

shape, and having the *umbilicus* situated laterally a little above the base of the fruit. The progress of the fruit to maturity is very slow, and is said, according to the best information I can obtain, to occupy about three years from the first appearing of the spadices to the final ripening of the fruit. During the period of inflorescence, the branches of the spadix are brown, and apparently quite bare. Afterwards a number of small green knobs appear above the brown scales, which go on enlarging, till they at length acquire the size of a small apple. But few fruit come to maturity on each branch.

In habit and character this tree recedes considerable from the true *Palmae*. Its propagation by radical shoots, exactly in the same manner as the common cultivated Plantain, is peculiar, and is not observed in the true Palms. The terminal inflorescence and death of the tree after fructification is another peculiarity. It is allied to *Calamus* by its retroversely imbricated fruit.

This species of Sago is abundant in many parts of Sumatra and at Malacca, and is employed in the preparation of Sago for food. Considerable quantities are made at the Pogy Islands, lying off the west coast of Sumatra, where it in fact forms the principal food of the inhabitants. The Sago of Siak is remarkably fine, and is also, I believe, the produce of this species. At the Moluccas the spinous sort is considered superior to this, but I am doubtful whether it exists in Sumatra. For making the Sago, the tree must be cut before fructification commences, as it then becomes hard and dry. The process of making it has been so often described, that it is needless to repeat it here."—W. JACK. loc. cit.

CALAMOSAGUS.

CHAR. GEN.—*Spicæ* teretes, amentiformes. *Flores* hermaphroditi, solitarii, villis semi-immersi. *Stamina* 6. *Ovarium* squamis obtectum, triloculare. *Stylus* subulatus, tridentatus. *Fructus* exsuccus, squamis loricatus. *Semen* vertice excavatum. *Albumen* ruminatum. *Embryo* vagus.

Palmæ scandentes, perennes, incolæ Peninsulæ Malayanae. Folia pinnata; vaginæ petiolique aculeis conicis rectis armati: ligula maxima, pari modo aculeata, sursum ventricosos-

scaphoideæ et vaginam contiguam semi-ampectens; pinnæ alternæ, cuneatæ, inæquilateræ, a medio supra (vel margine terminali) erosæ, subtus glaucæ. Inflorescentia Sagi vel Zalaccæ. Spathæ plures incompletæ inermes. Bracteolæ in villos fere omnino solutæ.

Genus foliis Caryotæ vel Wallichïæ, habitu quodammodo Calami, inflorescentia et semine Sagi et Zalaccæ, insigne forma et evolutione ligulæ.

Character (posthac emendandus) haustus est, quoad flores, e C. laciniosa, quoad organa vegetationis e C. wallichïæfolia. Huc verisimiliter referendus Calamus caryotoides, A. Cunningham. Martius, Palmæ. p. 212, et forsân Calamus rhomboideus, Blume. Syst. Veget. ed. Schltés. 7. pt. 2. p. 1332.

9. (1) *C. laciniosus*, (n.sp.) petiolo (partis lamelliferæ) aculeis sparsis uncinatis armato, pinnis petiolulatis cuneato-obovatis medium supra varie et argute inciso-dentatis, spicis patentissimis palmaribus gracilibus, pedicellis spatha inclusis apicem supra vaginulam brevem ferentibus.

HAB.—In woods along the sea-shores of the Islands of the Mergui Archipelago, March 1835. Herb Mergui, No. 1104.

DESCR.*—Diccious? Flagelliferous, climbing to a great extent.

Petiole angular above, below slightly convex and armed with scattered, hooked, short thorns, white with a dark point. *Pinnæ* attached by distinct stalks, (which are much compressed, and about half inch long,) about seven inches long by three and half broad, plicate, below the middle distinctly cuneate and quite entire, above the middle half-ovate and variously jagged, point prolonged into a long acumen, glaucous, coriaceous, the under surface with as many distinct veins as larger, incisions.

Spadix much branched, covered with imbricated, smooth, spathes, with short, oblique, acute, suberect limbs. Branches axillary, very spreading, similarly covered with spathes from which the spikes

* Specimens consist of a portion of a leaf and of a spadix.