

SACCOLABIUM miniatum.

Orange-red Saccolabe.

GYNANDRIA MONANDRIA.

Nat. ord. ORCHIDACEE. (ORCHIDS, Vegetable Kingdom, p. 173.) SACCOLABIUM.—Blume.

S. miniatum (Lindl. in Bot. Reg. 1847, sub t. 26); foliis distichis imbricatis loratis canaliculatis apice obliquè truncatis, racemis brevibus cylindraceis patentibus, bracteis minimis acutis, sepalis petalisque ovatis acutis patulis, labello lineari obtuso recurvo calcare recto pendulo tereti breviore intus edentato, polliniis albis.

This is one of the prettiest Epiphytes lately introduced, for the gay red orange of its flowers is as rich and pure as in Epidendrum vitellinum. It is, moreover, so compact in its mode of growth, that it can easily be moved from place to place.

It is a Java plant, imported by Messrs. Veitch, and has flowered with both Mr. Rucker and Mr. C. B. Warner. Its blossoms grow in spreading racemes, about ten together, and when worn in the hair have a singularly beautiful effect.

Fig. 1. represents a side view of the column and lip; 2. shews the pollen-masses, which are remarkable for being white.

Our drawing was made from a specimen obligingly supplied by Mr. Rucker in February last.

This, like the true air plants, lives entirely on the humidity of the atmosphere, and should be fastened to a block of wood coated over with sphagnum, to retain moisture whenever the atmosphere happens to become too dry.

It is increased by division when the plant begins to form new roots, and should never be removed from the block when once fastened upon it, by its roots. It is best kept at the warmest part of the house, but not fully exposed to light.