

Spathes without limbs, those of the flagellus inconspicuous, all armed, the spines on the lower face being like those of the vaginae but smaller, the rest deflexed, not very strong, and subulate from a stout oblique base.

Branches of the spadix erect, bases concealed in the orifices of the sheaths, bearing alternate, scorpioid, stout spikes, two to three inches in length. Spaces between the spikes occupied by short, lax, truncate, smooth spathes.

Spikes stout, somewhat compressed. *Flowers* in bud distichous, but not flatly bifarious; under each is a laxly sheathing bracte with a short limb with shortly ciliate margins; outer *bracteole* obliquely cup-shaped, emarginate behind, inner with a conspicuous disk-like oval space on one side.

Calyx of stout texture, oblong, ovate, suboblique, shortly three-toothed. *Corolla* ovate, tripartite below the middle; segments ovate-lanceolate. *Stamina* six, large, effete, united as usual to the corolla, and above this monadelphous. *Ovarium* oblong obconical, with numerous rows of very minute scales. *Style* stout, conical, divided nearly to the base into three stout, lanceolate, inwardly stigmatic branches. *Ovules* solitary.

A very well marked species, especially by its stature and inflorescence; it appears to be more nearly allied to *C. schizospathus* than any other.

17. (7.) *C. acanthospathus*, (n. sp.) spinis petioli—pinnis—spadicis (6-pedalis) pedunculo basi compresso spinis et aculeis subulatis armato cæterum inermi, spatha infima dorso carinata aculeis basi conicis sparsis valde armata reliquis parce armatis seu inermibus ecarinatis, ramis distantibus infimis compositis, fructibus elliptico-oblongis apice mammillatis, (castaneis.)

HAB.—Khasiya Hills.

DESC.*—*Spadix* about six feet long, tapered at the end into a flagellus. *Peduncle* short, compressed, armed on the edges, and lower

* Specimens (two) of entire fruit bearing spadices.

face with unequal, straight, subulate spines and prickles, those of the edges being the longest, otherwise in the parts not covered by the spathes unarmed.

Spathes with obsolete limbs, lowest about a span long, compressed, keeled along the centre of the back, excepting the short erect half lanceolate limb, armed with straight prickles with conical bases. The other spathes are shorter, more clavate, without an obvious carina, and only slightly armed, or (as the uppermost) quite unarmed.

Branches just exerted from the spathes, erect, a foot or a span distant, lowest about a span long, decomposed. Spathes sheathing, rather lax, smooth, lowest about an inch long. Lower divisions compound, with several spreading spikes, with similar but much smaller sheathing spathes, uppermost internode often abortive as in certain Grasses.

Fruits apparently terminating short stout stalks, suffuted by three annular amplexent bractes, and surrounded at the base by the spreading portion of the perianth, elliptic-oblong, with the mammilliform apex seven lines long, four broad, chesnut coloured. Scales with a broad shallow central furrow, and dark edges. *Seed* (apparently berried,) erect, convex on one face, and conspicuously areolate with foveolæ, on the other convex with a central umbilicus, from which the areolæ seem to radiate. *Albumen* horny, cartilaginous, on a long section reniform, with as many stout entering processes as join areolæ, that from the umbilicus much the largest and filled with a mass of cellular substance. *Embryo* basilar.

This species does not appear to me allied to any others I have met with. In the division and direction of the branches of the spadix, it approaches to the *Piptospathæ*. This and the very frequent, conical aculei on the lower spathes seem to me its chief characteristics.

18. (8) *C. Royleanus*, vaginarum spinis solitariis compressis petiolorum superioribus uncinatis, pinnis æquidistantibus linearibus angustissimis (long. 10-11 uncialibus lati-