

thicker rachillæ, larger rounder and more pulpy fruit, apparently taller and heavier tree.

This palmetto, *S. yucatanica*, is undoubtedly the *Inodes japa* of Standley in his Flora of Yucatan, 219 (1930), with the vernaculars "xaan" and "xan." He states it is "very common in dry forests, flowering throughout the year."

14. **Sabal jamaicensis**, Becc. in Fedde, Repert. vi, 94 (1909). JAMAICAN PALMETTO. BULL THATCH. Figs. 197, 224, 225.

Erect tree with stout stocky usually bare trunk to about 13 m. tall but often much less than that; head or crown globular but not very dense, the long petioles giving it an open look, many of the leaves declined before final collapse: leaf-blade green, 1 m. or more across, palman 9 dm. or more long, the continuing rib strongly decurved, either not filiferous or only moderately so; segments 80 or more on full grown leaves, very firm or almost stiff, to 1 m. long, the main central ones 6 cm. broad toward base, long-pointed and bifid, with many nerves either side the costa; petiole 1-2 m. long, often exceeding length of blade, shallowly concave on upper surface and also somewhat ribbed at the center; hastula long-acuminate, to 6 dm. long, the thin margins upturned and sometimes inrolled, or in some cases recurved: inflorescences or spadices about equalling the leaves or slightly exceeding them but not prominently projected, sometimes shorter, much branched, ultimate branches or rachillæ 3-8 cm. long and glabrous: flowers closely placed, sessile, 4-5 mm. long; calyx flaring, notched, not striate; petals much exceeding calyx and pistil, upstanding, narrow and semi-acute, not striate, the anthers at anthesis showing prominently just above them: fruit depressed-globular but with a more or less tapered base, 11-13 mm. transverse diameter and 9-11 mm. high not counting the stipe-like projection at base, dark dull brown (becoming black?); seed much depressed, flat on bottom, 8-10 mm. across, about 6 mm. high, shining dark brown, micropyle very small and sometimes supralateral.

Jamaica, British West Indies, on dry lands, bluffs, ridges, marginal lands, frequent. Type station, Pedro Bluff, St. Elizabeth, *Harris 9736*. Ipswich, St. Elizabeth, *Bailey 15047*; Lacovia, St. Elizabeth, *Bailey 210*; Little London, Westmoreland, *Bailey 299*; Alligator Pond, Manchester, *Bailey 15079*; Port Royal Mountains, St. Andrew, *Bailey 15087*; Castleton Gardens, St. Mary, *Bailey 15080*, apparently planted; Kingston, *Bailey 201*, planted.

- † 15. **Sabal Questeliana**, spec. nov. Figs. 225, 226, 227.

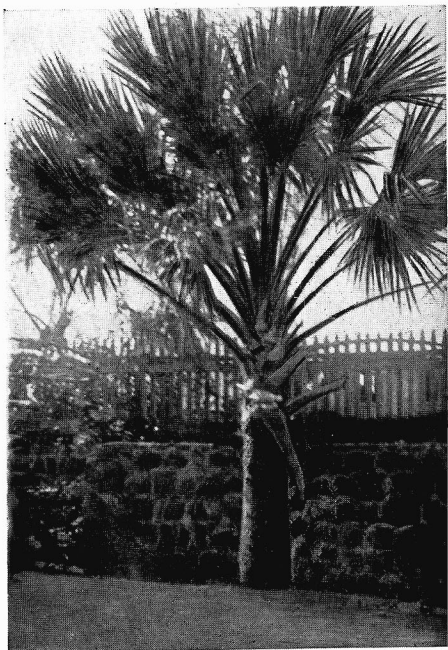
Valida erectaque arbor, plus quam 10 m. alta, truncus 40 cm. diam.: folia maxima, 1 m. vel plus lata, rigida, costapalmata, palman magna, lætevirens vel albido-virens subter, filamenta multa in sinubus; segmenta 3-4 cm. lata, apices filiformes et pendentes; petiolus æquans vel excedens laminam; hastula longo-acuminata, 25-30 cm. longa: spadices probabiliter non excedentes folia, 2.5 m. longi, multi-ramosi; rachillæ gracillimæ, 1 mm.

vel minus crassæ cum siccæ: fructus minimus, brevi-pyriformis, circa 8 mm. diam., 10-12 mm. altus cum basi; semen 5 mm. diam., micropyla minuta.

Stocky heavy tree of medium height, more than 10 m., with columnar trunk 40 cm. diameter that soon becomes bare and irregularly ringed: leaves very large, 1 m. and more across, strongly costapalmate and palman large, dull on upper surface, light green or whitish-green on under surface, texture stiff, filaments many in the sinuses; segments narrow, 3-4 cm. broad at middle or base, produced into very long filiform hanging ends, midrib prominent but side-veins inconspicuous, cross-lines many but indistinct; petiole equalling or exceeding blade, about 5 cm. wide at apex, shallowly concave and somewhat centrally ridged on upper surface; hastula long-acuminate and extended, 25-30 cm. in length, the margins little elevated; rachis strongly continuing through blade: inflorescences or spadices probably not exceeding leaves, 2.5 m. long, much branched, in individual clusters 20-30 cm. long; rachillæ very slender, 1 mm. or less thick when dry, terete, not densely flowered; flowers not available: fruit very small, short-pyriform with rounded top, about 8 mm. diameter and 10-12 mm. high with stalk; seed about 5 mm. across, loosely contained in a thin papery mesocarp, micropyle minute.

St. Bartholomew (St. Barts), French West Indies, where it is much cultivated for the materials it supplies, said to have been introduced more than fifty years ago from the Turks Islands in the southern Bahamas but whether native to those islands is not determined; collected for me by my friend and correspondent, M. Adrien Questel, now of Guadeloupe but who was born on St. Barts.

Size of the fruits in this palmetto is unusually small. M. Questel said in one sending that the fruits were small because of drought, but those received in 1938, 1939 and 1940 are practically the same. All the many fruits received by me retain their uniform shape, not shrivelled, rich brown in color, and glossy as if fully ripe. Aside from the fruits, *S. Questeliana* is known by the stout columnar trunk, obviously costapalmate leaves that are whitish-green underneath, narrow segments thread-like at the end, extremely long hastula, very thin rachillæ.



226. *SABAL QUESTELIANA*, on island of St. Bartholomew, French West Indies.