

and measured 18 mm. in length, 8 mm. in diameter with a perianth 7 mm. high.

Until typotypic material can be obtained, the question of the identity of fruit and the exact circumscription and relationship of the species within the genus cannot be settled definitely. From conclusions stated in the discussion of *V. vitiensis* (page 515) it seems certain that the smaller fruits described by Wendland represented that species and that the larger fruits belonged with *V. filifera*. Seemann's notes provided in Flora Vitiensis, and the leaf-portion observed, make clear the relationship between *V. filifera* and the more recently described *V. pedionoma* and *V. sessilifolia*. It is unfortunate that the oldest species of this complex is incompletely known and that it cannot be contrasted reliably with the latter two.

† 18. *Veitchia Pickeringii*, (Wendl.) trans. nov. Fig. 150E.

*Ptychosperma Pickeringii*, Wendl. in Bonplandia, x, 194 (1862)  
[Pickeringii] and in Seem. Fl. Vitiensis, 273 (1868).

*Vitiphœnix Pickeringii*, (Wendl.) Burret, in Fedde Repert.  
xxiv, 284 (1928).

Trunk 5-10 m. high, 8-10 cm. in diameter: leaves 4-5 m. long, the sheath 50 cm. long, rather densely lepidote-floccose, the lepidotes with persistent brown center, subsistent red-brown fimbriate margin and soft, pale, spreading or twisted deciduous hairs; petiole ca. 50 cm. long, densely appressed pale lepidote becoming brown-punctate above and below; pinnæ ca. 40 on each side of the rachis, this brown-punctate below, persistently and minutely red-brown fimbriate-lepidote above, the lower pinnæ inserted ca. 20 cm. apart, the median pinnæ inserted 3.5-4.5 cm. apart, 35-50 cm. long, 3.5-7 cm. wide, narrowed at the base, broadest at the middle, gradually narrowed to an oblique toothed apex ca. 2.5 cm. wide, 4.5 cm. along the margin, glabrous on both surfaces except for the brown-punctate marginal nerves, scattered minute red-brown fimbriate scales near the base and a line of elongate twisted brown basifixed scales on the midrib below, upper pinnæ 1.5-3.5 cm. apart, 17-35 cm. long, 1.5-3 cm. wide, subtruncate, the terminal united in a cuneate segment 22 cm. long, 4.7-5.7 cm. wide or cleft and the segments 9-10 cm. long, 10-15 mm. wide: panicle much-ramified, glabrous, at least the major axis compressed and angled, lower branches to 40 cm. long, twice-branched, the ultimate rachillæ 5-16 cm. long, with 9-18 flowering nodes in a loose spiral or subdistichous; staminate flowers greenish-white, 7-8 mm. long, the sepals 1.5 mm. high, spreading when dry, erect when moistened, petals 7-8 mm. long, 2 mm. wide, stamens 20-28, the white filaments 3-4 mm. long, as long as the basally sagittate apically acutely bifid yellow anthers; pistillate buds 4 mm. high, subtended by narrow inconspicuous bracteoles 0.5 mm. wide or less: fruit not known.

Fiji Islands: Ovalau; without definite locality *Pickering s.n.* (B, fide Burret, now destroyed, GH, lectotype); hills east of Lovoni Valley, 100-300 m. alt., May 8-11, 1953, *A. C. Smith 7276* (BH, US).

The above description is based principally on *Smith 7276* which differs from the fragmentary type only in the longer staminate flowers (8 mm. vs. 7 mm.) and in more numerous stamens (27-28 vs. 20-25). Unfortunately neither collection has fruit so that comparison with *V. vitiensis* is difficult. The species has narrow bracteoles subtending the pistillate flowers as in *V. vitiensis* and agrees essentially in the shape and indument of the pinnæ. The Smith collection, however, has a much longer petiole than any of the material assigned to *V. vitiensis*.

According to the collector, the vernacular name for this species is "Thangithake," a name presumably related to "Cagi Caki" cited by Seemann for *Veitchia filifera*. The specific epithet was incorrectly spelled in the original publication but was corrected in *Flora Vitiensis*. No holotype was designated for this species. Since the Pickering collection at the Gray Herbarium bears Wendland's annotation and agrees completely with the description, I would select it as lectotype.

Although both *Veitchia filifera* and *V. vitiensis* were reported from Ovalau by Seemann, I have seen no material definitely referable to them. Until complete series of specimens in flower and fruit can be obtained from Ovalau, the status of *V. Pickeringii* must remain in doubt.

### EXCLUDED SPECIES

*Veitchia Canterburyana*, F. Muell. *Fragm.* vii, 101 (1870) in syn. =  
**Hedyscepe Canterburyana**, (Moore & F. Muell.) Wendl. & Drude.

*Veitchia Storckii*, Wendl. in Seem. *Fl. Vitiensis*, 270, pl. 81 (1868) =  
**Neoveitchia Storckii**, (Wendl.) Becc.

*Vitiphœnix pauciflora*, (Wendl.) Burret, in Fedde *Repert.* xxiv, 285 (1928)  
= † **Balaka pauciflora**, (Wendl.) trans. nov. [*Ptychosperma pauciflorum*,  
Wendl. in *Bonplandia*, x, 193 (1862)].

A Pickering specimen corresponding to Wendland's description of *Ptychosperma pauciflorum* in detail and annotated in his hand is present in collections of the Gray Herbarium. Although Burret indicated that he had seen authentic material, presumably at Berlin and destroyed, no specimen has heretofore been designated as the type. I would designate as lectotype *Pickering s.n.*, U.S. South Pacific Exploring Expedition 1838-1842 (GH). Wendland gave Ovalau as the locality from which Pickering collected the species. The lectotype, however, bears the name Upolu as does a second sheet consisting of a seedling plant though both have the printed locality Feejee Islands. Whether the specimen came from Ovalau or from Upolu, I have little doubt that it should be referred to the genus *Balaka*. The habit and leaf are correct for that genus. The