

September, in fact some ripened in June and July, and the villagers have collected about 350 baskets (60 pounds each) of seeds, and have sold them to India. There are still a lot of seeds on the ground from fruits which ripened later and I am having them collected. This kalaw seed collecting is not as easy as I thought it would be: first, the season is over, and one has to go over large areas to find enough seeds to make it worth while; second, the kalaw forests are local, - the first kalaw forest I struck after leaving Mawleik was two and a half days' journey from the latter place. I found about 10 pounds of seeds, but no more; the next kalaw forest I encountered 7 miles from a jungle village called Khoung Kyew. I had to walk the whole distance bare-footed as we crossed Khodan river eleven times, and that meant wading up to the waist in water. The forest along this river is magnificent-- the wildest jungle I have ever seen. It is no joke to pass through the jungle; one sees elephant tracks, bear tracks, tiger tracks, etc. The natives will not venture out of their villages unless they go 15 or 20 together, and on this kalaw seed hunt I had that many with me. I have no rifle and these natives have no weapons save large knives. In July most of the fruits ripen, but the natives dare not go into the forests to collect them as bears then roam the kalaw forest and eat the fruit flesh, - not the seeds. The seeds are devoured by wild pigs.

"I wish I could describe the grandeur of the forests. The river banks are perfect walls of green, impenetrable jungle. The natives told me that in the evening they dare not leave their jungle village, as herds of wild elephants come out to the river bed to bathe. The natives have lost many buffaloes from tigers and the only way to get the tigers is by means of traps. Last week a coolie who carried some provisions from one village to another was found trampled to death by elephants. The men sing, while going through the woods, to scare the beasts away. Tomorrow I am going to the main kalaw forest with 30 coolies. Next week I will return to Mawleik, crossing the Khodan stream about 40 to 50 times."

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"To-day I returned with the coolies from a *Hydnocarpus* hunt. Time is getting scarce, and I hired one man from every house of this village. We went far into the forests, and there separated into smaller