

original *S. Martiana* the sepals are straw-coloured, and much more dotted with purple. Messrs. Rollisson have lately flowered it, and believe they obtained it from Mexico. It is as fine a thing as *S. tigrina* would be if its flowers were white, and is very sweet-scented.

## 82. DION edule.

The addition of a new genus to the Cycadaceous order is indeed a fine thing; and that which is now about to be described is quite as different from the others of the order as *Cycas* is from *Zamia*. For our knowledge of it we are indebted to Mrs. Lavater, a lady long resident in Mexico, who brought home a cone and a live plant, both of which she presented to the Horticultural Society. The cone was filled with seeds, about the size of a Spanish chesnut, but after some time fell to pieces, the seeds proving to be all destitute of embryo. The plant, which is growing, has a simple stem, like that of a *Zamia*, but buried in wool. The leaves are deep and light green, about two feet long, pinnated, with about sixty pairs of leaflets, which are shaped like the blade of a straight sword, very sharp pointed, attached to the petiole by their whole base, with parallel simple veins, which pass distinctly into the petiole; they are about two inches and a half long.

Although the male and female flowers of this plant are unknown, the fruit affords abundant marks of distinction. It consists of woolly rigid scales, tapering to the point, and collected into a cone the size of a child's head, which scales are heart-shaped at the base, and bear on each lobe a single nut, about as large as a Chesnut. So that we have in this plant the cones and geminate seeds of *Zamia* and *Eucephalartos*, with the flat woolly scales of a *Cycas*; but without the marginal seeds and lax inflorescence of that genus. We propose to characterize the genus thus:—

DION ( $\delta\iota\varsigma$  et  $\omega\nu\nu$ ). *Flores masculi et fœminei ignoti. Strobilus ovatus, dense lanatus, (capitis infantis magnitudine); e squamis constans imbricatis, densissimè lanatis, petiolatis, altè cordatis, acuminatis, intus lævibus, basi utrinque semen solitarium (Castaneæ magnitudine) gerentibus.*  
—*Arbuscula humilis Mexicana, foliis pinnatis; foliolis basi latè petiolo adnatis.*

We learn from the lady who brought this to England, that the seeds are employed in Mexico as a source of arrow-root. The plant must therefore be extremely common in some parts of that country ; and we believe it has actually been imported in some abundance by a collector, who sold his stock to Messrs. Loddiges.

### 83. LINDLEYA mespiloides.

*Humboldt & Kunth nov. gen. et sp. plant. 6. 239. t. 562.*

This very rare and curious plant has just flowered in the Garden of the Horticultural Society, where a single specimen exists, which was raised sometime since from Mr. Hartweg's Mexican seeds. It has something the appearance of *Cratægus mexicana*, but has a dry capsular fruit. It proves evergreen, and may possibly be hardy : but of that we have as yet no experience. Humboldt compares it for habit with the common Apple, but it would be better likened to a small narrow-leaved Medlar.

### 84. SPIRANTHES rosulata.

S. (*Sarcoglottis*) *rosulata* ; foliis oblongis coriaceis rosulatis glabris, scapo aphylo hirsuto 2-3-vaginato, spicâ ovatâ hirsutâ, bracteis lineari-lanceolatis dorso glabris, labelli oblongi rotundati venosi ungue apice excavato basi bicurvi.

A Guatemala plant, not unlike *Spiranthes picta*. It has a scape about nine inches high, and a close spike of green flowers. The leaves are most beautifully coated on the underside with vesicular cells, which give them a peculiar frosted appearance. Mr. Hartweg sent it to the Horticultural Society from Guatemala.

### 85. EPIDENDRUM collare.

E. (*Aulizeum*) *collare* ; caulibus fusiformibus elongatis apice triphyllis, foliis coriaceis canaliculatis patentibus, racemo laxo paucifloro, ovario cuniculato, sepalis petalisque conformibus petaloideis lanceolatis, labello ovato obtuso undulato apice recurvo basi trilamellato, clinandrio margine elevato denticulato cincto.

From Guatemala, where Mr. Hartweg found it. Its stems are 18 inches long, strong and deeply furrowed. The flowers are white, changing to yellow and brown as they go off. The anther-bed is surrounded by an elevated edge,