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**BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.**

*The Palm Trees of the Amazon and their Uses.* By A. R. WALLACE.  
With 48 Plates. London: Van Voorst, 1853.

WE beg most strongly to recommend this book, as one that will not interest the botanist alone, but give pleasure to unbotanical readers.

It must be looked upon as a highly valuable companion to the great work on Palms by Martius, supplying to us a very clear idea of the general appearance of the palm-trees. Being the work of a professed and excellent naturalist, it is quite trustworthy even in the

smallest details. The book contains full-length portraits of forty-three species, accompanied in several cases with an enlarged figure of some of their parts. These portraits are especially interesting to Europeans, from our having no native trees of this graceful group; the only palm of our quarter of the world being the *Chamærops humilis*, which inhabits Sicily.

In the introduction Mr. Wallace has given a most curious account of the almost endless uses to which palms are applied by the inhabitants of tropical countries. It is probable that very few of his readers will have had any approach to an adequate conception of their value, not only to those who live amongst the palm-trees themselves, but also to us and other nations of the temperate regions of the earth.

We should like to transfer some part of this introduction to our pages, but find that it must be the whole or none. We choose the latter alternative, in the confident hope that very many of our readers will see it in the book itself.