

## New Malayan Plants.

By H. N. RIDLEY.

The following plants apparently undescribed have turned up lately in various collections made in the Peninsula.

### SCITAMINEÆ.

*Zingiber Wrayii*, Prain mss. A slender plant over a foot tall. Leaves elliptic, lanceolate, glabrous, 9 inches long, 3 inches wide, narrowed at the base but not petioled. Peduncle 4 inches tall covered with large loose sheathing leaves, spike three inches long, ovoid obconic. Bracts thin elliptic  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch long  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide or less. Flowers solitary yellow. Bracteole spatheaceous, lip spotted and marked with purple. Anther narrow linear, beak half an inch long.

Upper Perak at 300 feet elevation (Wray 3735). The only specimen I have seen is in poor condition but it seems a distinct plant from any described, from its rounded head of thin bracts, most of the allied species having cylindric spikes.

*Elettariopsis cyanescens*, n. sp. Rhizome  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch through, violet inside, covered with dry sheaths, stems 18 inches tall, rather slender base, olivaceous. Leaves 8, lanceolate acuminate glabrous 6 inches long  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide, hardly petiolate, ligule rounded short. Spike short, peduncle half an inch long covered with long dry lanceolate bracts  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, flowers four. Ovary oblong pubescent  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch long. Calyx tube  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, pubescent at the base, apex long acuminate. Corolla tube narrow  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch longer pubescent, lobes oblong half an inch long  $\frac{1}{6}$  inch wide lip, oblong rounded 1 inch long. All white except the tip of the lip which is blue. Stamen oblong, crest moderately large, stigma large cup-shaped with pubescent edges.

small saucer-shaped. Flowers solitary, sepals ovate as long as the petals and quite similar. Fruit small globular beaked  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long scales in 6 whorls, rhomboidal as broad as long, yellow or brownish yellow, tips darker, grooved.

This rattan is common in tidal river swamps, and is known as "Rotan Bakau." There is a trade rattan of the same name but I am not yet certain that it belongs strictly to this plant. The general appearance of this species when out of flower is that of *Demonorops angustifolius*. It does not seem to flower very frequently, as I have seldom found it in flower or fruit, abundant as it is, which is probably why it has never hitherto been described. Professor Beccari who is engaged on a work on our rattans to be published in the Annals of the Botanic Gardens of Calcutta, considers it to be quite a distinct plant from any described.

I have met with it in Singapore, on the Serangoon Road, and at Changi (6275 of my collections), Johore, Panchur on the Johore river; on the Sungei Tebrau river, and at Batu Pahat (11216), and in Pahang at Kuala Pahang.

### AROIDEÆ.

*Cryptocoryne purpurea*, n. sp. Aquatic, stem creeping stoloniferous. Leaves ovate or elliptic ovate, base broad 3 inches long  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch wide, petioles 4 inches long, peduncle short about half an inch long, spathe 3 or more inches long, tube twisted  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch through, white, limb ovate caudate  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 inch long, half an inch wide deep purple brown with a yellow mouth, pustular, tail  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long, valve over the inflorescence oblong truncate pale yellow. Female flowers 6 to 8 connate in a circle, styles very short, stigmas discoid, neuters above the pistils 5 or more, nude portion of spadix slender. Male flowers few yellow obcuneate, appendix small elliptic clubbed.

Johore, Kota Tinggi (4214 of my collections). This plant cultivated in the Singapore Botanic Gardens for several years, was sent to Kew Gardens where it flowered

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and was figured in the Botanical Magazine plate 7719 under the name of *C. Griffithii*. It is however quite distinct from that in its more numerous, female flowers, smaller appendix to the spadix, and much longer tube. It grows very readily in water, and is perhaps the easiest to cultivate. I have only seen it in the one locality mentioned, our commonest species being the short tubed *C. Griffithii*.

*Typhonium fulum*, n. sp. A small herb with a short stem above the ground propped on strong roots. Leaves 5 or 6 ovate or deltoid hastate 2 to 3 inches long 2 inches wide deeply cordate, apex acute, lobes rounded, petiole  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches long. Peduncle  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch long, spathe with a green base dilated  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch long, limb 2 inches long  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch broad; subacute or acuminate purple-veined, tip green. Spadix about as long. Appendage orange brown cylindric from a thick base tapering upwards, below a short nude portion. Male portion of about 6 rows of oblong yellowish anthers, then a longer nude portion. Neuters numerous horn-shaped white up-curved. Females in one whorl oblong, one ovuled.

Selangor at the limestone caves near Kuala Lumpur (8165) also found in Lankawi Islands by Curtis.

This odd little aroid is remarkable for the stem standing up supported on its roots above ground after the manner of a Pandanus, a habit not observed in any other species, the rest of them having small underground tubers.

*T. filiforme*, n. sp. A very small herb, tuber globose  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch through. Leaves 2 or 3 deltoid hastate acuminate, lobes divaricate acute 2 or 3 inches long,  $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide, petiole slender 2 to 5 inches long. Peduncle  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch long. Spathe 3 inches, base elliptic  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch long olive green, limb linear very narrow, apex eventually coiled up yellowish spotted with red. Spadix very slender  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, appendix ochre yellow filiform nearly 3 inches long, male portion short below them a long slender nude portion, neuters filiform contorted long, female flowers few oblong.

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