

basal projection nearly 2 millimeters in length. Only one fruit is developed from a flower. There are none of the twin and triplet flowers that are of frequent occurrence in *Inodes texana*."

† 16. *Sabal bermudana*, nom. nov. BERMUDA PALMETTO. Figs. 179, 181, 184.

S. Blackburniana, Hemsl. in Rept. Voy. Challenger, Bot. i, 70 (1888), not Glazebrook; the form of the name accepted by subsequent authors.

Stout palm with erect or inclined obscurely ringed trunk to 12 or 13 m. tall and 1 m. or more circumference and that eventually becomes

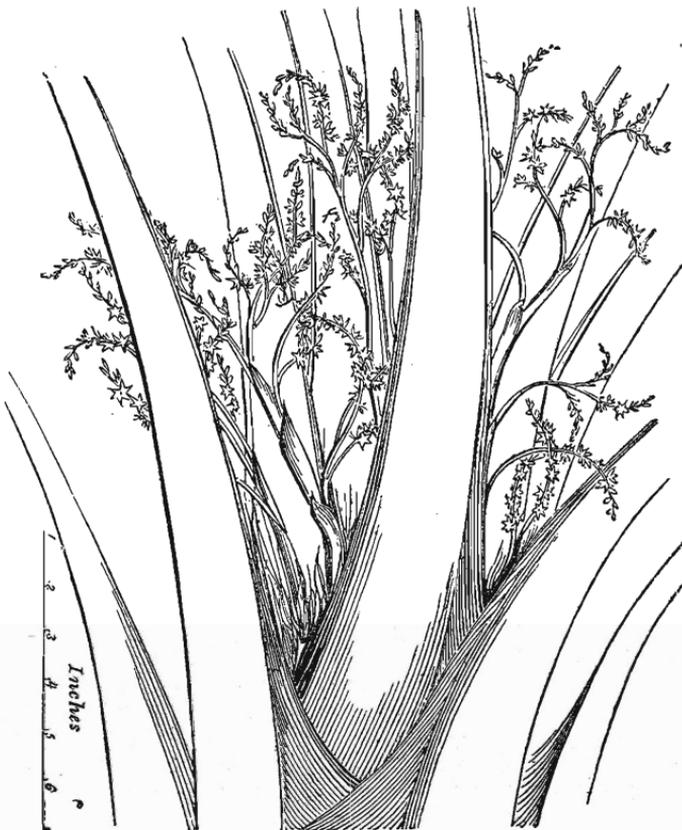


FIG. 183. SHORT FLOWER-CLUSTERS of *Sabal Blackburnia*. From Glazebrook. Page 330.

nude, not always straight, bearing an irregular open head characterized by long erect, spreading and deflexed petioles and in protected natural places by hanging old leaves, the foliage bright green: petiole 1 m. and more long, equalling or exceeding the blade, rather slender, convex on under surface, concave on upper surface with narrow up-turned margins and ridged in the center, base bearing prominent coarse fibers; hastula narrow and pointed, to 10 or 12 cm. long, thin margins upstanding; costa stout, marked by a central ridge, extending through the

leaf and giving it a decurved shape; leaf-blade 2-3 m. across, palman 30 cm. or more long and prominently mid-ridged, constituting about one-third of the blade, the ridges scurfy at least when young, filaments few or none; segments 30 and more on either side, 60 cm. or more long, 4-5 cm. broad at base, bifid into long tapering but not caudate-filiform ends, midnerve

very prominent, secondary nerves many and fine: inflorescence 1-2 m. long, much branched, usually not exceeding the leaves and often shorter, the loose sheaths or spathelets with conspicuous points; rachillæ to 10 cm. long, striate, obscurely angled to nearly or quite terete, glabrous, thickly flowered: flowers white, about 4 mm. long in anthesis, sessile, one of the subtending bracts long and pointed, calyx strongly costate, petals oblong and somewhat pointed, not costate on back, about equalling the very short and broad anthers: fruit sometimes twin (2 carpels), short-pyriform or globose with a contracted base, 15-18 or 20 mm. broad and of

