

A NEW MAXILLARIA FROM PANAMA

LOUIS O. WILLIAMS

IN a collection of orchids sent recently by Paul H. Allen for determination the following *Maxillaria* from the vicinity of El Valle de Antón in Coclé Province, Panama, which seems to be new, was found. This adds one more endemic species to the orchid flora of that small valley and its surrounding mountains, — from where Mr. Allen has previously sent many novelties.

Maxillaria repens L. O. Williams *sp. nov.*

Herbae epiphyticae repentes elongatae. Folia elliptico-oblonga vel anguste ovata. Sepala anguste triangulari-lanceolata, acuta, quinquenervia. Petala lineari-lanceolata, acuta, trinervia. Labellum anguste oblongo-obovatum, undulatum, truncatum, carnosum. Columna generis.

Repent, epiphytic herbs from an elongated, simple or usually branched stem. Stems slender, covered with sheaths which soon disintegrate: intervals between the lateral or foliaceous growths 10–15 cm. Foliaceous growths usually lateral from the main stem but the ultimate one on each stem appearing terminal, the growth consisting of 2–5 leaves (mostly 5), closely drawn together, and the flowers. Leaves 2–8 cm. long and 1–2 cm. broad, elliptic-oblong (usually) or lanceolate to narrowly ovate, coriaceous, acute or obtuse; the leaf-bases 1–3 cm. long, subequitant, fleshy, with chartaceous margins. Inflorescence a 1-several-flowered fascicle from the axils of the leaves, shorter than the leaves. Flowers with green sepals and petals which have reddish-brown margins; center of the mid-lobe of the lip with an orange-yellow eye and with pale yellow, ruffled margins. Sepals 7–10 mm. long and 2.5–3.5 mm. broad, narrowly triangular-lanceolate, acute, 5-nerved, the lateral sepals strongly reflexed and forming a short mentum with the column-foot. Petals 6.5–7.5 mm. long and 2–3 mm. broad, linear-lanceolate, acute, 3-nerved. Lip 6–8 mm. long and 3.5–4.5 mm. broad, narrowly oblong-obovate, undulate, truncate but the apex strongly reflexed, fleshy, with a small callus at about the middle; the terminal half fleshy-thickened at the middle and with a short apiculate keel on the lower surface, strongly reflexed. Column of the genus, about 5 mm. long; column-foot about 2 mm. long.

PANAMA: epiphytic, trail to Las Minas, north of El Valle de Antón, Province of Coclé, altitude 1000 meters, December 2, 1941, Allen 2868 (TYPE in Herb. Ames.; Mo. Bot. Gard.).

Maxillaria repens is most closely allied to *M. minus* (Schltr.) L. Wms.* It has the same general habit but in the details of the flower and in vegetative characters it is amply distinct.

M. repens

Lacks callus at the base of the lip.
Terminal portion of the lip much larger than basal portion.

