ZAMIA PYGMAEA. LEAST ZAMIA.

Clas and Order.

DIOSGIA POLYANDRIA.

Genus Charactar.

MAIC. *Amanteum* floribiforme. *Cat. squama obovata. Cor. o.*

*Anthera* globosa, rima dehiscensae, in squama lepine.

F.M. *Amant. floribiforme. Cat. squamae petiatae. Cor. o.*


Specific Character.

ZAMIA *pygmaea*; glaberrima, foliolis fialdecernujugis ovatis oblique imbricatis spicis ferrulatis, frutice terrent, ameno ovato mutante.

Description. Male plant. Fronds abruptly pinnate, about a span long, on rounded, flat, handsome, leaflets not entirely opposite, ovate, with the upper margin straighter and ferrulate about one-third down from the point: lower more curved and ferrulate half way, these to the base quite entire, thinning, attached to the rachis by a cartilaginous articulation, about ten pairs, so close together as to somewhat overlap one another: rachis double grooved on the upper, rounded on the under side. *Amanteum ovato*, on a short thick peduncle turned to one side; scales obliquely hexagonal, bearing a number of globular white anthers on the upper and lower sides, some of which, when the flower is perfect, appear at the crevices between the scales. The female plant we have not seen.

Linearis, in his Fragments of Natural Orders, inserted both *Zamia* and *Cycas* with the *Palmae*; but, in his System, he arranged them with the *Fissuris*, in which family they were retained by Jussieu. Persoon and Brown make a distinct order of them, under the name of *Cycadae*.

Communicated by Misses *Loudon* and *Son*, flowering early in May. An imported plant; native of the West Indies.
The propagation of Palms in general is very difficult. Some species of Zamia and Cycas may indeed be increased by division; but of forty-two species of Palms, including *cyrtedon*, under cultivation, at the present time, in the gardens of Messrs. Lodges and Sons, not more than nine can be propagated in this way; the rest must all be raised from seeds, which should be sown as soon as gathered, or imported alive from the tropical climates of which they are natives. We are also informed by Mr. George Lodges, that the whole family likes a sandy light soil, which will not retain the water, but suffer it to drain off freely; and that their heads should be kept in a warm humid atmosphere. But every attempt to keep up the heat of the stave to a stated degree, he considers as absurd, as even the hottest climates vary extremely; and their flowers at Hackney not unfrequently have a temperature of 20° and as low as 62°, in the same day; and this change is so far from injuring their inhabitants, that these are manifestly benefited thereby.