor-like taste, and are used to give a fictitious strength to adulterated liquors, but are not considered particularly injurious to health. The seeds are aromatic and stimulating, and form, with other seeds of similar plants, what are known as Cardamoms.

AMYRIS BALSAMIFERA.—This plant yields the wood called Lignum Rhodium. It also furnishes a gum resin analogous to Elemi, and supposed to yield Indian Bdellium.

ANACARDIUM OCCIDENTALE.—The Cashew Nut tree; is cultivated in the West Indies and other tropical countries. The stem furnishes a milky juice, which becomes hard and black when dry, and is used as a varnish. It also secretes a gum, like gum-arabic. The nut or fruit contains a black, acrid, caustic oil, injurious to the lips and tongue of those who attempt to crack the nut with their teeth; it becomes innocuous and wholesome when roasted, but this process must be carefully conducted, the acridity of the fumes producing severe inflammation of the face if approached too near.

ANANASSA SATIVA.—The well-known Pine-Apple, the fruit of which was described three hundred years ago, by Jean de Lery, a Huguenot priest, as being of such excellence that the gods might luxuriate upon it, and that it should only be gathered by the hand of a Venus. It is supposed to be a native of Brazil, and to have been carried from thence to the West, and afterward to the East Indies. It first became known to Europeans in Peru. It is universally acknowledged to be one of the most delicious fruits in the world. Like all other fruits that have been a long time under cultivation, there are numerous varieties that vary greatly, both in quality and appearance.

ANDIRA INERMIS.—This is a native of Senegambia. Its bark is anthelmintic, but requires care in its administration, being powerfully narcotic. It has a sweetish taste but disagreeable smell, and is generally given in the form of a decoction, which is made by boiling an ounce of the dried bark in a quart of water, until it assumes the color of Madeira wine. Three or four grains of the powdered bark acts as a powerful purgative. The bark is known as Bastard Cabbage bark, or Worm bark. It is almost obsolete in medicine.

ANDIRA ANTHELMINTICA.—This plant is called the Cabbage tree in the West Indies. Its bark is anthelmintic and powerfully narcotic.

ANDROPOGON SCHÆNANTHUS.—The sweet-scented Lemon grass; is a native of Malabar. An essential oil is distilled from the leaves, which is used in perfumery. It is a favorite herb with the Asiatics, both for

medicinal and culinary purposes. Tea from the dried leaves is a favorite beverage of some persons.

ANONA CHERIMOLIA.—The Cherimoyer of Peru, where it is extensively cultivated for its fruits, which are highly esteemed by the inhabitants, but not so highly valued by those accustomed to the fruits of temperate climates. The fruit, when ripe, is of a pale greenish yellow color, tinged with purple, weighing from three to four pounds; the skin thin, the flesh sweet, and about the consistence of a custard; hence, often called custard-apples.

ANONA SQUAMOSA.—The sweet-sop; is a native of the Malay Islands, where it is grown for the fruits. These are ovate in shape, with a thick rind, which incloses a luscious pulp. The seeds contain an acrid principle, and, being reduced to powder, form an ingredient for the destruction of insects.

ANONA MURICATA.—The sour-sop; is a native of the West Indies, and produces a fruit of considerable size, often weighing over two pounds. The pulp is white and has an acrid flavor, which is not disagreeable.

ANONA RETICULATA.—The common Custard apple of the West Indies; has a yellowish pulp, and is not so highly esteemed as an article of food as some others of the species. It bears the name of Condissa in Brazil.

ANTIARIS SACCIDORA.—The Sack tree, so called from the fibrous bark being used as sacks. For this purpose, young trees of about a foot in diameter are selected, and cut into junks of the same length as the sack required. The outer bark is then removed, and the inner bark loosened by pounding, so that it can readily be separated by turning it inside out. Sometimes a small piece of the wood is left to form the bottom of the sack. The fruit exudes a milky, viscid juice, which hardens into the consistency of bees-wax, but becomes black and shining.

ANTIARIS INNOXIA.—The Upas tree. Most exaggerated statements respecting this plant have passed into history. Its poisonous influence was said to be so great as not only to destroy all animal life, but even plants could not live within ten miles of it. The plant has no such virulent properties as the above, but as it inhabits low valleys in Java, where carbonic acid gas escapes from crevices in volcanic rocks, which frequently proves fatal to animals, the tree was blamed wrongly. It is, however, possessed of poisonous juice, which, when dry and mixed with other ingredients, forms a venomous poison for arrows, and severe effects have been felt by those who have climbed upon the branches for the purpose of gathering the flowers.

ARALIA PAPYRIFERA.—The Chinese Rice Paper plant. The stems are filled with pith of very fine texture and white as snow, from which is derived the article known as rice-paper, much used in preparing artificial flowers.

ARAUCARIA IMBRICATA.—The Chili pine. This tree is a native of the mountains of Southern Chili, reaching up to the line of snow. The seeds form a considerable portion of the food of the natives: they are eaten either roasted or boiled. They are also dried and pounded into a kind of flour, which is considered very nutritious. A kind of spirituous liquor is obtained from distillation of the seeds. The branches and unripe fruit exude, when bruised, a milky juice, which changes to a yellow-colored resin, which is highly prized for its medicinal virtues by the Chilians. The wood is strong, heavy, and takes a high polish.

ARAUCARIA BIDWILLI.—The Bunya-Bunya of Australia; forms a large tree, reaching from 150 to 200 feet in height. The cones are very large, and contain 100 to 150 seeds, which are highly prized by the aborigines as food. They are best when roasted in the shell, cracked between two

stones, and eaten while hot. In flavor they resemble roasted chestnuts. During the season of the ripening of these seeds, the natives grow sleek and fat. That part of the country where these trees most abound is called the Bunya-Bunya country.

ARAUCARIA BRASILIENSIS.—The Brazilian Araucaria grows at great elevations. The seeds of this tree are commonly sold in the markets of Rio Janeiro as an article of food. The resinous matter which exudes from the trunk is employed in the manufacture of candles.

ARAUCARIA CUNNINGHAMI.—The Morton Bay pine. This Australian tree forms a very straight trunk, and yields a timber of much commercial importance in Sydney and other ports. It is chiefly used for house-building and some of the heavier articles of furniture.

ARAUCARIA EXCELSA.—This very elegant Evergreen is a native of Norfolk Island. Few plants can compare with it in beauty and regularity of growth. The wood is of no particular value, although used for building purposes in Norfolk Island.

ARDISIA CRENATA.—A native of China. The bark has tonic and astringent properties, and is used in fevers and for external application in the cure of ulcers, &c.

ARECA CATECHU.—This palm is cultivated in all the warmer parts of Asia for its seed. This is known under the name of Betel-Nut, and is about the size of a nutmeg. The chewing of these nuts is a common practice of hundreds of thousands of people. The nut is cut into small pieces, mixed with a small quantity of lime, and rolled up in leaves of the betel-paper. The pellet is chewed, and is hot and acrid, but possesses aromatic and astringent properties. It tinges the saliva red and stains the teeth. The practice is considered beneficial rather than otherwise, just as chewing tobacco-leaves, drinking alcohol, and eating chicken-salad are considered healthy practices in some portions of the globe. A kind of catechu is obtained by boiling down the seeds to the consistence of an extract, but the chief supply of this drug is Acacia catechu.

ARGANIA SIDEROXYLON.—This the Argan tree of Morocco. It is remarkable for its low-spreading mode of growth. Trees have been measured only 16 feet in height, while the circumference of the branches was 220 feet. The fruit is much eaten and relished by cattle. The wood is hard and so heavy as to sink in water. A valuable oil is extracted from the seeds.

ARISTOLCHIA GRANDIFLORA.—The Pelican flower. This plant belongs to a family famed for the curious construction of their flowers, as well as for their medical qualities. In tropical America various species receive the name of "Guaco," which is a term given to plants that are used in the cure of snake-bites. Even some of our native species, such as *A. Serpentaria*, is known as snake-root, and is said to be esteemed for curing the bite of the rattlesnake. It is stated that the Egyptian jugglers use some of these plants to stupify the snakes before they handle them. *A. bracteata* and *A. indica* are used for similar purposes in India. It is said that the juice of the root of *A. anguicida*, if introduced into the mouth of a serpent, so stupifies it that it may be handled with impunity. The Indians, after having "guaconized" themselves, that is, having taken Guaco, handle the most venomous snakes without injury.

ARTANTHE ELONGATA.—A plant of the Pepper family, which furnishes one of the articles known by the Peruvians as Matico, and which is used by them for the same purposes as cubebs; but its chief value is as a styptic, the rough leaves of the plant having the power of staunching blood, an effect probably produced by its rough under-surface, acting

mechanically, like lint. It has been employed internally to check hemorrhages, but with doubtful effect. Its aromatic bitter stimulant properties are like those of cubebs, and depend on a volatile oil, a dark green resin, and a peculiar bitter principle called *maticin*.

ARTOCARPUS INCISA.—This is the Bread Fruit tree of the South Sea Islands, where its introduction gave occasion for the historical incidents arising from the mutiny of the "Bounty." The round fruits contain a white pulp, of the consistence of new bread. It is roasted before being eaten, but has little flavor. The tree furnishes a viscid juice containing caoutchouc, which is used as glue and for calking canoes. In the South Sea Islands the Bread Fruit constitutes the principal article of diet; it is prepared by baking in an oven heated by hot stones.

ARTOCARPUS INTEGRIFOLIA.—The Jack of the Indian Archipelago; is cultivated for its fruit, which is a favorite article among the natives, as also are the roasted seeds. The wood is much used, and resembles mahogany. Bird-lime is made from the juice.

ASCLEPIAS CURASSAVICA.—This plant is used in the West Indies as an emetic, and goes by the name of Ipecacuanha, but is not the true drug of that name.

ASTRAGALUS GUMMIFER.—A pea-flowering plant, that yields the gum-like substance called Tragacanth. The gum exudes naturally from the bark in the same way that gum exudes from the bark of Cherry or Plum trees. The seeds are used for mixing with coffee-beans.

ATTALEA COHUNE.—This palm furnishes Cahoun nuts, from which is extracted cohune oil, used as a burning-oil, for which purpose it is superior to cocoa-nut oil. Piassaba fiber is furnished by this and *A. funifera*, the seeds of which are known as Coquilla nuts; these nuts are 3 or 4 inches long, oval, of a rich brown color, and very hard; they are much used by turners for making the handles of doors, umbrellas, &c., The fiber derived from the decaying of the cellular matter at the base of the leaf-stalks is much used in Brazil for making ropes. It is largely used in England and other places for making coarse brooms, chiefly used in cleaning streets.

AVERRHOA CARAMBOLA.—The Caramba of Ceylon and Bengal. The fruit of this tree is about the size of a large orange, and, when ripe, is of a rich yellow color, with a very decided and agreeable fragrance. The pulp contains a large portion of acid, and is generally used as a pickle or preserve. In Java it is used both in the ripe and unripe state in pies; a sirup is also made of the juice, and a conserve of the flowers. These preparations are highly valued as remedies in fevers and bilious disorders.

AVERRHOA BILIMBI.—This is called the Blimbing, and is cultivated to some extent in the East Indies. The fruit is oblong, obtuse-angled, somewhat resembling a short, thick cucumber, with a thin, smooth, green rind, filled with a pleasant, acid juice.

BACTRIS MAJOR.—The Marajah palm, of Brazil, grows upon the banks of the Amazon River. It has a succulent, rather acid fruit, from which a vinous beverage is prepared. *B. minor* has a stem about 14 feet high and about an inch in diameter. These stems are used for walking-canes, and are sometimes called Tobago canes.

BALOGHIA LUCIDA.—This euphorbiaceous plant is a native of New Holland, where it is called Blood-wood. The wood is close-grained, impregnated with a resinous substance, and burns readily in a green state. A blood-red sap oozes from the trunk when cut, which forms an indelible paint.

BALSAMOCARPON BREVIFOLIUM.—This shrub is the Algarrobo of the

Chilians. It belongs to the Pea family. Its pods are short and thick, and are transformed into a cracked resinous substance, which is astringent, and is used for dyeing black and for making ink.

Balsamodendron Myrrha.—A native of Arabia Felix, and produces a gum resin, sometimes called Opobalsamum, which was considered by the ancients as a panacea for almost all the ills that flesh is heir to. *B. Mukul* yields a resin of this name, and is considered identical with the Bdellium of Dioscorides and of the Scriptures. The resin has cordial and stimulating properties, and is burnt as an incense.

Bambusa arundinacea.—The Bamboo cane is a gigantic grass, cultivated in many tropical and semi-tropical countries. The Chinese use it, in one way or other, for nearly everything they require. Almost every article of furniture in their houses, including mats, screens, chairs, tables, bedsteads, and bedding, are made of bamboo. The masts, sails, and rigging of their ships consist chiefly of bamboo. They have treatises and volumes on its culture, showing the best soil and the seasons for planting and transplanting this useful production.

Baphia nitida.—This plant furnishes the Camwood of commerce. It is of a deep red color, and yields a brilliant but not permanent dye: with a mordaunt of sulphate of iron, it produces the red color of the bandana handkerchief.

Barosma crenulata.—This is a native of the Cape of Good Hope, and produces the Buchu leaves of commerce. They contain a powerfully smelling volatile oil, and are used in medicine.

Barringtonia speciosa.—A native of the Moluccas, generally found near the sea. A burning-oil is expressed from the seeds; mixed with bait they are used to inebriate fish, which are then easily captured.

Batatas Jalapa.—A native of Mexico, and was at one time supposed to produce the Jalap of the pharmacopœia. Although not the true Jalap plant, the roots possess purgative properties, and are probably sometimes substituted for true jalap.

Bauhinia Vahlii.—The Maloo-Climber of India, where the gigantic shrubby stems often attain a height of 300 feet, running over the tops of the tallest trees, and twisting so tightly around their stems as to kill them. The exceedingly tough fibrous bark of this plant is used in India for making ropes and in the construction of suspension-bridges. It is also used medicinally.

Beaucarnea recurvifolia.—This Mexican plant is remarkable for the large bulbiform swelling at the base of the stem. It is a plant of much elegance and beauty, resembling a drooping fountain.

Bergera Konigi.—The Curry-Leaf tree of India. The fragrant, aromatic leaves are used to flavor curries. The leaves, root, and bark are used medicinally. The wood is hard and durable, and from the seeds a clear, transparent oil, called Simbolee oil, is extracted.

Berrya Ammonilla.—This furnishes the Trincomalee wood of the Philippine Islands and Ceylon, and is largely used for making oil-casks, and for building boats, for which it is well adapted, being light and strong.

Bertholletia excelsa.—This furnishes the well-known Brazil nuts, or cream nuts, of commerce. The tree is a native of South America, and attains a height of one hundred to one hundred and fifty feet. The fruit is nearly round, and contains from 18 to 24 seeds, which are so beautifully packed in the shell that, when once removed, it is found impossible to replace them. A bland oil is pressed from the seeds, which is used by artists; and at Para the fibrous bark of the tree is used for calking ships, as a substitute for oakum.

Bignonia echinata.—A native of Mexico, where it is sometimes called Maraposa butterfly. The branches are said to be used in the adulteration of sarsaparilla. *B. Chica*, a native of Venezuela, furnishes a red pigment, which is obtained by macerating the leaves in water, and is used by the natives for painting their bodies. *B. Kerere* furnishes the natives of French Guiana with a substitute for ropes in its long flexible stems. *B. alliacea* is termed the Garlic shrub, because of the powerful odor of garlic emitted from its bruised leaves and branches. These plants all have showy flowers, and the genus is represented with us by such beautiful flowers as are produced by *B. radicans* and *B. capreolata*.

Bixa Orellana.—Arnotta plant. The seeds of this plant are thinly coated with red waxy pulp, which is separated by stirring them in water until it is detached, when it is strained off and evaporated to the consistence of putty, when it is made up into rolls; in this condition it is known as flag or roll arnotta, but, when thoroughly dried, it is made into cakes and sold as cake arnotta. It is much used by the South American Caribs and other tribes of Indians for painting their bodies; paint being almost their only article of clothing. It is used in various countries for coloring cheese and butter. It is also used by silk-dyers and varnish-makers.

Blighia sapida.—The Akee Fruit tree of Guinea. The fruit is about three inches long by two inches wide; the seeds are surrounded by a spongy substance, which is eaten. It has a sub-acid, agreeable taste. A small quantity of semi-solid fatty oil is obtained from the seeds by pressure.

Bohmeria nivea.—A plant of the Nettle family, which yields the fiber known as Chinese grass. The beautiful fabric called grasscloth, which rivals the best French cambric in softness and fineness of texture, is manufactured from the fiber of this plant. It is a plant of the easiest culture, and has been introduced into the Southern States, where it grows freely; but the difficulty of separating the fiber in an expeditious manner has not yet been overcome. When once machinery is perfected so as to enable its being cheaply prepared for the manufacturer, a great demand will arise for this fiber.