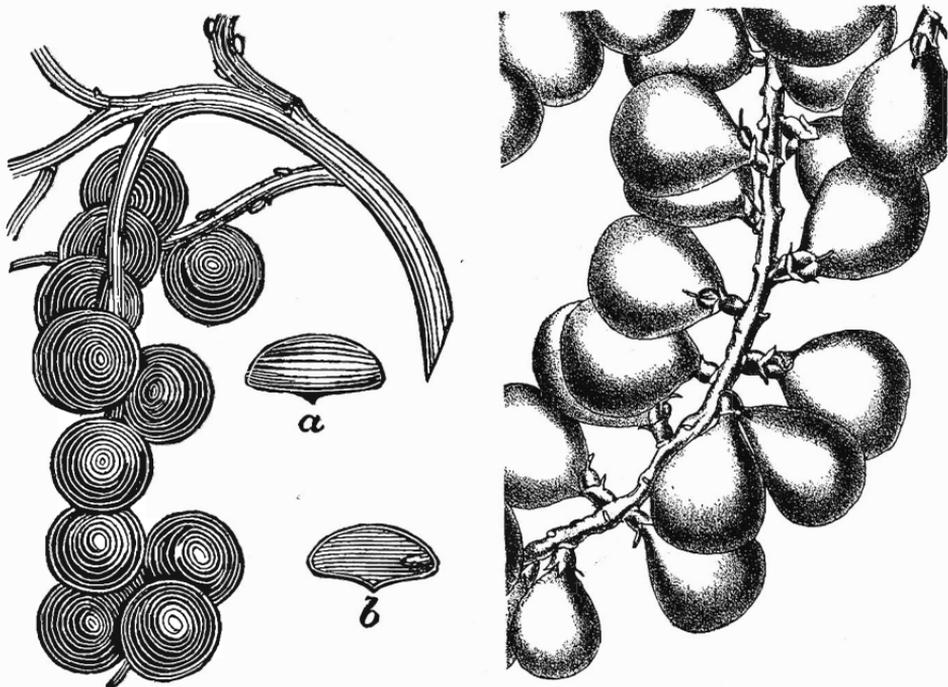


FIG. 184. FRUITS of *Sabal Blackburnia* left (\times about $\frac{3}{5}$), from Glazebrook, and fragment of *S. bermudana* right (\times nearly 1), from Hemsley.

similar height, smooth, black at maturity; seed depressed-globose when freed from the inner integument, 10-14 mm. broad and 7 or 8 to 10 mm. high, dark shining brown, micropyle small and usually above the middle.

Indigenous in Bermuda, apparently endemic; lowlands and uplands, assuming several forms; a noted native stand is in Paget marsh near Hamilton (Fig. 181). Supposed to be extensively in cultivation, but this is questionable: see *S. Blackburnia*, page 330.

Until relatively recent time this species was not considered to be peculiar to Bermuda. In 1891 it was definitely stated to be endemic by Garden and Forest (iv, 302), edited by Sargent, and this opinion maintains until the present. Until Hemsley reported in 1885 on the botany of the Challenger Voyage the Bermuda palm was known under various names

and attributed to other regions. For example, Lefroy, 1884, calls it *Sabal Palmetto*, Lodd. with the remark, "Native and universal; originally American, not West Indian" (*The Botany of Bermuda*, 113). The following year Reade names it *S. umbraculifera*, and adds "distribution, Bahamas, where it appears to grow much higher" (*Plants of the Bermudas*, 81). Hemsley does not make a positive statement: "Bermudas.—Indigenous and endemic?" and adds the following statement: "Until Sir Joseph Hooker took the palms in hand to elaborate them for the *Genera Plantarum*,



FIG. 185. NATURAL GROVE of Rio Grande palmetto in the lower Rio Grande Valley. *Sabal texana*. Page 334.

it seems to have been generally supposed that *Sabal palmetto* inhabited the Bermudas as well as south-eastern North America; but among the imperfect material in British herbaria from the islands there was nothing belonging to that species; and what there was, though insufficient for identification, indicated a different species. The descriptions, too, in the earlier writers of the fruit of the Bermudan palm proved that the common one could not be *Sabal palmetto*, for the fruits were much larger."

17. *Sabal princeps*, Becc. in *Webbia*, ii, 59 (1907).

Cultivated palm closely allied to *S. bermudana* but with noticeably smaller fruit and seed and flowers. It is described as a large species with thick trunk covered persistently with the bases of old petioles which are connected by thick rough fibers: leaves very large, the blade 1.5 m. and