Col. Hampton, who has recently imported from Italy some of the seed of the Lupinella, has politely presented the society with a peck of it. This grass has been extolled in high terms as a grass for fertilizing lands, and certainly deserves a trial in our country. These seeds are ready for distribution according to order.

The curators have procured about half a bushel of lentils for the society, which are ready for distribution. The lentils is a species of vetch, which has not hitherto been much cultivated in this country.

The Hon. William Johnson has presented the society with a small quantity of Oneida wheat, said to be indigenous about some of our western lakes. What are its peculiar merits the curators are not informed, but as it is a new wheat it will be gratifying to try it, and perhaps it may be found to possess some important advantages. It is ready for distribution.

As the curators conceive that the time is not far distant, when timber and live fences must become objects of primary consideration with planters and farmers in many parts of this state, they have directed their attention, in a small degree, towards laying a foundation for ascertaining some species of timber which might be worth cultivating, and the most eligible shrubs for live fencing. From a small experiment which has been actually made, they have ascertained that the common locust (Robinia Pseudo Acacia) will thrive exceedingly well on our poorest sand hills, although it is never found in this state, except on river lands or the richest soils. When we consider the great value of this tree, the beauty of its foliage, the quickness of its growth, and the great durability of its timber, approaching nearer to indestructibility than perhaps any other known wood; we cannot, consistently with our sense of duty, forbear recommending the cultivation of it on our dry sandy lands, particularly in the vicinity of our towns where wood for fuel posts for fences, and timber for mechanical purposes, are already an object of very considerable interest and must constantly become more and more so.

As an introduction to the enquiry for the most eligible shrubs for live fencing the curators have caused to be collected some of the the native haws of this country, with which gentlemen may engage in some small experiments, which may tend to shed light on this subject, and enable them to ascertain their suitableness or unsuitableness for this purpose.—These haws are ready for distribution according to order.

But the shrub which has excited the most lively interest in the minds of the board, is the mespilus pyracantha, which is also a species of thorn. From the discription given of this shrub by Mr. Mane, of Columbia district, in the Memoirs of the Philadelphia Society for promoting Agriculture, &c. as well as from a verbal account given us by Virgil Maxcy, Esq. an enlightened gentleman of Maryland, deeply devoted to agricultural improvements, who has actually tried it in fencing on his own plantation; we cannot but recommend the culture of it in this state in the strongest terms. Mr. Maxcy has politely favored two of the members of this board, Mr. Herbemont and Doctor Davis, with a considerable quantity of the berries of this thorn, which they offer to divide with the society, for the purpose of more varied experiments in the hands of several, than could be be made in their own hands alone. We have learned that these seed have been shipped to Charleston some time ago, where, it is probable, they have arrived; but from the lowness of the river and the difficulty of obtaining freightage, they have not yet come to hand, but we hope they may arrive in time for subjecting them to the proper process of vegetation. The description of this thorn by Mr. Mane, and his prospects of success with it are so flattering, that we must beg the indulgence of the society, while we read to them his communication on the subject.‡

We will close our remarks on the pyracantha, by observing that Mr. Herbemont has a few plants of it growing in his garden in columbia, which, as far as can be inferred from the present period of their growth, promise to succeed very well.

A very small attempt has also been made by the same gentleman, at the cultivation of the Guinea-grass (Panicum Altissimum.) A very small quantity of the seeds were procured at a late period of the spring, and only two seeds came up. The season was peculiarly dry and unfavorable, so that the experiment was not as satisfactory as it otherwise might have been. One of the plants was divided into twenty-eight parts and transplanted. They took, and grew well, and were cut five times with only an interval of two weeks between each cutting. Some of the grass thus cut was made into hay, and proved to be a most excellent fodder. The other plant, which had not been divided, grew to seven and eight feet high, and was cut only once at the close of the season, and the grass of that cutting, weighed, green, thirty-six pounds. It cured into an excellent sweet scented soft hay. These plants were cultivated on the high sandy land of Columbia, in the driest season ever known. It is true, the ground was highly manured, and the plants were occasionally watered, but doubtless, the rich alluvial lands, near water courses, would be found more congenial to this grass, and produce it in much more luxuriance.—The curators are so deeply impressed with a prospect of success in the cultivation of this grass, in this country, that they cannot dismiss the subject without adding a few more observations, with a view of attracting attention towards it, as, in their estimation, it is peculiarly adapted to our soil and climate. It is a trite, and we apprehend, a correct opinion, that the greatest obstacle to the growth of the grasses in our climate, is the long and intense heats of our southern sun. The guinea-grass is a native of a hot climate, and heat is so congenial to its nature, that according to the history of this plant, as far as we have become acquainted with it, the most luxuriant and abundant growth of it has always been found in the warmest climates. The most reasonable apprehension of failure then, in our climate is from the opposite cause; there might be some reason to fear that our summers are not sufficiently long to bring it to perfection.—From the history of this grass, however, and from the experiments which we know, have been made in Carolina, we are sanguine in drawing the inference, that this apprehension is not well founded. It may be true, that the roots may not be able to sustain the severity of our winters, and therefore, may not be perennial. It may likewise be true, that our summers are too short to enable it to mature its seeds for future propagation. Nevertheless, it is already proved that it is capable of attaining a most luxuriant growth, sufficiently so for affording the most abundant harvests of hay, and from this consideration, it will still be an object of great importance to introduce it into our country. The seeds may, probably, be imported from the West Indies on easy terms. And if it should realize the expectations raised by the specimens we have seen, it will yield so abundant and rich a crop of provender as to amply justify the expense and labour of an annual seeding.