Boldoa fragrans.—A Chilian plant, which yields small edible fruits; these, as well as all parts of the plant, are very aromatic. The bark is used for tanning, and the wood is highly esteemed for making charcoal.

Borassus flabelliformis.—The Palmyra palm. The parts of this tree are applied to such a multitude of purposes that a poem in the Tamil language, although enumerating 800 uses, does not exhaust the catalogue. In old trees the wood becomes hard and is very durable. The leaves are from 8 to 10 feet long, and are used for thatching houses, making various mattings, bags, &c. They also supply the Hindoo with paper, upon which he writes with a stylus. A most important product called toddy or palm wine is obtained from the flower spikes, which yield a great quantity of juice for four or five months. Palm-toddy is intoxicating, and, when distilled, yields strong arrack. Very good vinegar is also obtained from it; and large quantities of jaggery or palm sugar are manufactured from the toddy. The fruits are large and have a thick coating of fibrous pulp, which is cooked and eaten, or made into jelly. The young Palm plants are cultivated for the market, as cabbages are with us, and eaten, either when fresh or after being dried in the sun.

Boswellia thurifera.—This Coromandel tree furnishes the resin known as olibanum, which is supposed to have been the frankincense of

the ancients. It is sometimes used in medicine as an astringent and stimulant, and is employed, for its grateful perfume, as an incense in churches.

BRACHYCHITON POPULNEUM.—This Australian tree furnishes a soft wood which contains gum-mucilage. The tap-roots of the young trees, as well as the younger roots of the large trees, are eaten as food. The seeds are also eaten, and the bark is used for making fishing nets. The thickened appearance at the base of the stem shows a tendency to gout.

BROMELIA KARATAS.—The Corawa fiber, or Silk-Grass of Guiana, is obtained from this plant, which is very strong, and much used for bow-strings, fishing lines, nets, and ropes.

BROMELIA PINGUIN.—This is very common as a hedge or fence plant in the West Indies. The leaves, when beaten with a blunt mallet and macerated in water, produce fibers from which beautiful fabrics are manufactured. The fruit yields a cooling juice much used in fevers.

BROSIMUM GALACTODENDRON.—The Cow tree of South America, which yields a milk of as good quality as that from the cow. It forms large forests on the mountains near the town of Cariaco and elsewhere along the sea-coast of Venezuela, reaching to a considerable height. In South America the Cow tree is called Palo de Vaca, or Arbol de Leche. Its milk, which is obtained by making incisions in the trunk, so closely resembles the milk of the cow, both in appearance and quality, that it is commonly used as an article of food by the inhabitants of the places where the tree is abundant. Unlike many other vegetable milks, it is perfectly wholesome, and very nourishing, possessing an agreeable taste, and a pleasant balsamic odor; its only unpleasant quality being a slight amount of stickiness. The chemical analysis of this milk has shown it to possess a composition closely resembling some animal substances; and, like animal milk, it quickly forms a cheesy scum, and, after a few days' exposure to the atmosphere, turns sour and putrifies. It contains upward of 30 per cent. of a resinous substance called *galactine*.

BROSIMUM ALICASTRUM.—The Bread-Nut tree of Jamaica. The nuts or seeds produced by this tree are said to form an agreeable and nutritious article of food. When cooked they taste like hazel-nuts. The young branches and shoots are greedily eaten by horses and cattle, and the wood resembles mahogany, and is used for making furniture.

BROWNEA GRANDICEPS.—A very beautiful plant, of the leguminous family. The flowers are large and fine. The leaves droop during the day so as almost to hide the flowers from view, and protect them from the heat of the sun, but as soon as evening comes, the leaves become erect, so as to expose the flowers to the dews. In Venezuela it is called Rosa del Monte, or Palo de Cruz.

BRYA EBENUS.—Jamaica, or West India Ebony tree, is not the plant that yields the true ebony-wood of commerce. Jamaica ebony is of a greenish-brown color, very hard, and so heavy that it sinks in water. It takes a good polish, and is used by turners for the manufacture of numerous kinds of small wares.

BRYOPHYLLUM CALYCINUM.—This is oftentimes called the Leaf plant, from the circumstance that small buds form at the notches on the margin of the leaves, which, when laid on damp soil, form new plants. It is a native of the East Indies. In the Mauritius it is used as a fomentation or poultice in intestinal complaints.

BYRSONIMA SPICATA.—A Brazilian plant, furnishing an astringen bark used for tanning, and which also contains a red coloring-matter

employed in dyeing. The berries are used in medicine, and a decoction of the roots is used for ulcers.

Cæsalpinia pulcherrima.—This beautiful flowering leguminous plant is a native of the East Indies, but cultivated in all the tropics. In Jamaica it is called the "Barbados flower." The wood is sought after for charcoal, and a decoction of the leaves and flowers is used in fevers.

Cæsalpinia Sappan.—The brownish-red wood of this Indian tree furnishes the Sappan wood of commerce, from which dyers obtain a red color, principally used for dyeing cotton-goods. Its root also affords an orange-yellow dye.

Cæsalpinia Bonduc.—A tropical plant, bearing the seeds known as Nicker nuts, or Bonduc nuts. These are often strung together for necklaces. The kernels have a very bitter taste, and the oil obtained from them is used medicinally.

Calamus Rotang.—This is one of the palms that furnish the canes or rattans used for chair-bottoms, sides of pony-carriages, and similar purposes. *C. rudentum* and *C. viminalis* furnish flexible canes. In their native countries they are used for a variety of manufacturing purposes, also for ropes and cables employed by junks and other coasting vessels. In the Himalayas they are used in the formation of suspension-bridges across rivers and deep ravines. *C. Scipionum* furnishes the well-known Malacca canes used for walking-sticks. They are naturally of a rich brown color. The clouded and mottled appearance which some of these present is said to be imparted to them by smoking and steaming.

Callitris quadrivalvis.—This coniferous plant is a native of Barbary. It yields a hard, durable, and fragrant timber, and is much employed in the erection of mosques, &c., by the Africans of the North. The resin that exudes from the tree is used in varnish, under the name of gum-sandarach. In powder, it forms a principal ingredient of the article known as pounce.

Calophyllum Calaba.—This is called Calaba tree in the West Indies, and an oil, fit for burning in lamps, is expressed from the seeds.

Calotropis gigantea.—The inner bark of this plant yields a valuable fiber, capable of bearing a greater strain than hemp. All parts of it abound in a very acrid milky juice, which hardens into a substance resembling gutta-percha; but in its fresh state it is a valuable remedy in cutaneous diseases. The bark of the root also possesses similar medical qualities; and its tincture yields *mudarine*, a substance that has the property of gelatinizing when heated, and returning to the fluid state when cool. Paper has been made from the silky down on the seeds.

Camellia Japonica.—A well-known green-house plant, cultivated for its large double flowers. The seeds furnish an oil of an agreeable odor, which is used for many domestic purposes. The leaves are sometimes used to adulterate tea, to which they impart a pleasant odor.

Camphora officinarum.—This tree belongs to the Lauraceæ. Camphor is prepared from the wood by boiling chopped branches in water, when, after some time, the camphor becomes deposited, and is purified by sublimation. It is mainly produced in the island of Formosa. The wood of the tree is highly prized for manufacturing entomological cabinets.

Canella alba.—This is a native of the West Indies, and furnishes a pale olive-colored bark, with an aromatic odor, and is used as a tonic. It is used by the natives as a spice.

Capparis spinosa.—The Caper plant is a native of the south

of Europe and in the Mediterranean regions. It is abundant about Gibraltar, and the military stationed there frequently eat capers. This commercial product consists of the flower-buds, and sometimes the unripe fruits, pickled in vinegar. The wood and bark possess acrid qualities, which will act as a blister when applied to the skin.

CARAPA GUIANENSIS.—A meliaceous plant, native of tropical America, where it grows to a height of sixty to eighty feet. The bark of this tree possesses febrifugal properties and is also used for tanning. By pressure the seeds yield a liquid oil called carap-oil or crab-oil, suitable for burning in lamps.

CARICA PAPAYA.—This is the South American Papaw tree, but is cultivated in most tropical countries. It is also known as the Melon-Apple. The fruit is of a dingy orange-color, of an oblong form, about eight to ten inches long, by three or four inches broad. It is said that the juice of the tree, or an infusion of the leaves and fruit, has the property of rendering tough fiber quite tender; an ancient elastic gander will thus be softened into an edible pulp. Animals fed upon the fruit and leaves will have very tender and juicy flesh.

CARLUDOVICA PALMATA.—Is a pandanaceous plant from Panama and southward. Panama hats are made from the leaves of this plant. The leaves are cut when young, and the stiff parallel veins removed, after which they are slit into shreds, but not separated at the stalk end, and immersed in boiling water for a short time, then bleached in the sun.

CARYOPHYLLUS AROMATICUS.—This myrtaceous plant produces the well-known spice called cloves. It forms a beautiful evergreen, rising from twenty to thirty feet in height. The cloves of commerce are the unexpanded flower-buds; they are collected by beating the tree with rods, when the buds, from the jointed character of their stalks, readily fall, and are received on sheets spread on purpose; they are then dried in the sun. All parts of the plant are aromatic, from the presence of a volatile oil. The oil is sometimes used in toothache and as a carminative in medicine.

CARYOTA URENS.—This fine palm is a native of Ceylon, and is also found in other parts of India, where it supplies the native population with various important articles. Large quantities of toddy, or palm-wine, are prepared from the juice, which, when boiled, yields very good palm-sugar or jaggery, and also excellent sugar-candy. Sago is also prepared from the central or pithy part of the trunk, and forms a large portion of the food for the natives. The fiber from the leaf-stalks is of great strength; it is known as Kittul or Kittool fiber, and is used for making ropes, brushes, brooms, &c. A wooly kind of scurf, scraped off the leaf-stalks, is used for calking boats, and the stem furnishes a small quantity of wood.

CASIMIROA EDULIS.—A Mexican plant, belonging to the Orange family, with a fruit about the size of an ordinary orange, which has an agreeable taste, but is not considered to be wholesome. The seeds are poisonous; the bark is bitter, and is sometimes used medicinally.

CASSIA ACUTIFOLIA.—The Cassias belong to the leguminous family. The leaflets of this and some other species produce the well-known drug called senna. That known as the Alexandria senna is produced by the above. East Indian senna is produced by *C. elongata*. Aleppo senna is obtained from *C. obovata*. The native species, *C. marylandica*, possesses similar properties. The seeds of *C. Absus*, a native of Egypt, are bitter, aromatic and mucilaginous, and are used as a remedy for ophthalmia. *C. fistula* is called the Pudding-Pipe tree, and furnishes the cassia-pods of commerce. The seeds of *C. occidentalis*, when roasted, are

used as a substitute for coffee in the Mauritius, and in the interior of Africa.

CASTILLOA ELASTICA.—This is a Mexican tree, which yields a milky juice, forming caoutchouc, but is not collected for commerce except in a limited way.

CASUARINA QUADRIVALVIS.—This Tasmanian tree produces a very hard wood, of a reddish color, often called Beef wood. It is marked with dark stripes, and is much used in some places for picture-frames and cabinet-work. This belongs to a curious family of trees, having no leaves, but looking like a gigantic specimen of Horse-Tail grass, a weed to be seen in wet places.

CATHA EDULIS.—This plant is a native of Arabia, where it attains the height of seven to ten feet. Its leaves are used by the Arabs in preparing a beverage like tea or coffee. The twigs, with leaves attached, in bundles of fifty, and in pieces from twelve to fifteen inches in length, form a very considerable article of commerce, representing in Arabia the Paraguay tea in South America and the Chinese tea in Europe. The effects produced by a decoction of the leaves of Cafta, as they are termed, are described as similar to those produced by strong green tea, only more pleasing and agreeable. The Arab soldiers chew the leaves when on sentry duty, to keep them from feeling drowsy. Its use is of great antiquity, preceding that of coffee. Its stimulating effects induced some Arabs to class it with intoxicating substances, the use of which is forbidden by the Koran, but a synod of learned Mussulmans decreed that, as it did not impair the health or impede the observance of religious duties, but only increased hilarity and good humor, it was lawful to use it.

CECROPIA PELTATA.—The South American Trumpet tree, so called because its hollow branches are used for musical instruments. The Waupe Indians form a kind of drum by removing the pith or center of the branches. The inner bark of the young branches yields a very tough fiber, which is made into ropes. The milky juice of the stem hardens into caoutchouc.

CEDRELA ODORATA.—This forms a large tree in the West India Islands, and is hollowed out for canoes; the wood is of a brown-color and a fragrant odor, and is sometimes imported under the name of Jamaica cedar.

CEPHÆLIS IPECACUANHA.—This Brazilian plant produces the true ipecacuanha, and belongs to the *Cinchonaceæ*. The root is the part used in medicine, and its emetic properties are due to a chemical principle called *emetin*.

CEPHALOTUS FOLLICULARIS.—The New Holland Pitcher plant, a native of swampy places in King George's Sound. It has a very short or contracted stem, with spoon-shaped stalked leaves, among which are mingled small pitcher-like bodies, placed on short, stout stalks, and closed at the top with lids like the true Pitcher plants, the Nepenthes.

CERATONIA SILIQUA.—The Carob bean. This leguminous plant is a native of the countries bordering on the Mediterranean. The seed pods contain a quantity of mucilaginous and saccharine matter, and are used as food for cattle. Besides the name of Carob beans, these pods are known as Locust pods, or St. John's bread, from a supposition that they formed the food of St. John in the wilderness. It is now generally admitted that the locusts of St. John were the animals so-called, and which are still used as an article of food in some of the Eastern countries. There is more reason for the belief that the husks mentioned in the parable of the prodigal son were these pods. The seeds were at one

time used by singers, who imagined that they softened and cleared the voice.

CERBERA THERETIA.—The name is intended to imply that the plant is as dangerous as Cerberus. The plant has a milky, poisonous juice. The bark is purgative; the unripe fruit is used by the natives of Travancore to destroy dogs; their teeth become loosened and fall out.

CEREUS GIGANTEA.—The Suwarrow of the Mexicans; is a native of the hot, arid, and almost desert regions of New Mexico, found growing in rocky places, in valleys, and on mountain sides, often springing out of mere crevices in hard rock, and imparting a singular aspect to the scenery of the country, its tall stems often reaching forty feet in height, with upright branches looking like telegraphic posts for signaling from point to point of the rocky mountains. The fruits are about two or three inches long, of a green color and oval form; when ripe they burst into three or four pieces, which curve back so as to resemble a flower. Inside they contain numerous little black seeds, imbedded in a crimson-colored pulp, which the Indians make into a preserve. They also eat the ripe fruit as an article of food.

CEREUS MACDONALDIÆ.—A night-blooming Cereus, and one of the most beautiful. The flowers when fully expanded are over a foot in diameter, having numerous radiating red and bright orange sepals and delicately white petals. It is a native of Honduras.

CEROXYLON ANDICOLA.—The Wax Palm of New Grenada; was first described by Humboldt and Bonpland, who found it on elevated mountains, extending as high as the lower limit of perpetual snow. Its tall trunk is covered with a thin coating of a whitish waxy substance, giving it a marbled appearance. The waxy substance forms an article of commerce, and is obtained by scraping the trunk. It consists of two parts of resin and one of wax, and, when mixed with one-third of tallow, it makes very good candles. The stem is used for building purposes, and the leaves for thatching roofs.

CHAMÆDOREA ELEGANS.—This belongs to a genus of Palms natives of South America. The plant is of tall, slender growth; the stems are used for walking-canes, and the young, unexpanded flower-spikes are used as a vegetable.

CHAMÆROPS FORTUNII.—This Palm is a native of the north of China, and is hardy here. In China, the coarse brown fiber obtained from the leaves is used for making hats and also the garments called So-e, worn in wet weather.

CHAMÆROPS HUMILIS.—This is the only European species of Palm, and does not extend further north than Nice. The leaves are commonly used in the south of Europe for making hats, brooms, baskets, &c. From the leaf-fiber a material resembling horse-hair is prepared, and the Arabs mix it with camel's hair for their tent-covers.

CHEIROSTEMON PLATANOIDES.—The Hand-Flower tree, or Macpaixochitlquahuiti of the Mexicans. It derives its popular name from the circumstance that the stamens, which are of a bright red color, are united together for a length of four inches, when they separate into five curved claw-like rays, and thus bear some resemblance to the human hand.

CHLORANTHUS OFFICINALIS.—The roots of this plant are an aromatic stimulant, much used as medicine in the island of Java; also, when mixed with anise, it has proved valuable in malignant small-pox.

CHLOROXYLON SWIETENIA.—The Satin Wood tree of tropical countries. It is principally used for making the backs of clothes and hair

brushes, and for articles of turnery-ware; the finest mottled pieces are cut into veneers, and used for cabinet-making.

