

*apice irregulariter dentatis vel lobatis, subtus albidis. Spadix axillaris, paniculatim ramosus. Flores albi, minuti. Fructus globosus, albidus.*

Folia et flores fœminei quodammodo Arengæ, spathæ Cocos, fructus Coryphæ.

Locus naturalis mihi ignotus: ad calcem Arcinarum interim posui. Affinis Euterpe montanæ, Graham, Bot. Mag. t. 3874, quæ cum caractere generico citato saltem quoad spathas minime convenit.

94. (1.) M. sylvicola.

HABT.—In forests, Ching, Malacca. Malayan name, *Ebool*.

DESCR.—A handsome palm, about 40 feet in height, with somewhat the habit of *Cocos nucifera*. *Crown* sub-hemispherical, dense. *Leaves* pinnate, ample, 12-15 feet long, spreading in every direction; *petiole* with the margins of the hardened leathery half stem clasping base lacerate-fibrous, lower naked part about 5 feet long; *lamina* sub-obovate in outline; *pinnæ* sub-linear, 2½-3 feet long, 2 inches broad, oblique at the points where they are irregularly toothed or lobed, underneath whitish-scurfy: above 1-keeled, underneath with 5 small keels.

*Spathes* 2, outer one very small, incomplete, 2-edged, perforated at the apex, leathery; inner complete, almost woody, before dehiscence fusiform-clavate with a subulate cuspis, striate or sulcate, ferruginously scurfy, roughish, opening longitudinally, the margins becoming reflexed.

*Spadix* paniculately branched, spreading, nodding towards the point, here and there ferruginously scurfy; *branches* sub-secund, the primary ones suffulted by a broad short greenish *bracte*; the secondary (*spikes*) nodding, slender, gradually attenuated to the apex, the lower ones bearing female flowers towards the base, the upper male flowers throughout.

*Flowers* distichous, white. *Male flowers* either one on either side of the female or in pairs alone, oblong, sub-angular. *Calyx* small, tripartite to the middle; divisions tooth-shaped, erect, fleshy, membranous. *Petals* 3, oblong, coriaceous, boat-shaped, valvate. *Stamina* 6, shorter than the petals; *filaments* stout, subulate; *anthers* linear-oblong, adnate, extrorse attached near the base. *Pollen* lanceolate, 1-plicate, whitish. *Rudiment* of the *Pistillum* simple, conical.

*Female flowers* shorter and broader than the male. *Calyx* as in the male. *Petals* broadly ovate, obtuse, spreading, valvate. *Rudimentary stamina* 6; those opposite the petals quite abortive and falling off with the petals. *Ovarium* obtusely trigonal, 3-lobed longitudinally, to each lobe 1-cell, with one appense pendulous *ovulum*. *Style* none; *stigmata* 3, papillose, recurved, channelled down the centre.

*Fruit spadix* with the branches more nodding, and without spathes. *Fruit* surrounded at the base by the perianth, nearly dry, globose, about the size of a small lime, oblique, bi-gibbous at the base (from the 2 abortive cells of the ovarium near which the stigmata will be found,) 1-seeded, with a smooth cartilaginous aspect; *epicarp* rather thick, fleshy cellular; *endocarp* moderate, hardened, rather brittle. *Seed* large, globose; *tegument* cellular coriaceous, brown, adhering to the endocarp. *Albumen* opaque, white, cartilaginous. *Embryo* large, conical, situated about half way between the middle and base of the albumen.\*

\* I have since, through the kindness of Dr. Wight, seen the third vol. of M. Kunth's *Enumeratio Plantarum*, containing *Palmae*, taken from Martius and Endlicher. From it I extract a part relating to the varieties of *Areca Catechu*, and the characters of *A. Nibung*, (which is probably *A. tigillaria*, Jack, quoted by M. Kunth as a doubtful species, from the description not having been sufficiently attended to) and *A. Wallichiana*, a species of which I have no knowledge.

“*Pro-varietatibus cultura ortis habendae sunt sequentes: a) oxycarpa: drupa ovata, acutiuscula; b) elliptica: drupa oblonga, utrinque rotundata; c) sphaerocarpa: drupa subglobosa; d) gonocarpa: drupa angulosa; e) ceratocarpa: drupa vertice sublobata et f) ocarpa: drupa ovali, albida. Aliae varietates minoris momenti non a forma et magnitudine, sed a compage fructus ejusque carnositate, fragilitate et sic porro dependent.*” *Mart.*

“*A. Nibung Mart. Palm. 173, t. 150, et 153, f. 4 et 5. Caudice elato, aculeato: petiolo rhachique fusco-squamulosis aculeatisque; pinnis linearibus, acumina-tis, interdum apice bifido filiferis, subtus ad costam squamulosis; spadice ramo-so, basi aculeato; florum masculorum hexandrorum petalis ovato-cuspidatis; fructibus globosis, stigmatibus excentricis. Mart. Euterpe filamentosa Blume in ed. Areca spinosa Van Hasselt MSS. Nibung Javanensium. In littore australi In-sulae Javae. Caudex gracilis, annulatus. Flores masculi ochroleuci. Drupae violaceo-fuscescentes; carne tenui, grumosa. Albumen lacteum, corneum, rumi-natum. Embryo basilaris.*” (*Mart.*)

“*A. Wallichiana, Mart. Palm. 178. Inermis; caudice humili; pinnis connex-is, inferioribus falcatis, extus repandis et denticulatis, superioribus truncatis et denticulato-praemorsis, inferne in nervis rhachique paleaceo-villosulis; spadici-bus simpliciter valde ramosis; calycum masculorum hexandrorum foliolis lato-orbicularibus, quam petala ovata duplo brevioribus; drupsis . . . . Mart.—Insula Pulo-Pinang Archipelagi Indici.—Frondes 4-5-pedalis.*”

(To be continued.)