



Miss Drake del^{ta}

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S. Barclay sc.

MAXILLARIĀ cucullatā.

Hooded Maxillaria.

GYNANDRIA MONANDRIA.

Nat. Ord. ORCHIDACEÆ, § VANDEÆ.

MAXILLARIA. *Botanical Register*, vol. 11. fol. 897.§ 2. SCAPIGERÆ; *scapis radicalibus imbricatim squamatis unifloris.*

M. cucullata; pseudobulbis ovalibus compressis monophyllis, folio lato scapis longiore, vaginis imbricatis inflatis, bracteâ cucullatâ ovario longiore, sepalis ovatis acuminatis erectis, petalis conformibus paulò minoribus, labello oblongo carnosio trilobo petalorum longitudine: lobis lateralibus nanis intermedio elongato obtuso apice incrassato apiculato, callo disci spathulato loborum lateralium longitudine.

A native of equinoctial America, whence it is said to have been brought by Mr. Henschman. For my specimens I am indebted to His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, who ordered them to be sent from Chatsworth in September, 1838. The species is one of the less interesting of the genus, and in its habit and general appearance approaches the *Trigonidia*. It belongs to a rather large section of true *Maxillarias*, characterized by their peduncles being constantly one-flowered, densely clothed with scale-like sheaths, and proceeding immediately from the base of the pseudo-bulbs which lie upon the earth.

Of this section several have been defined in the *Genera and Species of Orchidaceous Plants*,* and others have appeared in Pöppig and Endlicher's *Nova Genera et Species Plantarum*, so that among my collections of unpublished plants belonging to the Vandeous section of Orchidaceæ I find only one to add. That one is a native of Mexico, where it was first found by Count Karwinski, at Teoxomulco, near Oaxaca.

* I am happy to state that a sixth part of this work, comprehending *Arethuseæ*, *Gastrodieæ*, and *Vanilleæ*, is in the printer's hands, and may be expected in about a month.

As I believe it exists in this country in a living state I subjoin* its character, taken from specimens given me by Mr. Bateman, and from others in the herbarium of Dr. von Martius.

Fig. 1. shews the petals and labellum, seen from one side ; 2. is a view of the labellum from the inside ; 3. is the column, with the pollen-masses adhering to the apex ; 4. are the pollen-masses themselves, placed considerably below the upper end of their caudicula.

In cultivating this species great care must be taken not to let too much water into the scales of the young shoots, for it is very apt to rot them, and so spoil the pseudo-bulbs. The temperature of the stove in which it is grown should be kept low in the cold and cloudy weather of winter, and gradually raised as spring advances. In fact it is very unnatural, and highly injurious to grow plants of this kind in a temperature of 70° or 80° in the dull weather of winter, for it is applying the stimulus of heat without the corresponding action of light.

It should be potted in brown turfy peat well mixed with drainage, and treated generally as other plants of this kind.

* *MAXILLARIA rhombea* : acaulis, pseudobulbis ovalibus ancipitibus, foliis , vaginis acutis carinatis, bracteâ ovario æquali, sepalis petalisque acutis, labello subrhombico-trilobo : laciniâ intermediâ oblongâ apiculatâ medio exarata lateralibus nanis rotundatis appendice planâ retusâ longioribus.—Mexico, Oaxacæ, *Karwinski*.