Chrysobalanus Icaco.—The Cocoa Plum of the West Indies. The fruits are about the size of a plum, and are of various colors, white, yellow, red, or purple. The pulp is sweet, a little austere, but not disagreeable. The fruits are preserved and exported from Cuba and other West India islands. The kernels yield a fixed oil, and an emulsion made with them is used medicinally.

Chrysophyllum Cainito.—The fruit of this plant is known in the West Indies as the Star apple, the interior of which, when cut across, shows ten cells, and as many seeds disposed regularly round the center, giving a star-like appearance, as stars are generally represented in the most reliable almanacs. It receives its botanic name from the golden silky color on the underside of the leaves.

Cibotium Barometz.—The Tartarian Lamb about which ancient travelers have told so wondrous a tale, of a plant growing on the plains west of the Volga, having the appearance of a lamb. The lamb was said to grow upon a stalk, upon which it turned and bent to the herbage which served for its food, and when the grass dried up it died. The caudex of this plant presents a rude appearance of an animal covered with silky hair, and in old plants this silky mass is large and light-colored. This fibrous substance is used as a styptic; this property is attributable to the rapidity with which its filaments, acting by capillary attraction, absorb the aqueous particles of the blood, and thus causes its immediate coagulation. It is a very beautiful fern.

Cinchona Calisaya.—The yellow bark of Bolivia. This is one of the so-called Peruvian Bark trees. The discovery of the medicinal value of this bark is a matter of fable and conjecture. The name Cinchona is derived from the wife of a viceroy of Peru, who is said to have taken the drug from South America to Europe in 1639. Afterward, the Jesuits used it; hence it is sometimes called Jesuit's bark. It was brought most particularly into notice when Louis XIV of France purchased of Sir R. Talbor, an Englishman, his heretofore secret remedy for intermittent fever, and made it public.

There are various barks in commerce classified under the head of Peruvian barks. Their great value depends upon the presence of certain alkaloid substances called quinine, cinchonine, and quinidine, which exist in the bark in combination with tannic and other acids. Quinine is the most useful of these alkaloids, and this is found in greatest quantities in Calisaya bark. The gray bark of Huanuco is derived from *Cinchona micrantha*, which is characterized by its yield of cinchonine, and the Loxa or Loja barks are furnished in part by *Cinchona officinalis*, and are especially rich in quinidine. There is some uncertainty about the trees that produce the various kinds of bark. These trees grow in the forests of Bolivia and Peru, at various elevations on the mountains, but chiefly in sheltered mountain valleys, and all of them at a considerable distance below the frost or snow line. They are destroyed by the slightest frost.

Cinnamomum zeylanicum.—A tree belonging to the Lauraceæ, which furnishes the best cinnamon. It is prepared by stripping the bark from the branches, when it rolls up into quills, the smaller of which are introduced into the larger, and then dried in the sun. Cinnamon is much used as a condiment for its pleasant flavor, and its astringent properties are of medicinal value. It is cultivated largely in Ceylon.

Cinnamomum Cassia.—This furnishes Cassia bark, which is much like cinnamon, but thicker, coarser, stronger, less delicate in flavor, and

cheaper; hence it is often used to adulterate cinnamon. The unexpanded flower-buds are sold as Cassia-buds, possessing properties similar to those of the bark. It is grown in Southern China, Java, and tropical countries generally.

CISSAMPELOS PAREIRA.—The Velvet plant of tropical countries. The root furnishes the *Pareira brava* of druggists, which is used in medicine.

CISTUS CRETICUS.—This plant yields gum Ladanum or Labdanum. It is a native of Crete, and other islands of the Mediterranean. The gum is collected during the heat of the day, by trailing or tossing a bunch of leather thongs over the bushes, to which the gum adheres. It is also collected from the beards of goats which browse among the plants. The gum emits a pleasant balsamic odor, from the presence of a volatile oil. It was formerly used in medicine, now principally as a perfume.

CITRUS LIMONUM.—The Lemon; this plant is found growing naturally in that part of India which is beyond the Ganges. It was unknown to the ancient Greeks and Romans. It is supposed to have been brought to Italy by the Crusaders. Arabian writers of the twelfth century notice the Lemon as being cultivated in Egypt and other places. The varieties of the Lemon are very numerous, and valued for their agreeable acid juice and essential oil. They keep for a considerable time, especially if steeped for a short period in salt water.

CITRUS MEDICA.—The Citron; is found wild in the forests of Northern India. The Jews cultivated the Citron at the time they were under subjection to the Romans, and used the fruit in the Feast of the Tabernacles. There is no proof of their having known the fruit in the time of Moses, but it is supposed that they found it at Babylon, and brought it into Palestine. The citron is cultivated in China and Cochin-China. It is easily naturalized, and the seeds are rapidly spread. In its wild state it grows erect; the branches are spiny, the flowers purple on the outside and white on the inside. The fruit furnishes the essential oil of citron and the essential oil of cedra. There are several varieties; the fingered citron is a curious fruit, and the Madras citron is very long and narrow; the skin is covered with protuberances.

CITRUS LIMETTA.—The Lime is used for the same purposes as the lemon, and by some it is preferred, the juice being considered more wholesome, and the acid more agreeable. There are several varieties, some of them being sweet and quite insipid.

CITRUS DECUMANA.—The Shaddock; has the largest fruit of the family. It is a native of China and Japan, where it is known as Sweet Ball. The pulp is acid or sub-acid, and in some varieties nearly sweet. From the thickness of the skin the fruit will keep a considerable time without injury.

CITRUS AURANTIUM.—The Orange is generally supposed to be a native of the north of India. It was introduced to Arabia during the ninth century. It was unknown in Europe in the eleventh century. Oranges were cultivated at Seville toward the end of the twelfth century, and at Palermo in the thirteenth. In the fourteenth century they were plentiful in several parts of Italy. There are many varieties of the orange in cultivation. The blood-red, or Malta, is much esteemed; the fruit is round, reddish-yellow outside, and the pulp irregularly mottled with crimson. The Mandarin or Tangerine orange has a thin rind which separates easily from the pulp, and is very sweet and rich. The St. Michael's orange is one of the most productive and delicious varieties, with a thin rind and very sweet pulp. The Seville or Bitter orange

is used for the manufacture of bitter tincture and candied orange-peel. The Bergamot orange has peculiarly fragrant flowers and fruit, from each of which an essence of a delicious quality is extracted.

CLITORIA TERNATEA.—The flowers of this climbing-plant afford a blue dye in Cochin-China; and they are used for coloring boiled rice in Amboyna. The root is said to be as powerfully purgative as jalap, and is used to promote sickness and vomiting.

CLUSIA ROSEA.—A tropical plant, which yields abundantly of a tenacious resin from its stem, which is used for the same purpose as pitch; it is first of a green color, but, when exposed to the air, it assumes a brown or reddish tint. The Caribs use it for painting the bottoms of their boats.

COCCOLOBA UVIFERA.—Known in the West Indies as the Seaside grape, from the peculiarity of the perianth, which becomes pulpy, and of a violet color, and surrounds the ripe fruit. The pulpy perianth has an agreeable acid flavor. An astringent extract is prepared from the plant, which is used in medecine.

COCOS PLUMOSUS.—A Brazilian species, highly ornamental in its long, arching leaves, and produces quantities of orange-colored nuts, in size about as large as a chestnut, inclosed in an edible pulp.

COCUS NUCIFERA.—The Cocoa-Nut palm. This palm is cultivated throughout the tropics so extensively that its native country is not known. One reason of its extensive dissemination is accounted for by the fact of its growing so close to the sea that the ripe fruits are washed away by the waves, and afterward cast upon far-distant shores, where they soon vegetate. It is in this way that the coral islands of the Indian Ocean have become covered with these palms. Every part of this tree is put to some useful purpose. The outside rind or husk of the fruit yields the fiber from which the well-known cocoa-nut matting is manufactured. Cordage, clothes and other brushes, brooms, and hats are made from this fiber, and, when curled and dyed, it is used for stuffing mattresses and cushions. An oil is produced by pressing the white kernel of the nut, which is used for cooking when fresh, and by pressure affords stearine, which is made into candles, the liquid being used for lamps. The kernel is of great importance as an article of food, and the milk affords an agreeable beverage. While young they yield a delicious substance resembling blanc-mange. The leaves are used for thatching, for making mats, baskets, hats, &c.; combs are made from the hard footstalk; the heart of the tree is used as we use cabbages. The brown fibrous network from the base of the leaves is used as sieves, and also made into garments. The wood is used for building and for furniture. The flowers are used medicinally as an astringent, and the roots as a febrifuge.

CODIEUM VARIEGATUM.—A native of Moluccas, where it is cultivated for its foliage, which is used to decorate houses on occasions of festivity. The bark and root excite a burning sensation in the mouth when chewed. It is nearly allied to the Croton-Oil plant.

COFFEA ARABICA.—The Coffee plant belongs to the *Cinchonaceæ*, and is a native of Abyssinia, but is now cultivated in many tropical regions. It cannot be successfully cultivated in a climate where the temperature, at any season of the year, falls below 55 degrees. The beans or seeds are roasted before use, and by this process they gain nearly one-half in bulk, and lose about a fifth in weight. Heat also changes their essential qualities, causing the development of the volatile oil and peculiar acid to which the aroma and flavor are due. The

berries contain theine; so also do the leaves, and in some countries the latter are preferred.

Cola acuminata.—An African tree, which has been introduced into the West Indies and Brazil, for the sake of its seeds, which are known as Cola, or Kolla, or Goora nuts, and extensively used as a sort of condiment by the natives of Africa. A small piece of one of these seeds is chewed before each meal as a promoter of digestion. It possesses properties similar to the leaves of coca, and contains theine.

Colocasia esculenta.—This plant has been recommended for profitable culture in this country, for its edible root-stock. It is cultivated in the Sandwich Islands, under the name of Tara. The young leaves are cooked and eaten as spinach or greens in Egypt. They are very acrid, but lose their acridity when boiled and water changed. The roots are filled with starch, and have been long used as food in various semi-tropical countries.

Condaminea macrophylla.—This plant belongs to the Cinchona family, and contains tonic properties. The Peruvian bark gatherers adulterate the true Cinchona bark with this, but it may be detected by its white inner surface, its less powerful bitter taste, and a viscidity not possessed by the Cinchonas.

Convolvulus Scammonia.—This plant furnishes the scammony of the druggists.

Cookia punctata.—A small-growing tree from China, which produces a fruit known as the Wampee. This fruit is a globular berry, with five or fewer compartments filled with juice. It is much esteemed in China.

Copaifera officinalis.—This tree yields Balsam of Copaiba, used in medicine. The balsam is collected by making incisions in the stem, when the liquor is said to pour out copiously; as it exudes, it is thin and colorless, but immediately thickens and changes to a clear yellow.

Copernica cerifera.—The Carnauba, or Wax Palm of Brazil; grows about 40 feet high, and has a trunk six or eight inches thick, composed of very hard wood, which is commonly employed in Brazil for building and other purposes. The upper part of the young stem is soft, and yields a kind of sago, and the bitter fruits are eaten by the Indians. The young leaves are coated with wax, called Carnaub wax, which is detached by shaking them, and then melted and run into cakes; it is harder than bees-wax, and has been used for making candles. The leaves are used for thatch, and, when young, are eaten by cattle.

Coprosma robusta.—A Cinchonaceous shrub. The leaves of this plant were largely used in some of the religious ceremonies of the New Zealanders.

Cordia Sebestena.—A tropical plant, bearing succulent mucilaginous and emollient fruit, employed in medicine.

Cordia Myxa.—This produces succulent, mucilaginous, and emollient fruits, which are eaten. These qualities, combined with a slight astringency, have led to their use as pectorals.

Corypha umbraculifera.—The Talipot palm is a native of Ceylon, producing gigantic fan-like leaves. These leaves have prickly stalks six or seven feet long, and, when fully expanded, form a nearly complete circle of thirteen feet in diameter. Large fans made of these leaves are carried before people of rank among the Cinghalese; they are also commonly used as umbrellas, and tents are made by neatly joining them together; they are also used as a substitute for paper, being writ-

ten upon with a style. Some of the sacred books of the Cinghalese are composed of strips of them. The hard seeds are used by turners.

COUROUPITA GUIANENSIS.—The fruit of this tree is called, from its appearance, the Cannon-ball fruit; its shell is used as a drinking-vessel, and, when fresh, the pulp is of an agreeable flavor.

CRESCENTIA CUCURBITINA.—The Calabazo de Playa of the Panamians. The fruit has a very brittle shell, and has been reported to possess poisonous properties, which is doubted.

CROTON TIGLIUM.—A plant of the family *Euphorbiaceæ*, from the Indian Archipelago, which produces the seeds from whence croton-oil is extracted. It is a very powerful medicine, and even in pressing the seeds for the purpose of extracting the oil, the workmen are subject to irritation of the eyes and other casualties.

CROTON CASCARILLA.—This plant furnishes Cascarilla bark, used as an aromatic bitter tonic, having no astringency. It has a fragrant smell when burnt, on which account it has been mixed with smoking-tobacco.

CUBEBA OFFICINALIS.—A native of Java, which furnishes the cubeb fruits of commerce. These fruits are like black pepper, but stalked, and have an acrid, hot, aromatic taste, frequently used medicinally.

CUPRESSUS SEMPERVIRENS.—This is the Cypress of Persia and the Levant, celebrated by Oriental poets for its elegance of form, and the special tree planted in Mohammedan and Armenian cemeteries.

CUPRESSUS FUNEBRIS.—A native of China, and much used in that country for planting in cemeteries. As it attains age, its branches droop like a Weeping Willow, and is supposed to have been the tree represented on the "willow pattern" of China-ware, at one time so much in use all over the globe.

CURCUMA LONGA.—A plant belonging to the *Zingiberaceæ*, the roots of which furnish turmeric. This powder is used in India as a mild aromatic, and for other medicinal purposes. It also enters into the composition of curry-powder, and a sort of arrow root is made from the young tubers.

CURCUMA ZEDOARIA.—This plant furnishes Zedoary tubers, much used in India as aromatic tonics.

CYATHEA MEDULLARIS.—This beautiful tree-fern is a native of Australia, where it attains a height of twenty-five to thirty feet, having fronds from ten to fifteen feet in length. It contains a pulpy substance in the center of the stem, of a starchy, mucilaginous nature, which is a common article of food with the natives. The trees have to be destroyed in order to obtain it.

CYBISTAX ANTISYPHILITICA.—A plant of the order of *Bignoniaceæ*, called Atunyangua in the Andes of Peru, where the inhabitants dye their cotton cloths by boiling them along with the leaves of this plant; the dye is a permanent blue. The bark of young shoots is much employed in medicine.

CYCAS REVOLUTA.—The Sago palm of gardens. The stem of the plant abounds in starch, which is highly esteemed in Japan. A gum exudes from the trunks of the old plant, which is employed medicinally by the natives of India.

CYCAS CIRCINALIS.—A native of Malabar, where a kind of sago is prepared from the seeds, which are dried and powdered; medicinal properties are also attributed to the seeds.

CYCLOPIA GENISTOIDES.—A native of South Africa, where the leaflets of the plant are used in infusion or decoction for promoting expectora-

tion in chronic catarrh. It is called Bush Tea, and has an agreeable tea-like smell, with a sweet astringent taste.

Dacrydium Franklinii.—Called Huon pine, because of its being found growing near the Huon River, in Tasmania. It belongs to the Yew family. It furnishes valuable timber, very durable, and is used for ship and house building; some of the wood is very beautifully marked, and is used in furniture-making and cabinet-work.

Damara australis.—A singular plant of the *Coniferæ* family, called the Kauri pine. It forms a tree of 150 to 200 feet in height, and produces a hard, brittle resin like copal, which is used in varnish.

Dasylirion acrotrichum.—A plant of the Pine-Apple family, from Mexico. The leaves contain a fine fiber, which may be ultimately more extensively utilized than it is at present.

Desmodium gyrans.—An interesting plant of the Pea family, called the Moving plant, on account of the rotatory motion of the leaflets. These move in all conceivable ways, either steadily or by jerks. Sometimes only one leaf or two on the plant will be affected; at other times a nearly simultaneous movement may be seen in all the leaves. These movements are most energetic when the thermometer marks about 80 degrees. This motion is not due to any external or mechanical irritation.

Dialium acutifolium.—The Velvet Tamarind, so called, from the circumstance that its seed-pods are covered with a beautiful black velvet down; the seeds are surrounded by a farinaceous pulp of an agreeable acid taste.

