

MAXILLARIA REICHENHEIMIANA, *Endr., Rchb. f.*

Affinis Maxillarizæ crocææ. Pseudobulbis ellipticis ancipitibus; foliis cuneato-oblongis obtuse acutis more Phalænopsidis Schillerianæ pallide pictis; pedunculis plurivaginatibus, mento extintoriiformi; sepalis a basi triangula acuminatis; tepalis subæqualibus ima basi et ante basin inferne obtusangulis; labello cuneato dilatato apice trilobo, lobis lateralibus antice lobulatis, lobo medio ligulato antice valde carnosissimo inferne carinato; callo lineari apice acuto a basi usque ante basin laciniæ mediæ, papillis quibusdam filiformibus brevibus circumspersis; columna brevi circa androclinium fimbriata, limbo stigmatico angulato porrecto.

Imagine a small Maxillaria with minute bulbs not larger than a threepenny piece, leaves just as long as one's middle finger, painted in the way of those of Phalænopsis Schilleriana, with pallid colour on dark green and then yellowish flowers, not much over an inch and a-half in length, on stalks 3 to 4 inches long. The lip is very remarkable, having a very thick, nearly triangular, anterior lobe, and bears some violet and purplish spots.

It was discovered by M. Endres, in 1867, at an altitude of 5500 feet, in Costa Rica, and was gathered later by Mr. Zahn, when one of the Centro-American collectors of Messrs. Veitch. M. Endres proposed its being named in honour of M. Moritz Reichenheim, of Berlin, now the possessor of one of the very best collections of showy Orchids in Germany.

Poor lovely plant! If it were an Anecochilus, a Hæmaria, a Vanda, a Renanthera, every Orchidophilist would be in ecstasies on account of its singular beauty. But since it happens to be a Maxillaria, what avails it that it possesses so much beauty and excellence? Is it not just the same with plants as with men? *H. G. Rchb. fil.*