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THE NORTH AMERICAN SYLVA.

EXCÆCARIA.*

Natural Order, EUPHORBIACEÆ. *Linnæan Classification*, DICEIA,
MONADELPHIA.

DICEIOUS or MONÆCIOUS.—*Male* flowers in cylindric aments, solitary, or by threes, subtended by single scales; the filament of the *stamens* 3-parted at the summit. *Female* flowers solitary or in spikes, with a calyx of scales. *Capsule* tricoccous.

§ GYMNANTHES. (*Gymnanthes*, genus. SWARTZ.)—MONÆCIOUS. *Female* flowers solitary, pedicellate, the pedicel articulated and terminated by a minute toothed calyx, its base surrounded by embracing scales. *Male* flowers by threes.—Trees of Tropical America, with alternate, entire, sempervirent leaves.

* From *excæcare*, to blind,—the juice of the plant being so acrid as to cause blindness.