D. indum.—Is the Tamarind plum, which has a delicious pulp of slightly acid flavor.

Dicksonia antarctica.—The large tree-fern of Australia. This plant attains the height of 30 or more feet, and its fronds or leaves spread horizontally some 20 to 25 feet. It is found in snowy regions, and would be perfectly hardy south. It is one of the finest objects of the vegetable kingdom when of sufficient size to show its true beauties.

Dieffenbachia seguina.—This has acquired the name of Dumb Cane, in consequence of its fleshy, cane-like stems, rendering speechless any person who may happen to bite them, their acrid poison causing the tongue to swell to an immense size. An ointment for applying to dropsical swellings is prepared by boiling the juice in lard. Notwithstanding its acridity, a wholesome starch is prepared from the stem.

Dillenia speciosa.—An East India tree, bearing a fruit which is used in curries and for making jellies. Its slightly acid juice, sweetened with sugar, forms a cooling beverage. The wood is very tough, and is used for making gun-stocks.

Dion edule.—A Mexican plant, bearing large seeds containing a quantity of starch, which is separated and used as arrow-root.

Diospyros Kaki.—The Chinese Date Plum or Persimmon. The fruits are as large as a medium-sized apple, of a bright-red color, and contain a yellow, semi-transparent pulp, resembling the flesh of a plum both in appearance and flavor. The Chinese dry them in the sun and make them into sweetmeats; they are sometimes imported, and in appearance resemble large-sized preserved figs.

Dipterix odorata.—This Leguminous plant yields the fragrant seed known as Tonka or Tonga Bean, used in scenting snuff and other purposes of perfumery. The odor resembles that of new-mown hay, and is due to the presence of *coumarine*. The tree is a native of Cayenne, and grows sixty to eighty feet high.

Dorstenia Contrayerva.—A plant from tropical America, the

roots of which are used in medicine, under the name of Contrayerva root.

Dracæna Draco.—The Dragon's Blood tree of Teneriffe. This liliaceous plant attains a great age and enormous size. The resin obtained from this tree has been found in the sepulchral caves of the Guanches, and hence it is supposed to have been used by them in embalming the dead. Trees of this species, at present in vigorous health, are supposed to be as old as the pyramids of Egypt.

Dracænopsis australis.—Ti, or Cabbage tree of New Zealand. The whole of this plant is fibrous, and has been used for paper-making. The juice of the roots and stem contains a small amount of sugar, and has been used for producing alcohol.

Drimys Winteri.—This plant belongs to the Magnolia family, and furnishes the aromatic tonic known as Winter's bark. It is a native of Chili, and the Straits of Magalhaens.

Dryobalanops aromatica.—A native of the island of Sumatra. It furnishes a liquid called camphor-oil, and a crystalline solid known as Sumatra or Borneo camphor. Camphor-oil is obtained from incisions in the tree, and has a fragrant, aromatic odor; it has been used for scenting soap. The solid camphor is found in cracks of the wood, and is obtained by cutting down the tree, dividing it into blocks and small pieces, from the interstices of which the camphor is extracted. It differs from the ordinary camphor in being more brittle, and not condensing on the sides of the bottle in which it is kept. It is much esteemed by the Chinese, who attribute many virtues to it. It has been long known, and is mentioned by Marco Polo in the thirteenth century.

Durio zibethinus.—A common tree in the Maylayan Islands, where its fruit forms a great part of the food of the natives. It is said to have a most delicious flavor combined with a most offensive odor, but when once the repugnance of the peculiar odor is overcome, it becomes a general favorite. The unripe fruit is cooked and eaten, and the seeds roasted and used like chestnuts.

Duvana dependens.—This Anacardiaceous plant is a native of China. The leaves are charged with resinous matter, which is expelled with great force when they are thrown in water, causing them to be driven about in a lively manner.

Ehretia buxifolia.—An Indian shrub, regarded as an antidote to vegetable poison.

Elæis guineensis.—The African Oil palm is a native of Southwestern Africa, but has been introduced into other tropical regions. It grows to a height of twenty to thirty feet, and bears dense heads of fruit. The oil is obtained by boiling the fruits in water and skimming off the oil as it rises to the surface. It is used in the manufacture of candles. In Africa it is eaten as butter by the natives.

Elæis melanococca.—A Palm from tropical America, which produces large quantities of oil.

Elæocarpus Hinau.—A New Zealand tree, of the Linden family. The bark affords an excellent permanent dye, varying from light brown to deep black. The fruits are surrounded by an edible pulp, and they are frequently pickled like olives.

Elettaria Cardamomum.—This plant furnishes the fruits known as the Small or Malabar cardamoms of commerce. The seeds are used medicinally for their cordial aromatic properties, which depend upon the presence of a volatile oil. In India the fruits are chewed by the natives with their betel.

Emblica officinalis.—A plant belonging to *Euphorbiaceæ*, a native

of India. In Borneo the bark and young shoots are used to dye cotton black, for which purpose they are boiled with alum. The fruits are made into sweetmeat, with sugar, or eaten raw, but they are exceedingly acid; when ripe and dry, they are used, in medicine, under the name of *Myrobalani Emblici*. The natives of Travancore have a notion that the plant imparts a pleasant flavor to water, and therefore place branches of the tree in their wells, especially when the water is charged with an accumulation of impure vegetable matter.

EMPETRUM NIGRUM.—The Crowberry. This small, shrubby plant is a native of moors and hill-sides, on the north of the eastern continent. It affords abundant food for the moor game in the north of Scotland, and the berries are eaten by the Highlanders, and also by the Russians, it extending into that country. The seeds furnish a purplish dye, when boiled in alum-water.

ENCKEA UNGUICULATA.—A plant of the family *Piperaceæ*, having an aromatic fruit like a berry, with a thick rind. The roots are used medicinally in Brazil.

ENTADA SCANDENS.—This Leguminous plant has remarkable pods, which often measure six or eight feet in length. The seeds are about two inches across, and half an inch thick, and have a hard, woody, and beautifully polished shell, of a dark-brown or purplish color. These seeds are frequently converted into snuff-boxes and other articles, and in the Indian bazaars they are used as weights.

EPERUA FALCATA.—The Wallaba tree of Guiana. The wood is of a light-brown color, marked with whitish streaks, hard and heavy; being impregnated with a resinous oil, it is very durable. The bark is bitter, and the Indians employ a decoction of it as an emetic. A resinous gum is also produced, which has the reputation of healing wounds.

ERIODENDRON ANFRACTUOSUM.—The Silk-Cotton, or God tree of the West Indies. The fruit is a capsule, filled with a beautiful silky fiber, which is very elastic, but, as it cannot be woven, it is only used for stuffing cushions.

ERYTHRINA UMBROSA.—This is a favorite tree for growing in masses, for the purpose of sheltering cocoa-nut plantations, and inducing a proper degree of moisture in their neighborhood.

ERYTHROXYLON COCA.—The leaves of this plant, under the name of Coca, are much used by the inhabitants of South America as a masticatory. It forms an article of commerce among the Indians, who carefully dry the leaves and use them daily. Their use, in moderation, acts as a stimulant to the nervous system, and enables those who chew them to perform long journeys without any other food. It has been found by analysis that the leaves contain a portion of theine, more than the ordinary percentage found in Chinese tea.

EUCALYPTUS AMYGDALINA.—The Peppermint tree; is a native of Tasmania; produces a thin transparent oil possessed of a pungent odor resembling oil of lemons, and tasting like camphor, and has great solvent properties. The genus Eucalyptus is extensive and valuable. The greater portion form large trees, known in Australia as Gum trees.

E. GLOBULUS.—The blue gum, is a rapid-growing tree, attaining to a large size. Recently it has attracted attention, and gained some repute in medicine as an anti-periodic. The leaves have also been applied to wounds with some success. It produces a strong camphor-smelling oil, which has a mint-like taste, not at all disagreeable.

E. GIGANTEA.—The stringy bark gum furnishes a strong durable timber, used for ship-building and other purposes. *E. robusta* contains large cavities in its stem, between the annual concentric circles of wood,

filled with a red gum. Many of the species yield gums and astringent principles, and also a species of manna. The timber of these trees has been pronounced to be unsurpassed, for strength and durability, by any other timber known. The leaves of these trees are placed vertically to the sun, a provision suited to a dry and sultry climate.

EUGENIA JAMBOSA.—A tropical plant, belonging to the Myrtle family, which produces a pleasant rose-flavored fruit, known as the Rose-apple or Jamrosade.

EUGENIA UGNI.—This small foliaged Myrtaceous plant is a native of Chili. It bears a glossy black fruit, which has an agreeable flavor and perfume, and is highly esteemed in its native country. The plant is hardy in the Southern States.

EUPHORBIA CANARIENSIS.—This plant grows in abundance in the Canary Islands and Teneriffe, in dry, rocky districts, where little else can grow, and where it attains a height of 10 feet, with the branches spreading 15 or 20 feet. It is one of the kinds that furnish the drug known as *euphorbium*. The milky juice exudes from incisions made in the branches, and is so acrid that it excoriates the hand when applied to it. As it hardens, it falls down in small lumps, and those that collect it are obliged to tie a cloth over their mouth and nostrils to exclude the small dusty particles, as they produce incessant sneezing. As a medicine its action is violent, and it is now rarely employed. There are a vast number of species of *euphorbia*, varying exceedingly in their general appearance, but all of them having a milky juice which contains active properties. Many of them can scarcely be distinguished from cactuses so far as relates to external appearances, but the milky exudation following a puncture determines their true character. *E. grandidens* is a tall-growing, branching species, and attains a height of 30 feet. The natives of India use the juice of *E. antiquorum*, when diluted, as a purgative. The juice of *E. heptagona* and other African species is employed to poison arrows; the juice of *E. Cotinifolia* is used for the same purpose in Brazil. The roots of *E. Gerardiana* and *E. Pithyusa* are emetic, while *E. thymifolia* and *E. hypericifolia* possess astringent and aromatic properties. The poisonous principle which pervades these plants is more or less dissipated by heat. The juice of *E. Cattimandoo* furnishes caoutchouc of a very good quality, which, however, becomes brittle, although soaking in hot water renders it again pliable. *E. phosphorea* derives the name from the fact of its sap emitting a phosphorescent light, on warm nights, in the Brazilian forests.

EUTERPE EDULIS.—The Assai palm of Para; grows in swampy lands, and produces a small fruit thinly coated with clotted fibrous flesh, of which the inhabitants of Para manufacture a beverage called assai. The ripe fruits are soaked in warm water, and kneaded until the fleshy pulp is detached. This, when strained, is of a thick creamy consistence, and, when thickened with cassava farina and sweetened with sugar, forms a nutritious diet, and is the daily food of a large number of people.

EUTERPE MONTANA.—The center portion of the upper part of the stem of this West Indian palm, including the leaf-bud, is eaten either when cooked as a vegetable or pickled, but the tree must be destroyed in order to obtain it.

EXCŒCARIA SEBIFERA.—This Euphorbiaceous plant is the Tallow tree of China. The fruits are about half an inch in diameter, and contain three seeds, thickly coated with a fatty substance, which yields the tallow. This is obtained by first steaming the seeds, then bruising them to loosen the fat without breaking the seeds, which are removed by sifting. The fat is then made into flat circular cakes, and pressed,

when the pure tallow exudes in a liquid state, and soon hardens into a white, brittle mass. Candles made from it get soft in hot weather, which is prevented by coating them with insect-wax. A liquid oil is obtained from the seeds by pressing. The tree yields a hard wood, used by the Chinese for printing-blocks, and its leaves are used in dyeing black.

Exogonium Purga.—This plant furnishes the true jalap-tubers of commerce. They owe their well-known purgative properties to their resinous ingredients. Various species of Ipomœa furnish a spurious kind of this drug, which is often put in the market as the genuine article.

Exostemma Caribæum.—This West India plant has become naturalized in Southern Florida. It belongs to the Cinchona family, and is known as Jamaica bark. It is also known as Quinquina Caraibe. The bark is reputed to be a good febrifuge, and also to be employed as an emetic. It is supposed to contain some peculiar principle, as the fracture displays an abundance of small crystals. The capsules, before they are ripe, are very bitter, and their juice causes a burning itching on the lips.

Feronia elephantum.—The Wood apple or Elephant Apple tree of India; belongs to the family *Aurantiaceæ*. It forms a large tree in Ceylon, and yields a hard, heavy wood, of great strength. It yields a gum, which is mixed with other gums, and sold under the name of East Indian gum-arabic. The fruit is about the size of an orange, and contains a pulpy flesh, which is edible, and a jelly is made from it, which is used in cases of dysentery. The leaves have an odor like that of anise, and the native India doctors employ them as a stomachic and carminative.

Feuillæa cordifolia.—The Sequa or Cacoon Antidote of Jamaica; belongs to the Cucumber family, and climbs to a great height up the trunks of trees. The seeds are employed as a remedy in a variety of diseases, and are considered an antidote against the effects of poison; they also contain a quantity of semi-solid fatty oil, which is liberated by pressing and boiling them in water.

Ficus indica.—The famous Banyan tree of history. Specimens of the Indian fig are mentioned as being of immense size. One in Bengal spreads over a diameter of three hundred and seventy feet. Another covered an area of seventeen hundred square yards. It is one of the sacred trees of the Hindoos. It was known to the ancients. Strabo describes it, and it is noticed by Pliny. Milton also alludes to it as follows:

> Branching so broad along, that in the ground
> The bending twigs take root; and daughters grow
> About the mother tree; a pillared shade,
> High overarched, with echoing walks between.
> There oft the Indian herdsman, shunning heat,
> Shelters in cool; and tends his pasturing herds
> At loop-holes cut through thickest shade.

Ficus religiosa.—The Pippul tree of the Hindoos, which they hold in such veneration that, if a person cuts or lops off any of the branches, he is looked upon with as great abhorrence as if he had broken the leg of one of their equally sacred cows. The seeds are employed by Indian doctors, in medicine.

Ficus elastica.—This plant is known as the India-rubber tree. It is a native of the East Indies, and is the chief source of caoutchouc from that quarter of the globe, although other species of Ficus yield this gum, as well as several plants of other genera. It is a plant of rapid growth, and, from the larger branches, roots descend to the earth, like the Banyan tree.

FLACOURTIA SEPIARIA.—A bushy shrub, used in India for hedges. Its fruits have a pleasant, sub-acid flavor when perfectly ripe, but the unripe fruit is extremely astringent. The Indian doctors use a liniment made of the bark, in cases of gout, and an infusion of it as a cure for snake-bites.

FOURCROYA CUBENSE.—This plant is closely related to the Agave, and, like many of that genus, furnishes a fine fiber, which is known in St. Domingo as Cabuya fiber. These plants are very magnificent when in flower, throwing up stems twenty to thirty feet in height, covered with many hundreds of yucca-like blossoms.

FRANCISCEA UNIFLORA.—A Brazilian plant, called Mercurio vegetal; also known as Manaca. The root, and, to some extent, the leaves, are used in medicine; the inner bark and all the herbaceous parts are nauseously bitter; it is regarded as a purgative, emetic, and alexipharmic; in over-doses it is an acrid poison.

GALIPEA OFFICINALIS.—This South American tree furnishes Angostura bark, which has important medical properties, some physicians in South America preferring it to cinchona, in the treatment of fevers. Its use has been greatly retarded by bark of the deadly Nux-Vomica tree having been inadvertently sold for it. As this bark is sometimes used in bitters, a mistake, as above, might prove as fatal as cholera.

GARCINIA MANGOSTANA.—This tree produces the tropical fruit called Mangosteen, a beautiful fruit, having a thick, succulent rind, which contains an astringent juice, and exudes a gum similar to gamboge. The esculent interior contains a juicy pulp, having the whiteness and solubility of snow, and of a refreshing, delicate, delicious flavor. The bark of the tree is used as a basis for black dye, and it has also some medicinal value.

GARDENIA FLORIDA and GARDENIA RADICANS.—Are known as Cape Jasmines, from a supposition that they were natives of the Cape of Good Hope. The genus belongs to the Cinchona family. *G. lucida* furnishes a fragrant resin, somewhat similar to myrrh. The fruit of *G. campanulata* is used as a cathartic, and also to wash out stains in silk. *G. gummifera* yields a resin something like Elemi.

GASTROLOBIUM BILOBUM.—A Leguminous plant, having poisonous properties. In Western Australia, where it is a native, farmers often lose their cattle through their eating the foliage. Cats and dogs that eat the flesh of these poisoned cattle are also poisoned. *G. obtusum* and *G. spinosum* possess similar properties.

GENIPA AMERICANA.—This belongs to the Cinchona family, and produces the fruit called genipap or marmalade box. It is about the size of an orange, and has an agreeable flavor.

GEONOMA SCHOTTIANA.—A pretty Brazilian palm; the leaves are used for thatching huts, and other parts of the plant are utilized.

GEOPHILA RENIFORMIS.—A creeping plant, belonging to the Rubiaceæ. The root, when reduced to powder, acts upon the respiratory passages as an irritant, producing spasmodic asthma. With some persons the mere odor of the root excites difficulty of breathing, with a feeling of suffocation.

