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Dodec: Digyn.

Gastonia palmata

Nat: ord: Analiaceae

Palmata Gastonia

Gastonia Commers. - Calyx margine elevato integro. Petalob. 6. basi lata, navius 3. Stam: 12. navius 10. ad petalum quodibet binata breviora. Styli 10-12. minimi, basi juncti; stigmata 10-12. Capsula 10-12. locularis. Juss. gen. 217.

G. palmata: folijs cordatis serratis palmatis 7 lobatis supra glabris subtus ferrugineo-pubescentibus.

Gastonia palmata. N. Hort. Beng: 33.

Caulis simplex, tuberculis aculeiformibus purpurea viridibus undique adspersis. Folia in petiolo longo, basi vaginato, aculeato, tracte insidentia, cordata, palmata, 7 loba, lobis lanceolatis, serratis, subaequalibus, subtus pallida, pubescentia tenui, ferruginea, reticulata tecta. Umbella composita umbellulis 16-18. Floris involucrio partiali nullo, pedunculis glabris, punctatis, pedicellis funeure raro, deciduo, ferruginea vestitis. Calyx subinteger, plicatus. Petala cito decidua. Stamina 5-9. extra discum crispum, latum, inserta. Stylus 1. apice multipartitus.

Whether this plant really belongs to the genus *Gastonia*, we unfortunately have not the means of judging. The specimens with which we were furnished were incomplete; but from such an examination of ~~we~~ we were enabled to give them, we did not discover any thing materially at variance with Jussieu's character, as the above brief description in some measure shews.

We do not find the species recorded in any work besides the *Hortus Bengalensis*, in which we are informed that the plant is a native of Chittagong and that it is an upright tree or shrub. Another species, called by Roxburgh *G. sauroideis*, is said to be a native of the Moluccas.

Musieu states that the genus was named by Commerson in honour of Gaston de Foix, Duke of Orleans, brother of Louis XIII., a patron of Botany, and of Morison. He was the founder of the Botanic garden at Blois, and the prince who commenced the formation of the collection of drawings of objects of natural history preserved in the Museum at Paris, and continued down to this day.

Our drawing was made in March last at Mr. Brooke's Nursery, Ball's Pond, from a plant about 5 feet in height.

Stem. simple, covered all over with purple prickly-like hairs. Leaves seated on a long prickly round stalk, sheathing at its base, cordate, palmate, 7 lobed; the lobes lanceolate, serrate, nearly equal, covered beneath with a fine stellate ferruginous pubescence. Umbels compound; the an involucreum; their peduncles smooth, dotted; pedicels covered with a thin deciduous ferruginous pubescence. Calyx nearly entire, plaited. Petals quickly deciduous. Stamens 5-9, inserted outside a broad disc. Style 1. with many divisions at end.

J. L.

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