

### 13. EPIDENDRUM GRAVIDUM.\*

Received from Mr. Hartweg, in February, 1837, and said to be collected at Xapatam, in Mexico.

This curious species has a scape nearly 6 inches high, bearing at the end about four long-stalked, horizontal green flowers, which never open, but stand on the end of a large fusiform deep olive-green ovary, covered with pale-green warts. The stalk of the ovary is about half an inch long, the ovary itself  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch, and the flower scarcely half an inch.

It is certainly as far removed from beautiful as any plant can be; but its singular distended ovary, which is not very unlike a green leech studded with grains of carbonate of lime, has a most curious appearance. The plant does not seem to possess the power of opening its flowers, such as they are.

A mere botanical curiosity.

*March* 16, 1849.