GOUANIA DOMINGENSIS.—A plant of the Buckthorn family. Known in Jamaica as Chaw-Stick, on account of its thin branches being chewed as an agreeable stomachic. Tooth-brushes are made by cutting pieces of the stem to convenient lengths, and fraying out the ends. A tooth-powder is prepared by pulverizing the dried stems. It is said to possess febrifugal properties; and, owing to its pleasant bitter taste, it is used for flavoring cooling beverages.

GREVILLEA ROBUSTA.—The Silk Oak tree of Australia; a tree that attains a large size, and is remarkable for the graceful beauty of its foliage.

GRIAS CAULIFLORA.—The Anchovy Pear of Jamaica. The fruit is pickled and eaten like the Mango, having a similar taste.

GUAIACUM OFFICINALE.—The wood of this tree is called Lignum-Vitæ. A resin, called gum guaiacum, exudes from the stem, and is otherwise obtained from the wood by artificial means. It is of a greenish brown color, with a balsamic fragrance, and is remarkable for the changes of color it undergoes when brought into contact with various substances. Gluten gives it a blue tint; nitric acid and chlorine change it successively to green, blue, and brown. The resin, as also the bark and wood, are used medicinally.

GUAZUMA TOMENTOSA.—This plant is nearly allied to the Chocolate-Nut tree, and yields fruits that abound in mucilage, as also does the bark of the young shoots. The mucilage is given out in water, and has been used as a substitute for gelatine or albumen, in clarifying cane-juice in the manufacture of sugar. The timber is light, and is employed for the staves of sugar-hogsheads; it is known in Jamaica as Bastard Cedar. A strong fiber is obtained from the young shoots.

GUILIELMA SPECIOSA.—The Peach palm of Veneznela. The fruits are borne in large drooping bunches, and their fleshy outer portion contains starchy matter, which forms a portion of the food of the natives. They are cooked and eaten with salt, and are said to resemble a potato in flavor. A beverage is prepared by fermenting them in water; and the meal obtained from them is made into bread. The wood of old trees is black, and so hard as to turn the edge of an ax.

HÆMATOXYLON CAMPECHIANUM.—The Logwood tree. This dye-stuff is largely used by calico-printers, and other dyeing manufacturers. It is also used as an ingredient in some writing-inks, and for the proper coloring and crusting of port-wine.

HARDENBERGIA MONOPHYLLA.—An Australian climbing-plant of the Leguminous family. The long, carrot-shaped, woody root was called, by the early settlers in that country, sarsaparilla, and is still used in infusion as a substitute for that root.

HARTIGHSEA SPECTABILIS.—A New Zealand tree, called Wahahe by the natives, who employ the leaves as a substitute for hops, and also prepare from them a spirituous infusion as a stomachic medicine.

HELICONIA BIHAI.—A plant of the order *Musaceæ*, from South America. The young shoots are eaten by the natives, and the fruits are also collected and used as food. It also furnishes a useful fiber.

HIBISCUS ROSA SINENSIS.—The flowers of this malvaceous plant contain a quantity of astringent juice, and, when bruised, rapidly turn black or deep purple; they are used by the Chinese ladies for dyeing their hair and eyebrows, and in Java for blacking shoes.

HIPPOMANE MANCINELLA.—This is the poisonous Manchineel tree of South America and other tropical regions. The virulent nature of the juice of this tree has given it a reputation equal to that forced upon the Upas tree of Java. The juice is certainly very acrid, and even its smoke, when burning, causes temporary blindness. The fruit is equally dangerous, and, from its beautiful appearance, is sometimes partaken of by those who are unaware of its deleterious properties, but its burning effects on the lips soon causes them to desist. Indians are said to poison their arrows with the juice of this tree.

HURA CREPITANS.—This tropical plant is known as the Sand-Box tree. Its deep-furrowed, rounded, hard-shelled fruit is about the size of

an orange, and, when ripe and dry, its bursts open with a sharp noise like the report of a pistol; hence, it is also called the Monkey's Dinner-Bell. An emetic oil is extracted from the seeds, and a venomous, milky juice is abundant in all parts of the plant.

HYMENÆA COURBARIL.—The Locust Tree of the West Indies; also called Algarroba in tropical regions. This is one of the very largest-growing trees known, and living trees in Brazil are supposed to have been growing at the commencement of the Christian era. The timber is very hard, and is much used for building purposes. A valuable resin, resembling the anime of Africa, exudes from the trunk, and large lumps of it are found about the roots of old trees.

HYPHÆNE THEBAICA.—The Doum, or Doom palm, or Gingerbread of Egypt; grows also in Nubia, Abyssinia, and Arabia. The fibrous, mealy husks of the seeds are eaten, and taste almost like gingerbread. To eat them, however, is equal to eating hay.

ICICA HEPTAPHYLLA.—The Incense tree of Guiana; is a tall-growing tree, furnishing wood of great durability. It is called Cedar Wood on account of its fragrant odor. The balsam from the trunk is highly odoriferous, and used in perfumery, and is known as balsam of acouchi; it is used in medicine. The balsam and branches are burned as incense in churches.

ILEX PARAGUAYENSIS.—This is the Tea plant of South America, where it occupies the same important position in the domestic economy of the country as the Chinese tea does in this. The *maté* is prepared by drying and roasting the leaves, which are then reduced to a powder and made into packages. When used, a small portion of the powder is placed in a vessel, sugar is added, and boiling water poured over the whole. It has an agreeable, slightly aromatic odor, rather bitter to the taste, but very refreshing and invigorating to the human frame after severe fatigue. It acts in some degree as an aperient and diuretic, and in over-doses produces intoxication. It contains the same active principle, theine, as tea and coffee, but not their volatile and empyreumatic oils.

ILLICIUM ANISATUM.—This magnoliaceous plant is a native of China, and its fruit furnishes the star anise of commerce. In China, Japan, and India, it is used as a condiment in the preparation of food, and is chewed as a promoter of digestion, and the native physicians prescribe it as a carminative. It is the flavoring ingredient of the preparation *Anisette de Bordeaux*. Its flavor and odor are due to a volatile oil, which is extracted by distillation, and sold as oil of anise, which is really a different article.

ILLICIUM FLORIDANUM.—A native of the Southern States. The leaves are said to be poisonous; hence, the plant is sometimes called Poison Bag. The bark has been used as a substitute for cascarilla.

ILLICIUM RELIGIOSUM.—A Japanese species, which reaches the size of a small tree, and is held sacred by the Japanese, who form wreaths of it with which to decorate the tombs of their deceased friends, and they also burn the fragrant bark as incense. Their watchmen use the powdered bark for burning in graduated tubes, in order to mark the time, as it consumes slowly and uniformly. The leaves are said to possess poisonous properties.

INDIGOFERA TINCTORIA.—The Indigo plant is a native of Asia, but is cultivated and naturalized in many countries. The use of indigo as a dye is of great antiquity. Both Dioscorides and Pliny mention it, and it is supposed to have been employed by the ancient Egyptians. The indigo of commerce is prepared by throwing the fresh-cut plants into water, where they are steeped for 12 hours, when the water is run off

into a vessel, and agitated, in order to promote the formation of the blue coloring-matter, which does not exist ready formed in the tissues of the plant, but is the result of the oxidation of other substances contained in them. The coloring-matter then settles at the bottom; it is then boiled to a certain consistency, and afterward spread out on cloth frames, where it is further drained of water, and pressed into cubes or cakes for market.

IPOMÆA PURGA.—A species of jalap is obtained from this convolvulaceous plant; this is a resinous matter, contained in the juices.

IRIARTELLA SETIGERA.—A South American palm, growing in the underwood of the forests on the Amazon and Rio Negro. The Indians use its slender stems for making their blow-pipes, or gravatanas, through which they blow small poisoned arrows with accuracy to a considerable distance.

JACARANDA MIMOSIFOLIA.—This belongs to the Bignonia family, and, like many of the genus, is employed in medicine.

JAMBOSA MALACCENSIS.—This Indian plant belongs to the Myrtle family. It produces a good-sized edible fruit, known as the Malay Apple.

JASMINUM SAMBAC TRIFOLATUM.—A native of South America. The flowers are very fragrant, and an essential oil, much used in perfumery under the name of jasmine oil, is obtained from this and other species.

JATROPHA GLAUCA.—An East Indian plant, the seeds of which furnish an oil when crushed, which is used in medicine.

JATROPHA CURCAS.—The Physic Nut tree of tropical America. This plant contains a milky, acrid, glutinous juice, which forms a permanent stain when dropped on linen, and might form a good marking-ink. Burning oil is expressed from the seeds in the Philippine Islands; the oil, boiled with oxide of iron, is used in China as a varnish. It is used in medicine in various ways, the leaves for fomentations, the juice to ulcers, and the seeds as purgatives.

JUBÆA SPECTABILIS.—The Coquito palm of Chili. The seed, or nut, is called Coker-nut, and has a pleasant, nutty taste. These are used by the Chilian confectioners in the preparation of sweetmeats, and by the boys as marbles, being in shape and size very like them. The leaves are used for thatching, and the trunks or stems are hollowed out and converted into water-pipes. A wet sirup, called Miel de Palma, or palm honey, is prepared by boiling the sap of this tree to the consistency of treacle, and is much esteemed for domestic use as sugar. The sap is obtained by cutting off the crown of leaves, when it immediately begins to flow, and continues for several months, provided a thin slice is shaved off the top every morning. Full-grown trees will thus yield ninety gallons.

KÆMPFERIA GALANGA.—This plant belongs to the family of Gingers. The root-stocks have an aromatic fragrance, and are used medicinally in India, as well as in the preparation of perfumery. The flowers appear before the leaves, upon very short stems.

KNIGHTIA EXCELSA.—A New Zealand tree, of the family *Proteaceæ*, forming a narrow columnar growth sometimes of great height, showing conspicuously in the forests of that country. The timber is valued for its mottled red and brown colors, and, as it splits readily, is much used for shingles.

KRAMERIA TRIANDRA.—This is one of the species that yield the Rhatany roots of commerce. In Peru an extract is made from this species, which is a mild, easily assimilated, astringent medicine. It acts as a tonic, and is used in intermittent and putrid fevers. It is also

styptic, and, when applied in plasters, is used in curing ulcers. The color of the infusion of the roots is blood-red, on which account it is used to adulterate, or rather it forms an ingredient in the fabrication of port-wine.

KYDIA CALYCINA.—An Indian plant of the family *Byttneriaceæ*. The bark is employed in infusion as a sudorific, and in cutaneous diseases; and its fibrous tissue is manufactured into cordage.

LAGETTA LINTEARIA.—The Lace-Bark tree of Jamaica. The inner bark consists of numerous concentric layers of fibers, which interlace in all directions, and thus present a great resemblance to lace. Articles of apparel are made of it.

LAPAGERIA ROSEA.—A twining plant from Chili. The flowers are very beautiful, and succeeded by berries, which are said to be sweet and eatable. The root has qualities closely resembling sarsaparilla, and used for the same purposes.

LATANIA RUBRA.—A very beautiful palm from the Mauritius. The fruit contains a small quantity of pulp, which is eaten by the natives, but it is not considered very palatable by travelers.

LAWSONIA INERMIS.—This is the celebrated Henna of the East. The use of the powdered leaves as a cosmetic is very general in Asia and Northern Africa, the practice having descended from very remote ages, as is proved by the Egyptian mummies, the parts dyed being usually the finger and toe nails, the tips of the fingers, the palms of the hands, and soles of the feet, imparting a reddish color, considered by Oriental belles as highly ornamental. Henna is prepared by reducing the leaves to powder, and, when used, is made into a pasty mass with water, and spread on the part to be dyed, being allowed to remain for twelve hours. The plant is known in the West Indies as Jamaica Mignonette.

LECYTHIS OLLARIA.—This tree produces the hard, urn-shaped fruits known in Brazil as Monkey Cups. The seeds are eatable, and sold as Sapucaia nuts. The fruit-vessels are very peculiar, being six inches in diameter, and having closely fitting lids, which separate when the seeds are mature. The bark is composed of a great number of layers, not thicker than writing-paper, which the Indians separate, and employ for cigar-wrappers.

LEPTOSPERMUM SCOPARIUM.—A plant known throughout Australia as Captain Cook's Tea tree, from the circumstance that, on the first landing of this navigator in that country, he employed a decoction of the leaves of this plant as a corrective to the effects of scurvy among his crew, which proved an efficient medicine. Thickets of this plant, along the swampy margin of streams, are known as Tea-tree scrubs. It is also known among the natives as the Manuka plant. The wood is hard and heavy, and was formerly used for making sharp-pointed spears. It belongs to the Myrtle family of plants.

LICUALA ACUTIFIDA.—This palm is a native of the island of Pulo-Penango, and yields canes known by the curious name of Penang Lawyers. It is a low-growing plant, its stems averaging an inch in diameter. The stems are converted into walking-canes by scraping their rough exteriors and straightening them by means of fire-heat.

LIVISTONA AUSTRALIS.—This is one of the few palms found in Australia. The unexpanded leaves, prepared by being scalded and dried in the shade, are used for making hats, while the still younger and more tender leaves are eaten like cabbages.

LUCUMA MAMMOSUM.—This sapotaceous plant is cultivated for its fruit, which is called marmalade, on account of its containing a thick,

agreeably flavored pulp, bearing some resemblance, in appearance and taste, to quince marmalade. A native of South America.

MACHÆRIUM FIRMUM.—The Jacaranda of Brazil, which yields the rose-wood so much esteemed by the manufacturers of fine furniture and cabinet-work.

MACLURA TINCTORIA.—The Fustic tree. Large quantities of the bright yellow wood of this tree are exported from South America for the use of dyers, who obtain from it shades of yellow, brown, olive, and green. There are two kinds of Fustic, technically termed the young and the old, the former being the wood of *Rhus cotinus* and the latter that of the present.

MACROPIPER METHYSTICUM.—A plant of the Pepper family, which furnishes the root called Ava by the Polynesians. It has narcotic properties, and is employed medicinally, but is chiefly remarkable for the value attached to it as a narcotic and stimulant beverage, of which the natives partake before they commence any important business or religious rites. It is used by chewing the root and extracting the juice, and has a calming rather than an intoxicating, effect. It is a filthy preparation, and only partaken of by the lower classes of Feejeeans.

MAMMEA AMERICANA.—The fruit of this tree, under the name of Mammee Apple, is very much esteemed in tropical countries. It often attains a size of 6 or 8 inches in diameter, and is of a yellow color. The outer rind and the pulp which immediately surrounds the seeds are very bitter, but the intermediate flesh is sweet and aromatic. The seeds are used as anthelmintics, an aromatic liquor is distilled from the flowers, and the acrid resinous gum, distilled from the bark, is used to destroy insects.

MANETTIA CORDIFOLIA.—This climbing-plant is a native of South America, and belongs to the family of *Cinchonaceæ*. The rind of the root has emetic properties, and is used in Brazil for dropsy and other diseases. It is also exported under the name of Ipecacuan, chiefly from Buenos Ayres.

MANGIFERA INDICA.—The Mango, in some of its varieties, is esteemed as the most delicious of tropical fruits, while many varieties produce fruit whose texture resembles cotton, and taste of turpentine. The turpentine flavor predominates in all. The unripe fruit is pickled. The pulp contains gallic and citric acid. The seeds possess anthelmintic properties. A soft gum-resin exudes from the wounded bark, which is used medicinally.

MANIHOT UTILISSIMA.—This euporbiaceous plant yields cassava or mandiocca meal. It is extensively cultivated in tropical countries, and supplies a great amount of food. The root is the part used, and in its natural condition is a most virulent poison, but by grating the roots to a pulp the poison is expelled by pressure, and altogether dissipated by cooking. The expressed juice, when allowed to settle, deposits the starch known as tapioca.

MANTISIA SALTATORIA.—A plant of the family of Gingers, deriving its name from the resemblance of the flowers to the insect *mantis*. The flowers are very singular, and from a supposed resemblance to a ballet-dancer, the plant is called *Dancing Girls*.

MARANTA ARUNDINACEA.—The Arrow-Root plant, cultivated for its starch. The tubers being reduced to pulp with water, the fecula subsides, and is washed and dried for commerce. It is a very pure kind of starch, and very nutritious. The term arrow-root is said to be derived from the fact that the natives of the West Indies use the roots of the plant as an application to wounds made by poison-arrows.

MARSILEA MACROPUS.—The Nardoo of Australia. In general appearance this curious plant bears a resemblance to clover. It grows in low grounds that are wet, sending out long rhizomes, or stems, which lie on the surface of the mud; when the pools dry up, the leaves wither, leaving the hard involucres on the surface, which are gathered, pounded into flour, and used for making bread. European travelers lost in the bush have subsisted for days on this plant, humble as it appears.

