

Spadix curved-pendulous. *Spathes* fibrous, coriaceous, often split. *Spikes* about level topped. *Male flowers* in pairs, without an interposed rudimentary female, or solitary, with a rudimentary female. *Calyx* cup-shaped. *Petals* oblong, fuscous-purple. *Stamina* numerous; *filaments* short, subulate; *anthers* with mucronate or aristate ends. *Pollen* hispid, with a longitudinal fold.

Female flowers solitary, sessile. *Sepals* broad. *Petals* three, cordate, concave, obtusely carinate. *Ovarium* roundish, trigonal, (angles opposite the sepals,) depressed at the apex, and there marked with three lines running from the angles to the stigmata, which are three, tooth-shaped, and connivent, so as to form a cone.

Fruit roundish, about the size of a small apple, with a depressed three-lobed trigonal vertex, terminated by the sphacelated stigmata, surrounded at the base by the perianth, 2-3 celled; outer substance thick, fibrous-fleshy. *Seed* separating with the thick gelatinous-cellular, endocarp, black; when three convex-bifacial. *Embryo* oblique about the centre of the dorsal face of the horny *albumen*.

Not having seen this palm growing, I am unable to say any thing regarding its habit. The chief difference from *A. saccharifera* is in the leaves. *A. obtusifolia*, Bl., has the petioles furnished with marginal aculei.

The *Langkup* of Penang may probably be distinct, the pinnæ being smaller and more truncate, the branches of the fruit spadix spreading, short, and the fruit larger and more oblong.

I am not aware of its being applied to any use. I have Mr. Westerhout's authority for stating it to be quite local, being only found in one place, although there abundant.

87. (3) *A. Wightii*, (n. sp.) sobolifera, trunco humili 3-8 pedali, petiolis inermibus, pinnis alternis linearibus basi bi-auriculatis (auricula inferiore maxima) apice attenuato erosis inæqualiter bilobis, spadicis ramis subfastigiatis, fl. fæm. staminibus sterilibus pluribus, semine venoso, embryone supra medium.

HABIT.—Dense forests, Hills about Coimbatore, *Dr. Wight*.

DESCR.*—A monoicous palm forming by means of suckers dense clumps. *Trunk* stout, as thick as a man's thigh, generally 3-5 feet, rarely 8 feet high. *Leaves* 18-28 feet in length; lower naked part of the *petiole* 6-8 feet long; *pinnæ* alternate, crowded, linear ensiform, 3-3½ feet long, 1½-2 inches broad, white underneath, with two large auriculæ at the base, (the lower very large indeed, 1½-2 inches long, overlaying obliquely the petiole,) with a few distant teeth from the middle upwards; apex attenuate, unequally bi-lobed, erose; terminal lobe narrow cuneate, 2-3-lobed, base shortly bi-auriculate, apex truncate, lobulose, and jagged-dentate.

Spadices decurved pendulous, about 4 feet long: *peduncle* before branching about 2 feet long, quite concealed by the sheathing imbricate lacerate spathes. *Male*; *branches* (spikes) about 2 feet long, sub-fastigate, slender. A scale-shaped *bracte* at the base of each. *Flowers* in pairs rather distant, (altogether forming a rather thin mass of inflorescence,) rather large, in pairs, with a vertical scale interposed. *Calyx* of three roundish imbricate sepals with thick bases. *Petals* 3, oblong, very thick and coriaceous. *Stamina* 00; *filaments* short; *anthers* linear, adnate, terminated by a longish subulate point. No rudiment of a *pistillum*.

Branches of the *female spadix* attenuate towards the ends, where they bear rudimentary flowers. *Flowers* solitary, under each a shallow entire or bi-lobed cup. *Sepals* broadly cordate, small. *Petals* roundish-cordate, acute or cuspidate. *Abortive stamina* several.† *Ovarium* roundish, 3-celled. *Styles* three, short, recurved. *Ovula* solitary.

Fruit crowded on the lower halves of the stout spikes (the upper halves naked,) about the size of a crab apple. *Seed* convex on one face, unequally bifacial on the other, separating easily except at the base from the black papery endocarp, brown, surface conspicuously marked with slightly branched veins, converging at the apex of the seed. *Albumen* horny. *Embryo* on one edge of the convex face, above the middle.

This species approaches in its inflorescence closely to *A. Westerhoutii*. Its main differences from it seem to regard the *pinnæ*, which are attenuate and bi-lobed at the apex, (not as in that species undiminished or even wider and more

* Specimens: portions of a leaf; an entire male, female, and fruit spadix, communicated by Dr. Wight, with a letter describing the habit, and a drawing of the male spadix, male and female flowers, and a fruit-bearing branch.

† In flowers shortly after fecundation, however, I find none.

or less truncate, and ex-auriculate at the base), and the seeds. It also disagrees in stature, in which respect it differs importantly also from *A. saccharifera*, as it also does in the solitary pinnæ and veiny seeds.

I believe it is the first species hitherto found on the continent of British India; it is dedicated to Dr. Wight its discoverer, to whom Indian Botany is so deeply indebted.*

CARYOTA.

Linn. (*Mus. Cliff.* p. 12.) *Gen. Pl. ed. 6ta.* p. 517. No. 1228. *ed. Schreb.* p. 779. No. 1701. *ed. Spreng.* p. 449. No. 2218. *Juss. Gen.* p. 38. *Gaert. Sem. et. Fruct.* 1, p. 20. t. 7. *Roxb. Icones.* 14. t. 80. *Fl. Ind.* 3. p. 624. *Jacq. Frag. Bot.* p. 20, t. 12, f. 1. *Lam. Illustr.* (t. 897.) *Mart. Progr.* p. 18. *Palmae.* p. 193. t. 107. 108, (bad.) t. 162, (bad.) (*Tab.* 5, f. 1, tab. Y, f. 1, 2.) *Endl. Gen.* p. 248. No. 1735.

Seguaster Major, *Rumph. Hb. Amb.* 1. p. 64. t. 14.

Schunda-pana, *Rheede Hort. Mal.* 1. p. 15. t. 11.

CHAR. GEN.—*Flores* monoici, fæmineus inter duos masculos. *Stamina* indefinita. *Bacca* sub-exsucca, sæpius monosperma. *Albumen* ruminatum. *Embryo* dorsalis.

HABITUS.—*Palmæ elegantes, sæpius procerae, monti-sylvicolae, monocarpicae, interdum ope sobolum perennantes. Trunco concinne annulatus. Folia bipinnata, amplissima; rete*

* I subjoin a short description of another species observed in the second Kiouk-dweng, or mountain defile of the Irawaddy.

Stem stout, 10-15 feet high, covered with the bases of the petioles. *Leaves* 10 feet long; *rete* scanty, stout, with very long, black twig-like processes; *pinnæ* ensiform, 2-2½ feet long, 1½ inch broad, white underneath, bi-auriculately lobed at the base, the lower lobe very large and decurrent. *Spadices* ample, nodding, pendulous.

HABIT.—In densely shaded places of the second (from Mogam) Kiouk-dweng, or rocky defile of the Irawaddy, 7th May, 1837.

This is the most northerly species of the genus. In the same locality *Orophaea*, *Dillenia*, *Hæmatospermum*, *Campanula*, *Æsculus*, were noticed.