

Three species of *Agave* and two of *Yucca* are recorded from Arizona; and three each of *Agave*, *Nolina*, and *Yucca* from California. About half of these species are common to Mexico. In addition, there are at least half a dozen other Mexican species extending to Texas and New Mexico, and perhaps as many as a dozen. One endemic species of *Agave* and two Californian species of *Nolina* have been found in Lower California. As to the northern limits of this type of plants in Central and western North America, we only know that a few species reach Southern Colorado and Southern Utah. Enough has been written, however, to prove that Mexico, and probably Northern Mexico, is the centre of them, and that they thin out rapidly in every direction as we recede from this centre. Plants of similar habit and aspect are found in the numerous species of *Aloe* in South Africa, in *Cordyline* of Australasia, and *Dracæna* of the Mascarene Islands, &c.*

Liliaceæ.

Under the "*Agave* and *Yucca* type," a portion of this order has already been discussed, but the remaining genera demand a few words. These are thirteen in number, and seven of them do not extend beyond America, and they number collectively eighty-three species. It may here be observed that twelve out of a total of seventeen genera have a north-western extension, though the number of species is only eleven. Thirty of the eighty-three species belong to *Smilax*; there are three Mexican monotypic, endemic genera, and a fourth is common to New Mexico and Arizona. Noteworthy is the remarkably distinct and showy western genus *Calochortus*, of about thirty species, six of which are subalpine in North and South Mexico, and endemic, and twenty-one inhabit California, while a few are found in New Mexico and Arizona. The genus ranges northward to British Colombia. Two genera, *Zygadenus* and *Nothoscordum*, are common to Eastern Asia and America.

Palmæ.

In consequence of the great difficulties attending the preparation and preservation of specimens adequate for description and classification, palms are less known in detail, perhaps, than any other class of plants; indeed, we are assured by Sir Joseph Hooker that he has hardly sufficient material of any one of the numerous palms of British India to draw up a satisfactory description. Fortunately the successful cultivation of palms in large houses has to some extent, small though it be, supplied the deficiencies of the herbarium; but the discoveries of the last ten years go to prove that the palm-world is far from having been exhausted, even in the imperfect manner indicated. Palms, with comparatively few exceptions, cover small areas, and are often exceedingly local, alike in insular and continental regions. The cocoa-nut palm (*Cocos nucifera*) is the only

* Since the above was in type Mr. S. Watson has sent us a description of *Prochnyanthes*, a proposed new genus of the Agaveæ, inhabiting Jalisco.