MAURITIA FLEXUOSA.—The Moriche, or Ita palm, is very abundant on the banks of the Amazon, Rio Negro, and Orinoco Rivers. In the delta of the latter it occupies swampy tracts of ground, which are at times completely inundated, and present the appearance of forests rising out of the water. These swamps are frequented by a tribe of Indians called Guaranes, who subsist almost entirely upon the produce of this palm, and during the period of the inundations suspend their dwellings from the tops of its tall stems. The outer skin of the young leaves is made into string and cord for the manufacture of hammocks. The fermented sap yields palm-wine, and another beverage is prepared from the young fruits, while the soft inner bark of the stem yields a farinaceous substance like sago.

MAXIMILIANA REGIA.—An Amazonian palm, called Inaja. The spathes are so hard that, when filled with water, they will stand the fire, and are sometimes used by the Indians as cooking utensils. The Indians who prepare the kind of rubber called bottle-rubber, make use of the hard stones of the fruit as fuel for smoking and drying the successive layers of milky juice as it is applied to the mold upon which the bottles are formed. The outer husk, also, yields a kind of saline flour, used for seasoning their food.

MELALEUCA MINOR.—A native of Australia and the islands of the Indian Ocean. The leaves, being fermented, are distilled, and yield an oil known as cajuput or cajeput oil, which is green, and has a strong aromatic odor. It is valuable as an antispasmodic and stimulant, and at one time had a great reputation as a cure for cholera. In China the leaves are used as a tonic in the form of decoction.

MELICOCCA BIJUGA.—This sapindaceous tree is plentiful in tropical America and the West Indies, and is known as the Genip tree. It produces numerous green egg-shaped fruits, an inch or more in length, possessing an agreeable vinous and somewhat aromatic flavor. The wood of the tree is hard and heavy.

MELOCACTUS COMMUNIS.—Commonly called the Turk's Cap Cactus, from the flowering portion on the top of the plant being of a cylindrical form and red color, like a fez cap. Notwithstanding that they grow in the most dry, sterile places, they contain a considerable quantity of moisture, which is well known to mules, who resort to them when very thirsty, first removing the prickles with their feet.

MESEMBRYANTHEMUM CRYSTALLINUM.—The Ice plant, so called in consequence of every part of the plant being covered with small watery pustules, which glisten in the sun like fragments of ice. Large quantities of this plant are collected in the Canaries and burned, the ashes being sent to Spain for the use of glass-makers. *M. edule* is called the Hottentot's fig, its fruit being about the size of a small fig, and having a pleasant, acid taste when ripe. *M. tortuosum* possesses narcotic properties, and is chewed by the Hottentots to induce intoxication. The fruits possess hygrometric properties, the dried, shriveled capsules swelling out and opening so as to allow of the escape of the seeds when moistened by rain, which at the same time fits the soil for their germination.

MIKANIA GUACO.—A composite plant, which has gained some notoriety lately as the supposed Cundurango, the cancer-curing bark. It has long been supposed to supply a powerful antidote for the bite of venomous serpents.

MIMUSOPS BALATA.—The Bully tree. This sapotaceous plant attains a great size in Guiana, and affords a dense, close-grained, valuable timber. Its small fruits, about the size of coffee-berries, are delicious when ripe. The flowers also yield a perfume when distilled in water, and oil is expressed from the seeds.

MIMUSOPS ELENGI.—A native of Ceylon, where its hard, heavy, durable timber is used for building purposes. The seed also affords a great amount of oil.

MONODORA GRANDIFLORA.—An African plant, belonging to the Anonaceæ. It produces large fruit, which contains a large quantity of seeds, about the size of the Scarlet-Runner bean. They are aromatic, and impart to the fruit the odor and flavor of nutmeg; hence they are also known as Calabash nutmegs.

MONSTERA DELICIOSA.—This is a native of Southern Mexico, and yields a delicious fruit, with the luscious pine-apple flavor. The holes in the leaves are from natural causes, not yet sufficiently explained.

MORINGA PTERYGOSPERMA.—A native of the East Indies, where it bears the name of Horse-Radish tree. The seeds are called Ben-nuts, and supply a fluid oil, highly prized by watchmakers, called oil of ben. The root is pungent and stimulant, and tastes like horse-radish.

MORONOBEA COCCINEA.—The Hog Gum tree; attains a height of one hundred feet. A fluid pellucid juice exudes from incisions in the trunk, and hardens into a yellow resin. It is said the hogs in Jamaica, when wounded, rub the injured part against the tree, so as to cover it with the gum, which possesses vulnerary properties; hence its name. The resin has been employed as a substitute for Copaiba Balsam, and plasters are made of it.

MURRAYA EXOTICA.—A Chinese plant of the Orange family. The fruit is succulent, and the white flowers are very fragrant. They are used in perfumery.

MURUCUJA OCELLATA.—This plant belongs to the Passion Flower family, has attractive flowers, and is said to possess anthelmintic and diaphoretic qualities, and to be used in Jamaica as a narcotic.

MUSA SAPIENTUM.—The Banana plant. This has been cultivated and used as food in tropical countries from very remote times, and furnishes enormous quantities of nutritious food, and serves as a staple support to a large number of the human race. The expressed juice is in some countries made into a fermented liquor, and the young shoots eaten as a vegetable.

MUSA TEXTILIS.—This furnishes the fiber known as Manila hemp, and is cultivated in the Philippine Islands for this product. The finer kinds of the fiber are woven into beautiful shawls, and the coarser manufactured into cordage for ships. The fiber is obtained from the leaf-stalks.

MUSA ENSETE.—This Abyssinian species forms large foliage of striking beauty. The food is dry and uneatable; but the base of the flower-stalk is eaten by the natives.

MUSA CAVENDISHII.—Is a valuable dwarf species of the Banana from Southern China. It bears a large truss of fine fruit, and is cultivated to some extent in Florida, where it endures more cold than the West India species, and fruits more abundantly.

MUSSÆNDA FRONDOSA.—This chinchonaceous plant is a native of Ceylon. The bark and leaves are esteemed as tonics and febrifuges in

the Mauritius, where they are known as Wild Chinchona. The leaves and flowers are also used as expectorants, and the juice of the fruit and leaves is used as an eye-wash.

MYRISTICA MOSCHATA.—The Nutmeg tree. The seed of this plant is the nutmeg of commerce, and mace is the seed-cover of the same. When the nuts are gathered they are dried, and the outer shell of the seed removed. The mace is also dried in the sun, and assumes a golden-yellow color. The most esteemed nutmegs come from Penang. At one time the nutmeg culture was monopolized by the Dutch, who were in the habit of burning them when the crop was too abundant, in order to keep up high prices.

MYROSPERMUM PERUIFERUM.—This plant yields the drug known as Balsam of Peru, which is procured by making incisions in the bark, into which cotton rags are thrust; a fire is then made round the tree to liquify the balsam; the balsam is collected by boiling the saturated rags in water. It is a thick treacly looking liquid, with a fragrant aromatic smell and taste, and is not used so much in medicine as it formerly was.

MYRTUS COMMUNIS.—The common Myrtle. This plant is supposed to be a native of Western Asia, but now grows abundantly in Italy, Spain, and the South of France. Among the ancients the Myrtle was held sacred to Venus, and was a plant of considerable importance, wreaths of it being worn by the victors of the Olympic games, and other honored personages. Various parts of the plant were used in medicine, in cookery, and by the Tuscans in the preparation of myrtle-wine, called *myrtidanum*. It is still used in perfumery, and a highly perfumed distillation is made from the flowers. The fruits are very aromatic and sweet, and are eaten fresh or dried, and used as a condiment.

NANDINA DOMESTICA.—A shrub belonging to the family of Berberries. It is a native of China and Japan, where it is extensively cultivated for its fruit. It is there known as Nandin.

NAUCLEA GAMBIR.—A native of the Malayan Islands, which yields the Gambir, or Terra Japonica of commerce. This is prepared by boiling the leaves in water until the decoction thickens, when it is poured into molds, where it remains until it requires the consistency of clay, it is then cut into cubes and thoroughly dried. It is used as a masticatory in combination with the Areca nut and Betel leaf, and also for tanning purposes.

NECTANDRA LEUCANTHA.—The Greenheart, or Bibiri tree of British Guiana, furnishes Bibiru bark, which is used medicinally as a tonic and febrifuge, its properties being due to the presence of an uncrystallizable alkaloid, also found in the seeds. The seeds are also remarkable for containing upward of 50 per cent. of starch, which is made into a kind of bread by the natives. The timber of this tree is extensively employed in ship-building, its great strength and durability rendering it peculiarly well suited for this purpose.

NEPENTHES DISTILLATORIA.—This Pitcher plant is a native of Ceylon. The pitchers are partly filled with water before they open; hence it was supposed to be produced by some distilling process. In Ceylon the old, tough, flexible stems are used as willows.

NEPHELIUM LITCHI.—This sapindaceous tree produces one of the valued indigenous fruits of China. There are several varieties; the fruit is round, about an inch and a half in diameter, with a reddish-colored, thin, brittle shell. When fresh, they are filled with a sweet, white, transparent, jelly-like pulp. The Chinese are very fond of these fruits and consume large quantities of them, both in a fresh state and when dried and preserved.

NERIUM OLEANDER.—This is a well-known plant, often seen in cultivation, and seemingly a favorite with many. It belongs to a poisonous family, and is a dangerous poison. A decoction of its leaves forms a wash, employed in the south of Europe to destroy cutaneous vermin; and its powdered wood and bark constitute the basis of an efficacious rat-poison. Children have died from eating the flowers. A party of soldiers in Spain, having meat to roast in camp, procured spits and skewers of the tree, which there attains a large size. The wood having been stripped of its bark, and brought in contact with the meat, was productive of fatal consequences, for seven men died out of twelve who partook of the meat, and the other five were for some time dangerously ill.

NOTELÆA EIGUSTRINA.—The Tasmanian Ironwood tree; is of medium growth, and furnishes wood that is extremely hard and dense, and used for making sheaves for ships' blocks, and for other articles that require to be of great strength. The plant belongs to the Olive family.

OCHROMA LAGOPUS.—A tree that grows about forty feet high, along the sea-shores in the West Indies and Central America, and known as the Cork wood. The wood is soft, spongy, and exceedingly light, and is used as a substitute for cork, both in stopping bottles and as floats for fishing-nets. It is also known as Balsa.

ŒNOCARPUS BATAVA.—A South American palm, which yields a colorless, sweet-tasted oil, used in Para for adulterating olive-oil, being nearly as good for this purpose as peanut-oil, so largely used in Europe. A palatable but slightly aperient beverage is prepared by triturating the fruits in water, and adding sugar and mandiocca flour.

OLEA EUROPÆA.—The European Olive, which is popularly supposed to furnish *all* the olive-oil of commerce. It is a plant of slow growth, and of as slow decay. It is considered probable that trees at present existing in the Vale of Gethsemané are those which existed at the commencement of the Christian era. The oil is derived from the flesh of the fruit, and is pressed out of the bruised pulp; inferior kinds are from second and third pressings. The best salad-oil is from Leghorn, and is sent in flasks surrounded by rushwork. Gallipoli oil is transported in casks, and Lucca oil in jars. The pickling olives are the unripe fruits deprived of a portion of their bitterness by soaking in water in which lime and wood-ashes are sometimes added, and then bottled in salt and water, flavored with aromatics.

ONCIDIUM PAPILIO.—This orchid is known as the Butterfly plant of Trinidad. It derives its common name from the appearance of its flowers, which are borne singly upon the ends of very long, slender stalks, and have a very striking resemblance to a reddish-colored butterfly, with its wings extended.

OPHIOCARYON PARADOXUM.—The Snake-Nut tree of Guiana; so called on account of the curious form of the embryo of the seed, which is spirally twisted, so as to closely resemble a coiled up black snake. The fruits are as large as those of the black walnut, and although they are not known to possess any medical properties, their singular snake-like form has induced the Indians to employ them as an antidote to the poison of venomous snakes. The plant belongs to the order of *Sapindaceæ*.

OPHIORHIZA MUNGOS.—A plant belonging to the Cinchona family, the roots of which are reputed for curing snake-bites. They are intensely bitter, and from this circumstance they are called Earth-Galls by the Malays.

OPHIOXYLON SERPENTINUM.—A native of the East Indies, where the roots are used in medicine as a febrifuge and alexipharmic.

OPUNTIA TUNA.—This plant is a native of Mexico and South America generally. It reaches a height of 15 to 20 feet, and bears reddish-colored flowers, followed by pear-shaped fleshy fruits two or three inches long, and of a rich carmine color when ripe. It is cultivated for rearing the cochineal insect. The fruits are sweet and juicy; sugar has been made from them. The juice is used as a water-color and for coloring confectionery.

OPUNTIA COCHINELLIFERA.—A native of Mexico, where it is largely cultivated in what are called the Nopal Plantations, for the breeding of the cochineal insect. This plant and others are also grown for a similar purpose in the Canary Islands and Madeira. Some of these plantations contain 50,000 plants. Cochineal forms the finest carmine scarlet dye, and at least there are 2,000 tons of it produced yearly, in value worth $2,000 per ton.

OREODAPHNE CALIFORNICA.—The Mountain Laurel, or Spice Bush of California. When bruised it emits a strong spicy odor, and the Spanish Americans use the leaves as a condiment.

OREODOXA OLERACEA.—The West Indian Cabbage palm; sometimes attains the height of 170 feet, with a straight cylindrical trunk. The semi-cylindrical portions of the leaf-stalk are formed into cradles for children, or made into splints for fractures. Their inside skin, peeled off while green, and dried, looks like vellum, and can be written upon. The heart of young leaves, or cabbage, is boiled as a vegetable or pickled, and the pith affords sago. Oil is obtained from the fruit.

ORMOSIA DASYCARPA.—This is the West Indian Bead Tree, or Necklace tree, the seeds of which are roundish, beautifully polished, and of a bright scarlet color, with a black spot at one end resembling beads, for which they are substituted, being made into necklaces, bracelets, or mounted in silver for studs and buttons. It is a leguminose plant.

OSMANTHUS FRAGRANS.—This plant has long been cultivated as Olea Fragrans. The flowers have a fine fragrance, and are used by the Chinese to perfume tea. It appears that they consider the leaves also valuable, for they are frequently found in what is expected to be genuine tea.

OUVIRANDRA FENESTRALIS.—The Lattice-Leaf plant of the rivers of Madagascar. The leaves are wholly destitute of cellular tissue, with which the spaces between the nerves in ordinary leaves are closed up, so that they resemble open lattice-work, or apparently consisting of only a skeleton of nerves, such as are produced artificially by the bleaching process known as skeletonizing leaves. The fleshy farinaceous roots are collected for food, and are called Water-Yams by the natives of Madagascar.

PÆDERIA FŒTIDA.—This weedy-looking plant is a native of the East Indies and China. All parts of the plant give off an offensive odor when bruised. In Assam the plant is called Bedolee Sutta, and has lately been brought into notice as a fiber-yielding plant, its flexible stems yielding a tough, fine fiber, fit for spinning purposes. The Hindoos use the roots as an emetic. The chopped shoots are known in China as Jung-gala, and are used to destroy aphides on cabbages.

PANDANUS UTILIS.—The Screw-Pine of the Mauritius, where it is largely cultivated for its leaves, which are manufactured into bags or sacks for the exportation of sugar. They are also used for making other domestic vessels and for tying purposes.

PAPPEA CAPENSIS.—Is a small tree of the Soap-Berry or sapindaceous

family, a native of the Cape of Good Hope, where the fruit is known as the Wild Plum, from the pulp of which a vinous beverage and excellent vinegar are prepared, and an eatable, though slightly purgative, oil is extracted from the seeds. The oil is also strongly recommended for baldness and scalp affections.

PAPYRUS ANTIQUORUM.—The Paper-Reed of Asia, which yielded the substance used as paper by the ancient Egyptians. The underground root-stocks spread horizontally under the muddy soil, continuing to throw up stems as they creep along. The paper was made from thin slices, cut vertically from the apex to the base of the stem, between its surface and center. The slices were placed side by side, according to the size required, and then, after being wetted and beaten with a wooden instrument until smooth, were pressed and dried in the sun.

PARITIUM ELATUM.—The Mountain Mahoe, a malvaceous plant, that furnishes the beautiful lace-like inner bark called Cuba bast, imported by nurserymen for tying their plants. It was at one time only seen as employed in tying together bundles of genuine Havana cigars. It forms a tree forty feet or more in height, and yields a greenish-blue timber, highly prized by cabinet-makers.

PARKIA AFRICANA.—The African Locust tree produces seeds which the natives of Soudan roast, and then bruise and allow to ferment in water until they become putrid, when they are carefully washed, pounded into powder, and made into cakes, which are said to be excellent, but having a very unpleasant smell. The pulp surrounding the seeds is made into a sweet farinaceous preparation.