Whilst we are on this subject, we would beg leave to introduce a few extracts of the history of this grass. We are aware that these remarks, concerning it, are well known to many members of this society, but there may be others who have not yet had an opportunity of perusing them, to whom they may perhaps be acceptable.

In Bryan Edwards's history of Jamaica, he says that a Guinea-grass may be considered as next to the sugar cane in point of importance, as most of the grazing farms, throughout the island, were originally created, and are still supported chiefly by means of this herbage.—Hence, the plenty of horned cattle, both for the butcher and planter, is such, that few markets in Europe can furnish beef at a cheaper rate or of a better quality than Jamaica. Perhaps the settlements of most of the north side parishes are wholly owing to the introduction of this excellent grass, which happened about fifty years ago, the seeds having been brought from the coast of Guinea as food for some birds which were presented to Mr. Ellis, chief justice of the island. Fortunately the birds did not live to consume the whole stock, and the remainder being carelessly thrown into a fence, grew and flourished, and it was not long before the eagerness, displayed by the cattle, to reach the grass attracted Mr. Ellis' notice, and induced him to collect and propogate the seeds, which now thrive in some of the most rocky parts of the island, bestowing verdure and fertility on lands which otherwise would not be worth cultivation." This is the first account we can find of this grass, and if we had no other inducements to a trial of it than its success in the island of Jamaica, where it appears, according to a further account of it in the Memoirs of the Philadelphia society, that this grass is now cultivated on a most extensive scale, and that many fields, containing from seven hundred to eight hundred acres, are under this cultivation,—we presume, we should, from this alone, be encouraged to prosecute the cultivation of it. Indeed it would appear surprising that this grass should have been so long and so successfully cultivated so contigious to Carolina as the island of Jamaica, and that we should remain so ignorant of its adaption to our soil and climates, were it not that agricultural improvements are always introduced with difficulty, and with still more difficulty propagated by the individual efforts of any people. We find that Mr. H. Laurens did actually introduce the Guinea-grass into Carolina several years ago, and probably, because no such association as this society then existed, as a medium of dissemination, and as an incentive to emulation in prosecuting to satisfactory results any hint for improvement, the cultivation of this grass has made no greater advances in this country. It is satisfactory, however to find that Mr. Laurens has given to the public an account of his experiment with it for one year. In the Domestic Encyclopædia, we find, under the article *Guinea-grass*, the following account of this experiment:—"In the last spring, says Mr. Laurens, I procured from Jamaica three half pints of Guinea-grass seed, which I planted in drills of one fourth of an acre of very indifferent land. The seeds sprung and soon covered the ground with grass four feet high and upwards. Being desirious of sowing as much seed as possible, I cut only one bundle of grass for horses, they ate it all with great avidity. In August I took one of the grass roots and divided it into twenty-eight parts, which were immediately replanted; every part took root and the whole are growing now very finely, and seeding. I am of opinion, this grass will make the best pasture we can wish for. From former experience, I have reason to believe the Guinea-grass is perenial. It is easily managed, requires but one hoeing, after which, it will take care of itself." This is the only account of the culture of the Guinea-grass in Carolina which we can find, and this, you perceive, is of a flattering character, and well calculated to encourage to further attempts. The next most interesting experience of which we have an account, is by Doctor S. Brown, of Natchez. Doctor Brown says that this manager, "Mr. Ogelsby, at Percyfield, near Fort Adams, planted about the eighth of an acre of very fertile land, with plants obtained of Mr. Munson, in the first and second week in May. They grew without any trouble except that of cutting down the first growth of weeds. On the 20th of June, he began to cut it for the use of the plough horses and mules, and continued to supply them with as much as they could eat of it during the whole summer. On the 25th September he wrote me he had cut it four times. —From twenty roots he obtained at the fourth cutting two hundred and fifty pounds of green grass, and in two weeks he would cut it again, the fifth time." Doctor Brown again says, "I did not begin to cut that which I had planted in Natchez until the 16th of July. I then weighed the produce of one seed in the presence of a number of gentlemen at Mr. Robertson's hotel. One hundred and sixty-four stalks, from six to seven feet high, growing from one root, weighed together thirty pounds. At Mr. Winn's tavern on the 10th September, a second cutting from one seed weighed thirty-five pounds. The number of stalks was one hundred and eighty-four, some of which, measured ten feet eleven inches in length. Some parts of the lot in Natchez is very poor soil, and the grass on those places did not grow higher than six or seven feet. But on a good soil in a favorable season in this climate, I am persuaded it is a very moderate estimate to allow to every square yard ten pounds at a cutting, when we cut only three times in a season. This would give thirty pounds to every square yard, or one hundred and forty-seven thousand pounds green grass to the acre." —We may here remark that from a comparison between the product of one seed in Natchez, by Doctor Brown, and the product of one seed in Columbia, by Mr. Herbemont, we have good encouragement to further and extensive trials. Doctor Brown, it is true, produced a much larger quantity than Mr. Herbemont; but it must be recollected that Doctor Brown's grew on the fertile lands of the Mississippi, and Mr. Herbemont's on the poor land of Columbia. And if the plant in Columbia was so luxuriant, what may we not expect from the rich alluvial lands of our water courses. When we recollect that the land of Columbia is very elevated and thirsty, and the soil sandy and poor; and that the last season was the dryest ever known; and yet that the plant cultivated here produced from one seed thirty-six pounds at one cutting; we certainly have solid ground of encouragement for attempting it on our richer soils. And even with regard to our apprehensions, that it may not prove perennial in our climate; and that it may not have length of summer sufficient to mature it seeds, we would remark, that we perceive some reasons for hoping that on further trials our apprehensions may prove to be not well founded; for you may recollect that Mr. Laurens, speaking of the appearance of his transplanted roots, says, "the whole are now growing very finely & *seeding*." And again, he says, "from former experience I have reason to believe that the Guinea-grass is perennial." Besides these reasons for hoping that it may prove perenial, and mature its seeds in our climate, we are encouraged from the following remarks of Doctor Brown. He says, "I find very little difficulty in collecting the seed. I have already obtained a bushel of seed in return for three or four spoonfulls which I sowed on my lot in town. I cut off about two feet of the top with the panicle as soon as the seed begins to fall; and after it is dry comb out the seeds with a coarse comb. I hope to collect at least two bushels of seed during the autumn." And he further remarks, that Mr. Munson, another experimentalist in this culture, informed him that "Mr. Laurens was correct and that the roots which he examined in the last springwere perfectly green, & putting forth a great number of shoots." If, therefore, the seeds come to perfection at Natchez, & the plant is there perennial, we have reason to hope that it may ultimately prove so here.

