

Spikes (or panicles) rather shorter than the spathes, slender, slightly ferruginous, many flowered. Lower divisions 2-3 flowered, upper 1-flowered. *Flowers* of middling size, oblique, all pressed to one side if viewed antically, if postically distichous, suffulged by a short stout subulate bracteole. *Male*; *Calyx* striate, angular, cup-shaped, divided to the middle into three short oblong teeth, each ending in a stout mucro. *Corolla* three times longer than the calyx, 3-partite to the base; petals narrow-lanceolate, rather obtuse. *Stamina* six, almost entirely distinct from the corolla, the longest $\frac{1}{3}$ shorter than the corolla. *Filaments* long, towards the base triangular and red, above filiform, white. *Anthers* twice the length of the filaments, linear, attached a little below the middle. A rudiment of the *Pistillum*.

Female Spikes stouter, more ferruginous. *Flowers* fewer, larger, distichous, lower on short stalks, the upper sessile.

Calyx nearly round, with three teeth triangular in outline, mucronate as in the male, coriaceous, scarcely striate, margins of teeth villous. *Corolla* ventricose at the base, tripartite below the middle; segments oblong-lanceolate, acute. *Stamina* 6, united to corolla as far as the base of its segments; *filaments* subulate, flattened; *anthers* effete, much smaller than in the male flowers. *Ovary* roundish-ovate, covered with exceedingly numerous reflexed scales ciliate fimbriate, with long multifid points. *Ovula* three, erect, anatropous, so close as to leave some doubt whether septa exist. *Style* short, stout, divided nearly to the base, branches rather longer than the corolla, subulate, inner faces stigmatose and canaliculate.

Fruits crowded in the axillæ of the spathes, which are now more spread out and more indurated, generally 3-5 together, globular, about the size of a carbine bullet, surrounded at the base by the perianth; terminated by the remains of the very short style; very hispid, or ramentaceous (each scale terminating in a fimbriate ramentum;) incompletely 3-celled. *Seeds* (immature) 1-3, when three, convex-trigonal. *Albumen* solid.

This species is of inferior value to most others, and is chiefly used for making baskets.

47. (2) *P. Assamica*, (n. sp.) pinnis ——— spathis ——— calyce (fl. fæm.) ad medium tripartito laciniis cuneato-rotun-

datis, petalis e basi lineari acuminatissimis, fructibus globosis, squamarum apicibus longis persistentibus fimbriatissimis.

HAB.—Upper Assam.

DESCR.*—The specimens of the *spadix* are larger, the branches very ferruginous, 2-3½ feet long. *Spathes* 2½-3 inches long, shape not ascertained from their being much lacerated and split, and partly deficient.

Fruit (when dry,) of a rich ferruginous brown colour, 11-12 lines in diameter, surrounded at the base by a calyx of three ovate-oblong sepals and as many petals, which are very long and acuminate from a linear base, terminated by a style tripartite almost to the base with subulate connivent branches; one-celled, very villous from the highly ciliate, fimbriate, split, recurved points of the scales. *Seed* similar to that of the succeeding, but a little larger. *Albumen* cartilaginous, solid, its tissue radiating from the centre. *Embryo* basilar.

I have under the succeeding species noted the differences by which this appears to be distinguishable. The fruit is a good deal like that of *P. elongata*, judging from Martius' figure,† but the scales are so fimbriate, that it has quite a woolly appearance.

48. (3) *P. Khasiyana*, (n. sp.) pinnis ——— spathis ovatis apicem versus obcuneatis, sepalis (fl. fæm.) sub-distinctis planis glabris, petalis e basi lanceolata acuminatis, fructibus rostrato-cuspidatis, squamarum fimbriatarum apicibus deciduis.

HAB.—Khasiya Hills.

* Specimens of a *spadix* in fruit marked by Dr. Wallich as “*Zalacca*, specimens received from Major Jenkins, March 1840, from Upper Assam.”

† *Palmæ*. loc. cit.