PARKINSONIA ACULEATA.—This leguminous plant is called Jerusalem Thorn. Although a native of Southern Texas and Mexico, it is found in many tropical countries, and is frequently used for making hedges. Indians in Mexico employ it as a febrifuge and sudorific and also as a remedy in epilepsy.

PARMENTIERA CEREIFERA.—In the Isthmus of Panama this plant is termed the Candle tree, because its fruits, often four feet long, look like yellow candles suspended from the branches. They have a peculiar, apple-like smell, and cattle that partake of the leaves or fruit have the smell communicated to the beef if killed immediately.

PASSIFLORA QUADRANGULARIS.—The fruit of this plant is the Granadilla of the tropics. The pulp has an agreeable though rather mawkish taste. The root is said to possess narcotic properties, and is used in the Mauritius as an emetic.

PAULLINIA SORBILIS.—The seeds of this climbing sapindaceous plant furnish the famous Guarana of the Amazon, and its principal tributaries. The ripe seeds, when thoroughly dried, are pounded into a fine powder and made into dough with water, which is formed into cylindrical rolls, from five to eight inches long, which become very hard when dry. It is used as a beverage, which is prepared by grating about half a teaspoonful of one of the cakes into about a teacupful of water. It is much used by Brazilian miners, and is considered a preventive of all manner of diseases. It is also used by travelers, who supply themselves with it previous to undertaking lengthy or fatiguing journeys. Its active principle is identical with theine, of which it contains a larger quantity than any other known plant, being more than double that contained in the best black tea.

PAVETTA BORBONICA.—This belongs to the Quinine family. The roots are bitter, and are employed as a purgative; the leaves are also used medicinally.

PEDILANTHUS TITHYMALOIDES.—This euphorbiaceous plant has an

acrid, milky, bitter juice; the root is emetic, and the dried branches are used medicinally.

PEREskia ACULEATA.—The Barbadoes gooseberry; belongs to the family *Cactaceæ;* grows about fifteen feet in height, and produces yellow-colored, eatable, and pleasant-tasted fruit, which is used in the West Indies for making preserves.

PERSEA GRATISSIMA.—The Avocado or Alligator pear: is a common tree in the West Indies. The fruits are pear-shaped, covered with a brownish-green or purple skin. They are highly esteemed where grown, but strangers do not relish them. They contain a large quantity of firm pulp, possessing a buttery or marrow-like taste, and are frequently called vegetable marrow. They are usually eaten with spice, lime-juice, pepper, and salt. An abundance of oil, for burning and for soap-making, may be obtained from the pulp. The seeds yield a deep, indelible black stain, and are used for marking linen.

PHOENIX DACTYLIFERA.—The Date palm; is very extensively grown for its fruit, which affords the principal food for a large portion of the inhabitants of Africa, Asia, and Southern Europe, and likewise of the various domestic animals—dogs, horses, and camels being alike partial to it. The tree attains to a great age, and bears annually for two hundred years. The huts of the poorer classes are constructed of the leaves; the fiber surrounding the bases of their stalks is used for making ropes and coarse cloth; the stalks are used for the manufacture of baskets, brooms, crates, walking-sticks, &c., and the wood for building substantial houses; the heart of young leaves is eaten as a vegetable; the sap affords an intoxicating beverage. It may further be mentioned that the Date was, probably, the palm which supplied the "branches of palm trees" mentioned by St. John (xii, 13) as having been carried by the people who went to meet Christ on his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, and from which Palm Sunday takes its name.

PHORMIUM TENAX.—This plant is called New Zealand Flax, on account of the leaves containing a large quantity of strong, useful fiber, which is used by the natives of that country for making strings, ropes, and articles of clothing. The plant could be grown in this climate, and would, no doubt, be largely cultivated, if some efficient mode of separating the fiber could be discovered.

PHOTINIA JAPONICA.—The Japanese Medlar, or Chinese Lo-quat; bears a small oval fruit of an orange color when ripe, having a pleasant subacid flavor. It stands ordinary winters in this climate, and forms a fine evergreen, medium-sized tree.

PHYSOSTIGMA VENENOSUM.—A strong, climbing leguminous plant, the seeds of which are highly poisonous, and are employed by the natives of Old Calabar as an ordeal. Persons suspected of witchcraft or other crimes are compelled to eat them until they vomit or die—the former being regarded as proof of innocence, and the latter of guilt. Recently the seeds have been found to act powerfully in diseases of the eye.

PHYTELEPHAS MACROCARPA.—The vegetable Ivory plant; is a native of the northern parts of South America. The fruit consists of a collection of six or seven drupes; each drupe contains from six to nine seeds, the vegetable ivory of commerce. The seed at first contains a clear, insipid liquid; afterward it becomes milky and sweet, and changes by degrees until it becomes hard as ivory.

PICRASMA EXCELSA.—This yields the bitter wood known as Jamaica Quassia. The tree is common in Jamaica, where it attains the height of 50 feet. The wood is of a whitish or yellow color, and has an intensely

bitter taste. Although it is used as a medicine in cases of weak digestion, it acts as a narcotic poison on some animals, and the tincture is used as fly poison. Cups made of this wood, when filled with water and allowed to remain for some time, will impart tonic properties to the water.

PINCKNEYA PUBENS.—This cinchonaceous plant is a native of the Southern States, and has a reputation as an antiperiodic. It is stated that incomplete examinations have detected *cinchonine* in the bark. It has been used successfully as a substitute for quinine. A thorough examination of this plant seems desirable, so that its exact medical value may be ascertained.

PIPER BETEL.—This plant belongs to the *Piperaceæ*. Immense quantities of the leaves of this plant are chewed by the Malays. It tinges the saliva a bright red, and acts as a powerful stimulant to the digestive organs and salivary glands; when swallowed it causes giddiness and other unpleasant symptoms in persons unaccustomed to its use.

PIPER NIGRUM.—This twining shrub yields the pepper of commerce. It is cultivated in the East and West Indies, Java, &c., the Malabar being held in the highest esteem. The fruit when ripe is of a red color, but it is gathered before being fully ripe and dried in the sun, when it becomes black and shriveled. White pepper is the same fruit with the skin removed. When analyzed, pepper is found to contain a hot, acrid resin and a volatile oil, as well as a crystalline substance called *piperin*, which has been recommended as a substitute for quinine.

PISCIDIA ERYTHRINA.—The pounded leaves and young branches of this tree are used in the West Indies for poisoning fish.

PISTACIA LENTISCUS.—The Mastic tree; is a native of Southern Europe, Northern Africa, and Western Asia. Mastic is the resin of the tree, and is obtained by making transverse incisions in the bark, from which it exudes in drops and hardens into small semi-transparent tears. It is consumed in large quantities by the Turks for chewing, to strengthen the gums and sweeten the breath. It is also used for varnishing.

PISTACIA TEREBINTHUS.—The Cyprus Turpentine tree. The turpentine flows from incisions made in the trunk, and soon becomes thick and tenacious, and ultimately hardens. Galls gathered from this tree are used for tanning purposes, one of the varieties of morocco leather being tanned with them.

PISTACIA VERA.—The Pistacia tree, which yields the eatable Pistachio nuts, is a native of Western Asia. These nuts are greatly eaten by the Turks and Greeks, as well as in the south of Europe, either simply dried like almonds or made into articles of confectionery.

PITHECOLOBIUM SAMAN.—This leguminous plant yields eatable pods, which are fed to cattle in Brazil. Some Mexican species produce pods that are boiled and eaten, and certain portions contain saponaceous properties. The pods are sometimes called Manila tamarinds.

PITTOSPORUM UNDULATUM.—A plant from New Zealand, which reaches a considerable size, and furnishes a wood similar to box-wood. The flowers are very fragrant.

PLAGIANTHUS BETULINUS.—The inner bark of the young branches of this plant yields a very fine, tough fiber, sometimes called New Zealand cotton, though more like flax than cotton; it is the Akaroa of the New Zealanders. In Tasmania it bears the name of Currajong; good cordage and twine for fishing-nets are made from this fiber.

PLUMBAGO SCANDENS.—The root of this plant is called Herbe du

Diable in San Domingo; it is acrid and caustic in the highest degree, and is a most energetic blistering agent when fresh.

PLUMIERIA ALBA.—A South American plant. The flowers are used in perfumery, and furnish the scent known as Frangipane.

POGOSTEMON PATCHOULY.—This plant affords the celebrated patchouli perfume. The peculiar odor of patchouli is disagreeable to some, but is very popular with many persons. The odoriferous part of the plant is the leaves and young tops, which yield a volatile oil by distillation, from which an essence is prepared; sachets of patchouli are made of coarsely powdered leaves. Genuine Indian shawls and Indian ink were formerly distinguished by their odor of this perfume, but the test does not now hold good. Ill-effects, such as loss of sleep, nervous attacks, &c., have been ascribed to its extensive use.

POMADERRIS APETALA.—A plant of the Buckthorn family, from New South Wales; it yields a hard, close-grained wood, there called Cooper's wood.

PONGAMIA GLABRA.—Some years ago this tree was recommended as suitable for avenue-planting in the south of France. In India an oil called poonga is expressed from the seeds, and much used for mixing with lamp-oil. It is of a deep yellow color, and is fluid at temperatures above sixty degrees Fahrenheit, but below that it becomes solid.

PORTLANDIA GRANDIFLORA.—This plant belongs to the cinchonaceous family, and is said to possess properties similar to those of the true Cinchona. The bark is exceedingly bitter.

PSIDIUM PYRIFERUM.—The West Indian Guava; a well-known fruit in the tropics, but only known here in the shape of guava-jelly. The wood of the tree has a fine, close grain, and has been experimented with as a substitute for box-wood for engraving purposes, but it is too soft to stand the pressure of printing.

PSIDIUM CATTLEYANUM.—This is the purple guava from China. The fruits are filled with juicy, pale flesh, of a very agreeable acid-sweet flavor.

PSYCHOTRIA LEUCANTHA.—A plant belonging to the cinchona family. Emetic properties are assigned to the roots, which are also used in dyeing. Native of Peru.

PTEROCARPUS MARSUPIUM.—This tree affords gum-kino, which is obtained by making incisions in the bark, from which the juice exudes and hardens into a brittle mass, easily broken into small angular, shining fragments of a bright ruby color. It is highly astringent. The wood is hard and valuable for manufacturing purposes.

PUNICA GRANATUM.—The Pomegranate; is a native of Northern Africa and Western Asia. The fruit is valued in warm countries on account of its delicious cooling and refreshing pulp. Numerous varieties are grown, some being sweet and vinous, and others acid, or of a bitter, stringent taste; the color also varies from light to dark red. The bark of the root abounds in a peculiar principle called *punicin*. This bark appears to have been known to the ancients, and used by them as a vermifuge, and is still used in Hindostan as a specific against tapeworm. The rind of the fruit of the bitter varieties contains a large amount of tannin, and is used for tanning morocco leather. The flowers yield a red dye.

QUASSIA AMARA.—The wood of this plant furnishes Surinam quassia. It is destitute of smell, but has an intensely bitter taste, and is used as a tonic. The root has also reputed medicinal value, as also have the flowers.

QUILLAJA SAPONARIA.—The Quillai or Cullay of the Chilians. Its

bark is called soap-bark, and is rough and dark-colored externally, but internally consists of numerous regular whitish or yellowish layers, and contains a large quantity of carbonate of lime and other mineral matters. It is also rich in *saponine*, and is used for washing clothes; two ounces of the bark is sufficient to wash a dress. It also removes all spots or stains, and imparts a fine luster to wool; when powdered and rubbed between the hands in water, it makes a foam like soap. It is to be found in commerce.

RAPHIA TŒDIGERA.—The Jupati palm. The leaf-stalks of this plant are used by the natives of the Amazon for a variety of purposes, such as constructing inside walls, making boxes and baskets, &c. *R. vinifera*, the Bamboo palm, is similarly used by the Africans, who also make very pliable cloth of the undeveloped leaves. Palm-wine is one of the products of the genus.

RAVENALA MADAGASCARIENSIS.—This plant is called the Traveler's tree, probably on account of the water which is stored up in the large cup-like sheaths of the leaf-stalks, and which is sought for by travelers to allay their thirst. The broad leaves are used in Madagascar as thatch to cover their houses. The seeds are edible, and the blue, pulpy aril surrounding them yields an essential oil.

RHAPIS FLABELLIFORMIS.—The Ground Rattan palm. This is supposed to yield the walking-canes known as rattan, which is doubted. It is a native of Southern China, and is also found in Japan, where it is known by the name of Kwanwortsik.

RHIZOPHORA MANGLE.—This plant is known as the Mangrove, possibly because no man can live in the swampy groves that are covered with it in tropical countries. The seeds germinate, or form roots before they quit the parent tree, and drop into the mud as young trees. The old plants send out aerial roots into the water, upon which mollusca adhere, and as the tide recedes they are seen clinging to the shoots, verifying the statements of old travelers that they had seen oysters growing on trees. All parts of this tree contain tannin. The bark yields dyes, and in the West Indies the leaves are used for poulticing wounds. The fruit is edible; a coarse bitter salt is extracted from the roots, and in the Philippines the bark is used as a febrifuge.

ROTTLERA TINCTORIA.—This plant belongs to the order *Euphorbiaceæ*, and reaches the size of a small tree in the Indian Archipelago and Southern Australia. From the surface of the trilobed capsules of this plant, which are about the size of peas, a red, mealy powder is obtained, well known in India as kamala, and which is used by Hindoo silk-dyers, who obtain from it deep, bright, durable orange or flame color, of great beauty. This is obtained by boiling the powder in a solution of the carbonate of soda. When the capsules are ripe, the red powder is brushed off and collected for sale, no other preparation being necessary to preserve it. It is also used medicinally as an anthelmintic, and has been very successfully used in cases of tapeworm. A solution removes freckles, and pustules, and eruptions on the skin.

ROYENA MICROPHYLLA.—A native of the Cape of Good Hope, and of the Ebony family. The wood of this plant is of a like nature with ebony, but the tree does not grow to a great size.

RUELLIA INDIGOTICA.—This small bush is extensively cultivated in China for the preparation of a blue coloring-matter of the nature of indigo. The pigment is prepared from the entire plant by a process similar to that employed in procuring the common indigo. It is sold in China in a pasty state. The water in which the plant is steeped is

mixed with lime and rapidly agitated, when the coloring deposits at the bottom of the vessel.

SABAL ADANSONI.—This Dwarf palm is a native of the Southern States. The leaves are made into fans, and the soft interior of the stem is edible.

SABAL UMBRACULIFERA.—This is a West Indian palm: the leaves are used for various purposes, such as making mats, hats, &c.

SACCHARUM OFFICINARUM.—The sugar-cane. Where the sugar-cane was first cultivated is unknown, but it is supposed to have been in the East Indies, for the Venetians imported it from thence by the Red Sea prior to the year 1148. It is supposed to have been introduced into the islands of Sicily, Crete, Rhodes, and Cyprus by the Saracens, as abundance of sugar was made in these islands previous to the discovery of the West Indies in 1492 by the Spaniards, and the East Indies and Brazil by the Portuguese in 1497 and 1560. It was cultivated afterward in Spain, in Valentia, Granada, and Murcia, by the Moors. In the 15th century it was introduced into the Canary Islands by the Spaniards, and to Madeira by the Portuguese, and thence to the West India Islands and to Brazil. The Dutch began to make sugar in the island of St. Thomas in 1610, and in Jamaica in 1644. Its culture has since become general in warm climates, and its use universal.

SAGUERUS SACCHARIFER.—The Arenga palm; is of great value to the Malays. The black horse-hair like fiber surrounding its leaf-stalks is made into cordage: a large amount of toddy or palm-wine is obtained by cutting off the flower-spikes, which, when inspissated, affords sugar, and, when fermented, a capital vinegar: considerable quantities of inferior sago and several other products of minor importance are derived from this palm.

SAGUS RUMPHII.—This palm produces the sago of commerce, which is prepared from the soft inner portion of the trunk. It is obtained by cutting the trunk into small pieces, which are split, and the soft substance scooped out and pounded in water till the starchy substance separates and settles. This is sago-meal; but before being exported it is made into what is termed pearl-sago. This is a Chinese process, principally carried on at Singapore. The meal is washed, strained, and spread out to dry: it is then broken up, pounded, and sifted until it is of a regular size. Small quanties being then placed in bags, these are shaken about until it becomes granulated or pearled.

SALVADORA PERSICA.—Is supposed to be the plant that produced the mustard-seed spoken of in the Scriptures.

SANSEVIERA GUINEENSIS.—Called the African Bowstring Hemp, from the fibers of the leaves being used for bowstrings.