M. minus

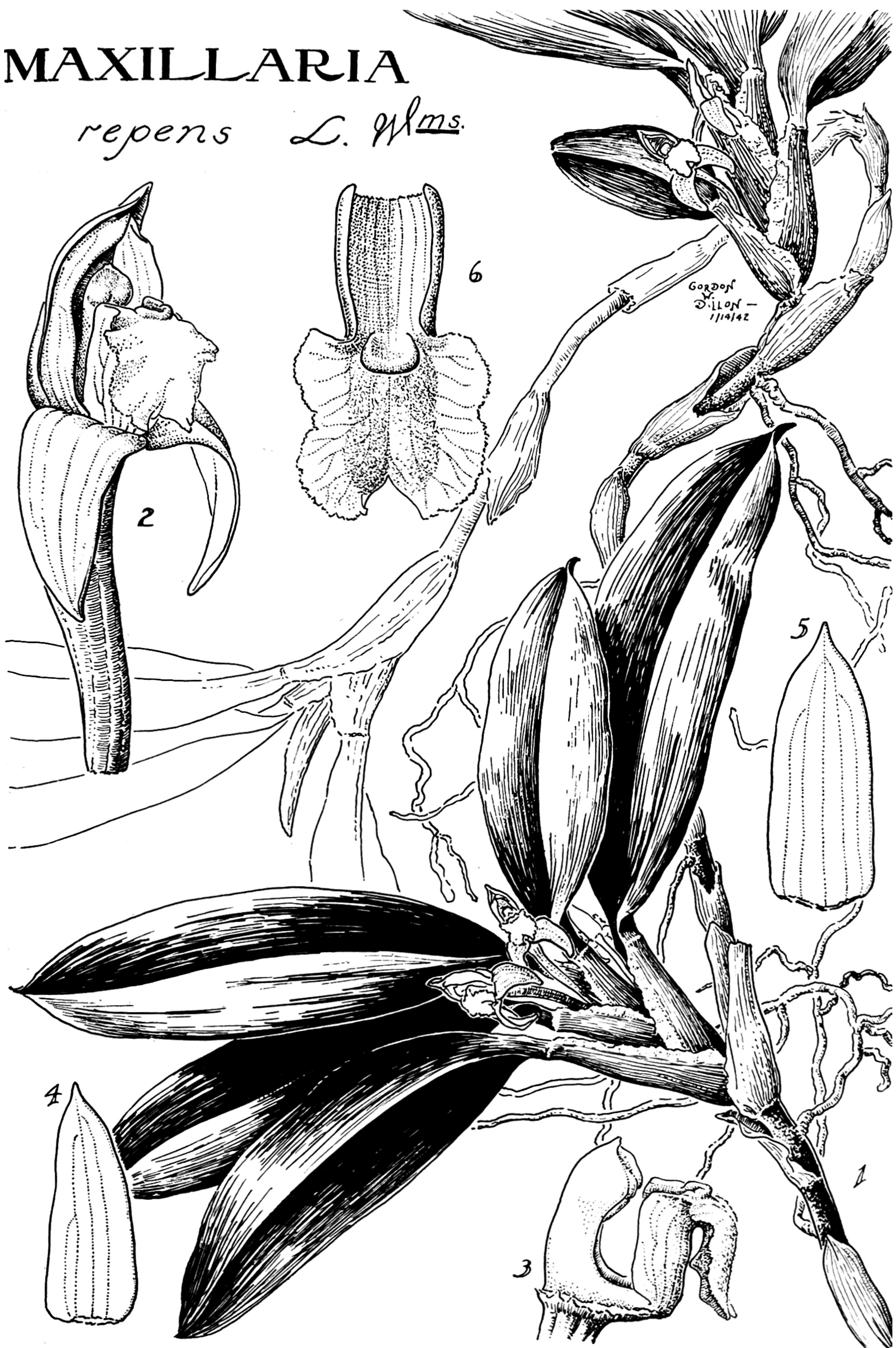
Has a callus at the base of the lip.
Terminal portion of lip much smaller than basal portion.

The sepals and petals are differently shaped in the two species. The leaves of *M. minus* are not so fleshy or coriaceous and are longer and much more acute or acuminate than are those of *M. repens*. *Maxillaria minus* bears pseudobulbs while *M. repens* does not.

* *Maxillaria minus* (Schltr.) L. O. Williams *comb. nov.* — (*Camaridium minus* Schltr. in Beihefte Bot. Centralbl. 36, Abt. 2 (1918) 417).

MAXILLARIA

repens L. *Wms.*



EXPLANATION OF THE PLATE

FIGURE 1, habit, $\times 1$. FIG. 2, flower, $\times 4$. FIG. 3, lip and column from the side, $\times 4$. FIG. 4, petal, $\times 4$. FIG. 5, dorsal sepal, $\times 4$. FIG. 6, lip spread out, $\times 6$.