



* BLÉTIA refléxa.

Reflexed Bletia.

GYNANDRIA MONANDRIA.

Nat. ord. ORCHIDÆE § EPIDENDRÆE, Lindl. (*Introduction to the Natural System of Botany*, p. 262.)

BLETIA.—*Supra*, vol. 17. fol. 1401.

B. reflexa; sepalis lineari-lanceolatis lateralibus reflexis, petalis cuneato-lanceolatis supra columnam conniventibus, labelli trilobi lobis lateralibus rotundatis planis intermedio angusto undulato lamellis 5 altis parallelis indivisis ad pedem columnæ decurrentibus, foliis angustis ensiformibus plicatis.

Folia angusta, ensiformia, plicata. Scapus $1\frac{1}{2}$ -2-pedalis, teres, distanter vaginatus, 2-4-florus. Bractæe oblongo-lineares, membranaceæ, ovario duplò breviores. Sepala angusto-lanceolata, ex viridi rubescentia basi alba; lateralibus reflexa, supremum paulò latius magis erectum, apice tantùm reflexum. Petala ex viridi rubescentia, cuneato-lanceolata, erecta, acuta, collateralia columnam a tergo tegentia. Labellum cucullatum, parte inferiore album, cum basi columnæ articulatum, oblongum, trilobum; lobis lateralibus erectis rotundatis, albis, margine roseis, intermedio elongato pariter rotundato, crispo, atropurpureo, patente, lamellis 5 altis integris subundulatis totum axim labelli percurrentibus. Columna purpurea, clavata, apice alata, dente unico incurvo post cardinem antheræ. Pollinia 8, quorum 4 cæteris minora.

Drawn in the hothouse of the Messrs. Loddiges, in November 1834. It is a terrestrial species, and a native of Mexico. The greenish colour of its flowers, and the remarkably narrow reflexed sepals, distinguish it at once from the remainder of the genus.

The specimen figured was less brilliant in its colours, and altogether smaller than is to be expected hereafter; for wild specimens now before us,* collected by Baron de Karwinsky, and forming part of the Royal Bavarian Museum, have a rich purple cast upon every part of the flowers, and the scapes each bear from two to four blossoms.

Requires the same treatment as other Bletias.

* See folio 1401.