SAPINDUS SAPONARIA.—The Soapberry tree. The fruit of this plant is about the size of a large gooseberry, the outer covering or shell of which contains a saponaceous principle in sufficient abundance to produce a lather with water, and is used as a substitute for soap. The seeds are hard, black, and round, and are used for making rosaries and necklaces, and at one time were covered for buttons. Oil is also extracted from the seeds, and is known as soap-oil.

SAPOTA ACHRAS.—The fruit of this plant is known in the West Indies as the Sapodilla plum. It is highly esteemed by the inhabitants: the bark of the tree is astringent and febrifugal; the seeds are aperient and diuretic.

SAPOTA MULLERI.—The Bully or Balata tree, of British Guiana: furnishes a gum somewhat intermediate between India rubber and gutta-percha, being nearly as elastic as the first, without the brittleness and

friability of the latter, and requires a high temperature to melt or soften it.

SCHINUS MOLLE.—The root of this plant is used medicinally, and the resin that exudes from the tree is employed to astringe the gums. The leaves are so filled with resinous fluid that, when they are immersed in water, it is expelled with such violence as to have the appearance of spontaneous motion in consequence of the recoil.

SEAFORTHIA ELEGANS.—This palm is a native of the northern part of Australia, where it is utilized by the natives. The seeds have a granular fibrous rind, and are spotted and marked like a nutmeg.

SELAGINELLA LEPIDOPHYLLA.—This species of Club-moss is found in Southern California, and has remarkable hygrometric qualities. Its natural growth is in circular roseate form, and fully expanded when the air is moist, but rolling up like a ball when it becomes dry. It remains green and acts in this peculiar manner for a long time after being gathered. Of late years numbers have been distributed throughout the country under the names of "Rose of Jericho," and "Resurrection Plant." This is, however, quite distinct from the true Rose of Jericho, *Anastatica Hierochuntina*, a native of the Mediterranean region, from Syria to Algeria. This plant, when growing and in flower, has the branches spread rigidly, but when the seed ripens the leaves wither, and the whole plant becomes dry; each little branch curls inward, until the plant appears like a small ball; it soon becomes loosened from the soil, and is carried by the winds over the dry plains, and is often blown into the sea, where it at once expands. It retains this property of expanding when moistened for at least ten years.

SEMECARPUS ANACARDIUM.—The Marking Nut tree of India. The thick, fleshy receptacle bearing the fruit is of a yellow color when ripe, and is roasted and eaten. The unripe fruit is employed in making a kind of ink. The hard shell of the fruit is permeated by a corrosive juice, which is used on external bruises and sprains, and for destroying warts. This juice, when mixed with quick-lime, is used to mark cotton or linen with an indelible mark. When dry it forms a dark varnish, and among other purposes it is employed, mixed with pitch and tar, in the calking of ships. The seeds, called Malacca beans, or Marsh nuts, are eaten, and are said to stimulate the mental powers, and especially the memory, and, finally, they furnish an oil used in painting.

SERISSA FŒTIDA.—A cinchonaceous shrub, having strong astringent properties. The roots are employed in cases of diarrhœa; also in ophthalmia and certain forms of ulcers. It is a native of Japan and China.

SHOREA ROBUSTA.—This tree produces the Saul wood of India, which has a very high reputation, and is extensively employed for all engineering purposes where great strength and toughness are requisite. It is stronger and much heavier than teak. An oil is obtained from the seeds, and a resin, similar to Dammar resin, is likewise obtained from the tree.

SIDA PULCHELLA.—A plant of the Mallow family; the bark contains fibrous tissue available for the manufacture of cordage. The root of *S. acuta* is esteemed by the Hindoos as a medicine, and particularly as a remedy for snake-bites. The light wood of these species is used to make rocket-sticks.

SIMABA CEDRON.—A native of New Grenada, where it attains the size of a small tree, and bears a large fruit containing one seed; this seed, which looks like a blanched almond, is known in commerce as the cedron. As a remedy for snake-bites it has been known from time immemorial in New Grenada. It is mentioned in books of the 17th century.

Recently it has obtained a reputation as a febrifuge, but its value as an antidote to the bites of snakes and scorpions is universally believed, and the inhabitants carry a seed with them in all their journeyings; if they happen to be bitten by any venomous reptile, they scrape about two grains of the seed in brandy or water, and apply it to the wound, and at the same time taking a like dose internally. This neutralizes the most dangerous poisons.

SIMARUBA OFFICINALIS.—This tree yields the drug known as simaruba bark, which is, strictly speaking, the rind of the root. It is a bitter tonic. It is known in the West Indies as the Mountain Damson.

SIMMONDSIA CALIFORNICA.—This plant belongs to the *Euphorbiaceous* family, and produces a nut resembling an acorn in size and shape. They have a flavor like filberts, but have a nauseous after-taste, and cause purging.

SIPHONIA ELASTICA.—The South American India rubber plant, from which a great portion of the caoutchouc of commerce is obtained. There are several species of Siphonia which, equally with the above, furnish the India-rubber exported from Para. The caoutchouc exists in the tree in the form of a thin white milk, which exudes from incisions made in the trunk, and is poured over molds, which were formerly shaped like jars, bottles, or shoes, hence often called bottle-rubber. As it dries, the coatings of milky juice are repeated, until the required thickness is obtained, and the clay mold is removed. It belongs to the extensive family *Euphorbiaceæ*.

SMILAX MEDICA.—This plant yields *Mexican* Sarsaparilla, to distinguish it from the many other kinds of this drug. The plant is a climber, similar to the Smilax of our woods.

SOYMIDA FEBRIFUGA.—On the Coromandel coast this plant is known as the Redwood tree, and in Hindostan as the Rohuna. The bitter, astringent bark is found to be a useful tonic. It has been employed successfully in bad cases of gangrene, and in typhus fever; if given in over-doses, it occasions vertigo and stupor.

SPONDIAS MOMBIN.—This yields an eatable fruit called Hog plum in the West Indies. The taste is said to be peculiar, and not very agreeable to strangers. They are chiefly used to fatten swine. The fruit is laxative, the leaves astringent, and the seeds possess poisonous qualities. The flower-buds are used as a sweetmeat with sugar.

STRELITZIA REGINA.—A plant of the Musa or Banana family. The flowers are very beautiful for the genus. It is a native of the Cape of Good Hope. The seeds are gathered and eaten by the Kaffirs.

STRYCHNOS NUX VOMICA.—This is a native of the Coromandel coast and Cochin-China. It bears an orange-like fruit, containing seeds that have an intensely bitter taste, owing to the presence of two most energetic poisons, *strychnin* and *brucin*. The pulp surrounding the seeds is said to be harmless, and greedily eaten by birds. The wood of the plant is hard and bitter, and possesses similar properties to the seeds, but in a less degree. It is used in India in intermittent fever, and in cases of snake-bites. *S. Tiente* is a Java shrub, the juice of which is used in poisoning arrows. *S. toxifera* yields a frightful poison called Ourari or Wourali, employed by the natives of Guiana. This is considered to be the most potent sedative in nature. Several species of *Strychnos* are considered infallible remedies for snake-bites; hence are known as Snakewood. *S. Pseudo-Quina*, a native of Brazil, yields Colpache bark, which is much used in that country in cases of fever, and is considered equal to quinine in value. It does not contain strychnin, and its fruits are edible. *S. potatorum* furnishes seeds known in India

as Clearing-nuts, on account of their use in clearing muddy water. St. Ignatius beans are supposed to be yielded by a species of Strychnos, from the quantity of strychnin contained in the seeds.

SWIETENIA MAHAGONI.—This South American plant furnishes the timber known in commerce as mahogany. The bark is considered a febrifuge, and the seeds prepared with oil were used by the ancient Aztecs as a cosmetic. The timber is well known, and much used in the manufacture of furniture.

TACCA PINNATIFIDA.—This is sometimes called South Sea Arrow-Root. The tubers contain a great amount of starch, which is obtained by rasping them, and macerating four or five days in water, when the fecula separates in the same manner as sago. It is largely used as an article of diet throughout the tropics, and is a favorite ingredient for puddings and cakes.

TAMARINDUS INDICA.—The Tamarind tree. There are two varieties of this species. The East Indian variety has long pods, with six to twelve seeds. The variety cultivated in the West Indies has shorter pods, containing one to four seeds. Tamarinds owe their grateful acidity to the presence of citric, tartaric, and other vegetable acids. The pulp mixed with salt is used for a liniment by the Creoles of the Mauritius. Every part of the plant has had medicinal virtues ascribed to it. Fish pickled with tamarinds are considered a great delicacy. It is said that the acid moisture exhaled by the leaves injures the cloth of tents that remain under them for any length of time. It is also considered unsafe to sleep under the trees.

TANGHINIA VENENIFERA.—This plant is a native of Madagascar, and of the family *Apocynaceæ*. Formerly, when the custom of trial by ordeal was more prevalent than now, the seeds of this plant were in great repute, and unlimited confidence was placed in the poisonous seeds as a detector of guilt. The seeds were pounded, and a small piece swallowed by each person to be tried; those in whom it caused vomiting were allowed to escape, but when it was retained in the stomach, it would quickly prove fatal, and their guilt was thus held to be proven.

TASMANNIA AROMATICA.—The bark of this plant possesses aromatic qualities, closely resembling Winter's bark. The small black fruits are used as a substitute for pepper.

TECTONA GRANDIS.—The Teak tree. Teak-wood has been extensively employed for ship-building, both in the construction of merchant vessels and ships of war; its great strength and durability, the facility with which it can be worked, and its freedom from injury by fungi, rendering it peculiarly suitable for these purposes. It is a native of the East India Islands, and belongs to the order *Verbenaceæ*.

TERMINALIA CATAPPA.—The astringent fruits of this tropical plant are employed for tanning and dyeing, and are sometimes met with in commerce under the name of Myrobalans, and used by calico-printers for the production of a permanent black. The seeds are like almonds in shape and whiteness, but, although palatable, have a peculiar flavor.

TESTUDINARIA ELEPHANTIPES.—This is called the Elephant's Foot, in reference to its large root-stock. At the Cape of Good Hope, where it is a native, it is known as Hottentot's Bread, the fleshy inside having at one time afforded food to these people; but they now leave it for baboons and other animals. It belongs to the Yam family.

TETRANTHERA LAURIFOLIA.—This plant is widely dispersed over Tropical Asia and the islands of the Eastern Archipelago. Its leaves and young branches abound in a viscid juice, and in Cochin-China the natives bruise and macerate them until this becomes glutinous, when it

is used for mixing with plaster, to thicken and render it more adhesive and durable. Its fruits yield a solid fat, used for making candles, although it has a most disagreeable odor.

THEA VIRIDIS.—This is the China Tea plant, whose native country is undetermined. All kinds and grades of the teas of commerce are made from this species, although probably it has some varieties. Black and green teas are the result of different modes of preparation; very much of the green, however, is artificially colored to suit the foreign trade. The finest teas do not reach this country; they will not bear a sea voyage, and are used only by the wealthy classes in China and Russia. The active principles of the leaves are theine and a volatile oil, to which latter the flavor and odor are due.

THEOBROMA CACAO.—This plant produces the well-known cacao or chocolate, and is very extensively cultivated in South America and the West India Islands. The fruit, which is about 8 to 10 inches in length, by 3 to 5 in breadth, contains between fifty to a hundred seeds, and from these the cacao is prepared. As an article of food, it contains a large amount of nutritive matter, about 50 per cent. being fat. It contains a peculiar principle, which is called *theobromine*.

THEOPHRASTA JUSSIEI.—A native of St. Domingo, where it is sometimes called Le petit Coco. The fruit is succulent, and bread is made from the seeds.

THESPESIA POPULNEA.—A tropical tree, belonging to the Mallow family. The inner bark of the young branches yields a tough fiber, fit for cordage, and used in Demerara for making coffee-bags, and the finer pieces of it for cigar-envelopes. The wood is considered almost indestructible under water, and its hardness and durability render it valuable for various purposes. The flower-buds and unripe fruits yield a viscid yellow juice, useful as a dye, and a thick, deep, red-colored oil is expressed from the seeds.

THRINAX ARGENTEA.—This beautiful palm is called the Silver Thatch palm of Jamaica, and is said to yield the leaves so extensively used in the manufacture of hats, baskets, and other articles. It is also a native of Panama, where it is called the Broom palm, its leaves being there made into brooms.

TILLANDSIA ZEBRINA.—A South American plant, of the Pine-Apple family; the bottle-like cavity formed at the base of the leaves will sometimes contain a pint or more of water, and has frequently furnished a grateful drink to thirsty travelers.

TINOSPORA CORDIFOLIA.—A climbing plant, so tenacious of life that when the stem is cut across or broken, a rootlet is speedily sent down from above, which continues to grow until it reaches the ground. A bitter principle, *calumbine*, pervades the plant. An extract called galuncha is prepared from it, considered to be a specific for the bites of poisonous insects and for ulcers. The young shoots are used as emetics.

TORENIA ASIATICA.—A beautiful flowering plant of the family *Scrophulariaceæ*. The leaves of this plant are used in decoction, on the Malabar coast, for medicinal purposes, and considered of much value in certain diseases.

TRIPHASIA TRIFOLIATA.—A Chinese shrub, with fruit about the size of hazel-nuts, red-skinned, and of an agreeable sweet taste; when green, they have a strong flavor of turpentine, and the pulp is very sticky. They are also preserved whole in sirup, and are sometimes called Limeberries.

TRISTANIA NERIFOLIA.—A myrtaceous plant from Australia, called the Turpentine tree, owing to its furnishing a fluid resembling that product.

URCEOLA ELASTICA.—A plant belonging to the *Apocynaceæ*, a native of the islands Borneo and Sumatra, where its milky juice, collected by making incisions in its soft, thick, rugged bark, or by cutting the trunk into junks, forms one of the kinds of caoutchouc called juitawan, but it is inferior to the South American, chiefly owing to want of care in its preparation, the milky juice being simply coagulated by mixing with salt water, instead of being gradually inspissated in layers on a mold. The fruit contains a pulp which is much eaten by the natives.

URENA LOBATA.—A Malvaceous plant, possessing mucilaginous properties, for which it is used medicinally. The bark affords an abundance of fiber, resembling jute rather than flax or hemp.

VANGUERIA EDULIS.—A cinchonaceous plant, the fruits of which are eaten in Madagascar under the name of Voa-vanga. The leaves are used in medicine.

VANILLA PLANIFOLIA.—The Vanilla plant belongs to the Orchid family. The fruit is used by confectioners and others for flavoring creams, liqueurs, and chocolates. There are several species, but this gives the finest fruit.

VATERIA INDICA.—This plant yields a useful gum-resin, called Indian copal, piney varnish, white dammar, or gumanine. The resin is procured by cutting a notch in the tree, so that the juice may flow out and become hardened. It is used as a varnish for pictures, carriages, &c. On the Malabar coast it is manufactured into candles, which burn with a clear light and an agreeable fragrance. The Portuguese employ this resin instead of incense. Ornaments are fashioned from it under the name of amber. It is also employed in medicine.

WRIGHTIA TINCTORIA.—The leaves of this plant furnish an inferior kind of indigo. The wood is beautifully white, close-grained, and ivory-like, and is much used for making Indian toys.

XANTHORRHŒA ARBOREA.—The Grass Gum tree of Australia, also called Black Boy. This is a liliaceous plant, which produces a long flower-stalk, bearing at the top an immense cylindrical flower-spike, and when the short black stem is denuded of leaves, the plants look very like black men holding spears. The leaves afford good fodder for cattle, and the tender white center is used as a vegetable. A fragrant resin, called acaroid resin, is obtained from it.

YUCCA ALOEFOLIA.—The Yucca leaves afford a good fiber, and some southern species are known as *Bear's Grass*. The root-stems also furnish a starchy matter, which has been rendered useful in the manufacture of starch.

ZAMIA FURFURACEA.—This plant belongs to the order *Cycadeaceæ*, and is grown to some extent for the starchy matter contained in the stem, which is collected and used as arrow-root; but it is not the true arrow-root, that being produced by a species of *Maranta*.

ZAMIA INTEGRIFOLIA.—The Coontie plant of Florida. The large succulent roots afford a quantity of arrow-root, said to be equal to the best of that from Bermuda. The fruit has a coating of an orange-colored pulp, which is said to form a rich edible food. It was from the roots of this plant that the Seminoles of Florida obtained their *white-meal*.

ZINGIBER OFFICINALE.—This plant is cultivated in most warm countries for the sake of its rhizomes, which furnish the spice called ginger.

It is prepared by digging up the roots when a year old, scraping them, and drying them in the sun. Ginger, when broken across, shows a number of little fibers embedded in floury tissue. Its hot, pungent taste is due to a volatile oil. It also contains starch and yellow coloring-matter. Ginger is used for various medicinal purposes, and in many ways as a condiment, and in the preparation of cordials and so-called teas.


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