Doctor Brown, in speaking of the soil best adapted to the culture of this grass, says, that "a rich black mould and a soil somewhat moist, I think produces the most luxuriant grass, but I have had very little experience on this subject." He is so much encouraged from his experiments, that he goes on to say, he hopes "before many years it will be tried in every climate in the United States, and on every variety of soil. No kind of grass with which I am acquainted supports the heat of the sun so well; and this property, was it even less productive, would recommend it to the notice of the agriculturist: for from the first of July until it is killed by the autumnal frosts it will afford a constant and abundant supply of green food; and consequently enable the farmer, whatever may happen to his other meadows, to lay up a plentiful stock of hay for the winter. If the hay is cut before the grass is grown too tall, less than two days' sunshine will dry it completely. It is uncommonly fragrant, and horses prefer it to the best corn blades." He further argues in favor of its culture, that "an acre of corn will not yield more than from five hundred to one thousand pounds of dry blades. Considerable labour is necessary in gathering them; they are preserved with difficulty, as we cannot choose a favourable season; and with us they are always to be carried to the stack on the backs of labourers. As the Guinea-grass, on the contrary, retains its verdure for several months, we can always cut it when the weather is most promising. We can cultivate it on most plantations near the place where we wish to feed it; or it may be carted out of the enclosure where it grows. If subsequent experience should confirm the principal facts which I have stated with regard to this grass, the intelligent farmer will soon perceive the advantage of cultivating it, instead of trusting to the scanty supply of blades which he obtains from his corn-fields with such a waste of time and human labour. A Pennsylvania farmer, who knows the advantage of a timothy or clover meadow, considers it a folly to spend time in collecting corn blades. If Guinea-grass succeeds as well with others and in every season as it has done this season with me, and as it has done in the West Indies for more than half a century, the planters of the south will have no reason to envy their northern neighbours their luxuriant clover pastures, or their numerous ricks of timothy hay. Meadows are generally the most fertile of every farm where they exist, and their value is augmented by their contiguity to the farm houses. If Guinea-grass is substituted for clover, timothy and lucerne, at least seven eighths of all the grounds appropriated to these crops will be given to the cultivator for the purpose of raising subsistence for the human species." These experiments and observations of Doctor Brown, together with the sample we ourselves have had of its growth in Columbia, have inspired the curators with sanguine expectations that the Guinea-grass may prove an invaluable acquisition to our state, and accordingly, they have recently made an effort for procuring a bushel of the seed from Jamaica; but whether they may be able to succeed in obtaining it or not, is uncertain. They can perceive no impropriety, however, that the society should make an order for its distribution in the event of its arriving in due time for planting. The curators have seen intimations that attempts were about to be made to cultivate this grass in Kentucky and even in England, but they cannot but flatter themselves that the climate of Carolina holds out much greater encouragement for the successful cultivation of this southern grass than more northern latitudes, and if, in those climates, they can be induced by its rich and luxuriant growth, to endeavor to cultivate it, we, in Carolina, certainly ought to feel much stronger incentives, and more sanguine expectations of success.

