

## MASDEVALLIA ASTUTA, *n. sp.*\*

\* *Masdevallia (Saccilabiata) astuta*, *n. sp.*.—Affinis *Masdevallia* Gaskellianæ: folio spithamæo petiolato ligulato acuto, dorso carinato; pedunculis subæqualibus unifloris; sepalis triangulis intus hispidis, setis subduplo longioribus; tepalis obtuse acuti, labelli epichilio oblongo, carinis longitudinalibus terais, trabeculis lateralibus pluribus divaricatis, limbo denticulato; columna dorso ligulata ligula apice retuso serrata. Flos magnitudine illius *Masdevallia* Gaskellianæ, extus brunneus, apice ac per costam ochraceus, intus brunneo guttatus striatusve supra planum ochraceum. Labellum, tepala et columna flaveola, Costa Rica. *H. G. Rchb. f.*

ONCE more a member of the Saccilabiate group. This comes from Costa Rica, where it was collected by Mr. Carder, and grown by Messrs. Shuttleworth & Carder.

As a species it is the nearest neighbour of the nice *Masdevallia Gaskelliana*, but this has distinct acuminate leaves, different colours, and a very distinct lip. Then it recalls *Masdevallia erythrochæte*, a Costa Rican species of this affinity, but that has long, narrow, acuminate leaves, and both lip and column distinct, and the bodies of the sepals rounder.

Our plant has leaves nearly a span long, petiolate, oblong-acute, nearly an inch broad at its widest part. Peduncle of the same length. The sepals are most distinctly triangular, with brown tails, surpassing the length of the rest of the sepal at least twice, simply brown, and yellow at the apex and centre outside, ochre-coloured, with numerous brown blotches inside, hispid there all over. Petals rather blunt. Anterior saccate part of the lip ascending at the top, tooth-letted at the sides, with three longitudinal keels, and numerous small transverse bars outside the column, with a long beak. *H. G. Rchb. f.*