

Cycnoches ventricosum; var. Egertoniánum. Ventricose-lipped Cycnoches, or Swan-neck; Sir Francis Egerton's var.

Class and Order.

GYNANDRIA MONANDRIA.

(Nat. Ord.—Orchideæ.)

Generic Character.

Perianthium explanatum. Sepala lateralia lanceolata, basi paululum sub labello connata; supremo angustiore. Petala latiora, falcata, decurva. Labellum liberum, ecalcaratum, columna continuum, lanceolatum, integerrimum, ungue abrupto calloso. Columna elongata, arcuata, teres, apice clavata, auriculis 2 falcatis ad latera clinandrii. Anthera bilocularis. Pollinia 2, postice sulcata, subpedicellata; caudicula lineari; glandula grossa.—Habitus Cataseti (sed racemus lateralis). Lindl.

Specific Character and Synonyms.

Cycnoches* ventricosum; sepalis petalisque lanceolatis reflexis, labello integro ventricoso acuminato basi calloso, ungue brevi, columna arcuata sepalo supremo duplo breviore. Batem.

CYCNOCHES ventricosum. Batem. Orch. of Mex. et Guatem. tab. 5.

Var. Egertonianum; sepalis petalisque ovato-lanceolatis reflexis, labello columna continuo obovato margine incurvo digitis 5 clavatis utrinque instructo, epichilio lineari membranaceo digitis vix longiore. Batem.

Cycnoches Egertonianum. Batem. Orchid. of Mex. et Guatemala.

CYCNOCHES

^{*} So called by Mr. LINDLEY, from xuxuos, a swan, and annu, a neck, from the resemblance of the column to the curved neck of a swan.

The concluding plate of Mr. Bateman's splendid work on the Orchidaceæ of Mexico and Guatimala, with its accompanying pages, are devoted to a most remarkable transformation of Cycnoches ventricosum into that kind of Cycnoches which had been called C. Egertonianum; and a history of their transformation is there recorded. The same subject is taken up by Professor Lindley, in the November number of the Botanical Register, 1843, (Supplement,) and a beautiful wood-cut is given of a portion of a raceme, bearing the flowers of the two kinds, and intermediate states. There can be no doubt, therefore, of the propriety of considering them as varieties of one and the same species; a conclusion which could not be arrived at by anything short of such ocular demonstration. In one respect, Mr. Bateman's figure is still more remarkable, for the same pseudo-bulb bears two racemes, one of them exhibiting perfect flowers of C. ventricosum, and the other perfect C. Egertonianum, as if from the effect of grafting. The flowers of C. ventricosum (of which a figure is prepared for this Magazine) are full four inches in diameter, with yellowgreen sepals and petals, and a large, white, undivided lip: those of our variety will be best understood by an inspection of the figure. I may observe that, in the stove of the Royal Botanic Garden, where our figures were made, the respective varieties have hitherto continued constant, neither of them showing an approach to the other kind.

Fig. 1. Front view of the Column and Lip. 2. Side view of ditto.