Directions for the culture of this grass may be found in Doctor Martin's edition of Millner's Gardener's Dictionary, under the article Holcus Pertusus—to which we refer those who may be desirious of information on this subject.

‡ As this paper is too long for insertion here, yet highly important, we refer our readers to Vol. III. p. 42, Appendix, of the Transactions of the Philadelphia Agricultural Society.

## FOREIGN.

*London Corn Exchange, February 22.*

Although the ports are now shut against foreign wheat, and the supply of English small, yet the prices were not so brisk as on Friday.

The Princess of Wales is making preparations for a trip to the Holy Land.

Mr. Lamb is elected a representative in the British Parliament from Westminster—Major Cartwright and Mr. Hobhouse were also candidates. The poll was a scene of commotion from the address of Hunt, Burdett, & Co.

The charge of the body of the King is vested in the Duke of York, who is to have 10,000 pounds a year allowed to his private purse.

Carlile, who kept a book shop in Fleet-street London, was sent to Newgate on the 11th of February for selling Paine's age of Reason; but was afterwards bailed.

Madrid is said to be tranquil, but Spain is filled with hordes of Banditti.

Pearas guerrillas had beaten the Royalists on three different points, Cedeno had dislodged the Spaniards from Torralva, where they had 400 men.

*London, Feb. 24.*

The funds continue to decline, without any reason being assigned—the Bank is narrowing its discounts. Some failures have taken place. Eleven failures are said to have occurred at Manchester.

The following communication from the Governor at Gibralter, respecting the plague at Algiers and Tunis has been made by the Lords of his Majesty's Privy Council to the Commissioners of Customs.

"*Gibralter, Jan. 18.*

SIR—I have just received an official letter from Minorca, of the 28th ultimo, informing me that a vessel had arrived there from Tunis, after a passage of 8 days bringing accounts that the deaths in that city amounted to above 400 per diem.—The master of the vessel reported, that, just before he sailed, he heard that the deaths had increased to above six hundred per diem.

"A Dutch frigate had just arrived at Mahon, from Algiers, bringing despatches up to the 15th ult. by which it appears, that fresh attacks of the plague had taken place in that city. The contagion was supposed to have been re-introduced by persons who accompanied the Bey of Constantinas, Califia, with the quarterly payments for the Algerine Government.

(Signed) "GEORGE DON.

"P. S. The deaths by the plague, at Tunis, according to the official returns, from the first of November, to the first of Dec. amounted to 12,117.

"GEORGE DON.

"His Excellency Sir H. Wellesley."

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BOMBAY.—On Friday the 6th of Nov. Capt. Adams, and Lieut. D'Arcy, of his Majesty's 17th Dragoons, having been found guilty by the Jury at Bombay, of sending a challenge to Mr. Norris, in his official capacity as magistrate of Kaira, were brought up to receive sentence, when, after a deliberation of some length, the Court sentenced them to 11 months imprisonment in Bombay jail.

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*Wager of Battle.*—The British Parliament have abolished the cruel and absurd law, sanctioning the termination of disputes by individual combat. Whatever might have been its uses in the barbarous ages when it found its way into the British statute books, it was argued that it was now a disgrace to civilization.