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## MAXILLĂRIĂ cruentă.

*Blood-stained Maxillaria.*

GYNANDRIA MONANDRIA.

*Nat. ord.* ORCHIDACEÆ, § VANDEÆ.*MAXILLARIA.* *Botanical Register*, vol. 11. fol. 897.

*M. cruenta*; pseudobulbis compressis rugosis, foliis pluribus oblongis membranaceis, pedunculis radicalibus unifloris (rarò bifloris), vaginis distantibus obtusis cucullatis, sepalis ovatis obtusis lateralibus basi parùm productis, petalis minoribus conformibus, labello sepalis duplò breviorè concavo trilobo laciniis rotundatis intermediâ crispâ pubescente: tuberculo parvo plano, columnâ pubescente.

*M. Skinneri*, *hortorum nec Batemanni*.

It has been already stated (p. 11) that the plant current in our gardens under the title of *M. Skinneri* is not the species to which Mr. Bateman intended to apply that name, but one more nearly allied to *M. aromatica*. The accompanying figure represents the latter.

It was found by Mr. Skinner in Guatemala, and sent to his friends as a large variety of *M. aromatica*, to which it certainly bears much resemblance. The following circumstances however will readily distinguish it. The leaves are broader; the flowers are four times as large when in health; the lip has quite a different form, with a deep crimson blotch at its base, and is not half the length of the sepals; the middle lobe is rounded not unguiculate, and only a small tubercle in the middle instead of the large concave appendage that occurs in *M. aromatica*. No doubt then can be entertained of the specific difference between these plants, which may be stated as follows for *M. aromatica*.

*M. aromatica* (Hooker Ex. Flo. t. 219. Gen. & Sp. Orch. no. 20. Bot. Reg. t. 1871. *Colax aromaticus*, Spreng.); pseudobulbis compressis rugosis, foliis pluribus oblongo-lanceolatis membranaceis, pedunculis radicalibus unifloris erectis, vaginis distantibus obtusis cucullatis; sepalis ovato-

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oblongis petalisque conformibus acutis, labelli semicylindranei sepalis æqualis laciniis lateralibus acuminatis obtusis intermediâ cuneatâ apice serrulatâ; appendice magnâ concavâ carnosâ truncatâ, columnâ facie villosâ——*Mexico.*——The flowers are yellowish-orange colour, scarcely spotted even inside the lip, which has two rows of hairs along its inner face.

In the annexed plate, Fig. 1. represents the lip spread open; 2. is the column, which is hairy, although the engraver has neglected to shew the hairs.

As may be expected, the habits of this very fine species are the same as those of *M. aromatica*, and it requires the same treatment. It does very well in the cool orchidaceous stove, where plants from Mexico and Guatemala are now generally grown, and wants a season of dryness after it has made its pseudo-bulbs, but plenty of water during its growth. The flowering time is winter and spring.

The finest specimen I have yet seen flowered with Sir C. Lemon at Carclew, where one of the flower-stalks bore two blossoms, a very unusual circumstance among the species with this habit.