



MELOCANNA BAMBUSOIDES, MULI BAMBOO.

"The culms reach a height of 50 to 70 feet, with a circumference of 12 to 13 inches at the base. It has been stated that *M. bambusoides* dies immediately after fruiting, but Dr. Anderson, Superintendent of the Botanic Gardens at Calcutta, states that in no case of which he was aware during the flowering period of 1857-58 did a general death of the bamboo follow. The foliage almost entirely disappeared during the flowering, and the flowering shoots died, but they were replaced by young shoots. The fruit is very curious in form and size as compared with other bamboos. The true seed inside the pericarp, about the size and shape of a betel nut (small pear), is very pleasant eating and not at all austere, though without much flavor. The natives declare the whole fruit is edible after baking." (Theobald. From Colonel Munro's monograph of the Bambusaceae.)