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. 338.)—the tree,
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vegetation, the average heat at Naples is about one degree higher than at Rome. Winter begins in December; the first spring flowers are expanded by February; and in May the summer heats are already felt.

340



Millet.

Throughout the country in general, besides Maize, and Millet (*fig. 340.*), here, as in all the warmer parts of the northern hemisphere, Rice (*fig. 341.*) is extensively cultivated, especially in low flat lands, where the fields can be temporarily inundated. This operation, as may be supposed, occasions much pestilential fever; so that, in many districts of Italy, laws are enacted prohibiting rice-grounds within the distance of five miles from the large towns. Arundo Donax (*fig. 342.*) is a gigantic grass, frequently in Italy, which seems to take the place of our Common Reed (*A. Phragmites*). Of the *A. Donax*, fences are made, also walking-canes, fishing-rods, and a variety of articles which require strength combined with lightness. The Caper (*fig. 343.*) of commerce, too, is an object of considerable value. It is the *Capparis spinosa* of Linnaeus, the *Cappai* or *Kappai* of the Arabians. It grows upon old walls,

and in dry rocky situations. The buds of the flowers are gathered before expansion, put into vinegar, and, as is well known, are extensively employed in seasoning for various dishes.

341



Rice.

342



Arundo Donax.

343



Caper.

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There is a wide difference between the temperature of the more northerly and the southern provinces of Italy; owing as much to the increased height of the Apennines and their broader bases, as to the actual elevation of latitude. Beyond Sannium, the Orange and Lemon can no longer endure the climate. The plains of Abruzzo sometimes experience cold winters; and though the Oaks are seen on the sides of the mountains, they no longer reach their tops, and the Coniferous trees are as scarce here as they are abundant in Calabria. The *Pinus Pumilio*, which of all the genus is the one that grows at the greatest height, stops at 4800 feet; beyond it are only seen such shrubs, plants, and herbs as are peculiar to regions where the snow regularly falls during the whole winter.

The Olive tree, and its common accompaniments, reach to Rimini on the eastern coast, where the salt-marshes, perhaps, arrest its further progress equally with the colder temperature; on the western side it attains to the bases of the Pyrenees; and near Padua, in latitude 45°, and in sheltered spots about the lakes of Garda and Como, it also grows. At Verona, this tree is no longer seen: but the Pistachio, Pomegranate, *Zizyphus vulgaris*, *Diospyros Lotos*, *Celtis australis*, and *Ostrya vulgaris*, are in abundance.