

74. PILUMNA laxa.

Among the curious plants that have flowered this year with Mr. Barker is the present, which is said to have been purchased at Mr. Skinner's sale, and which, if there is no mistake in the matter, must have come from Guatemala. It is, however, so exactly like specimens found in Popayan by Mr. Hartweg, that we cannot help suspecting some error. Its general appearance may be understood by its having been mistaken for a *Trichopilia*. Its flowers are produced in loose erect racemes, out of broad obtuse short membranous spotted bracts. The stalks and ovary are an inch and half long; the latter with three very stout and strong ribs. The sepals and petals are a pale watery green, erect, linear-lanceolate, equal, faintly tinged with purple. The lip is cream-colour, rolled round the column at the base, to which it also is united at the lower end. The column has a singular fringed hood, overlying the anther, and a nearly vertical stigma, closed in by fleshy inflected cheeks. In these circumstances it differs from *Aspasia*, to which the genus is nearly akin. Mr. Hartweg found in the same country another species, of which and the present the following are the technical characters.

PILUMNA. *Ovarium* tricostatum. *Sepala* et *petala* æqualia patula obliquè inserta. *Labellum* basi columnæ adnatum, subintegrum, unguiculatum, convolutum, inappendiculatum. *Columna* clavata, teres, clinandrio cucullo dentato membranaceo circumdato; buccis duabus carnosus semiclausus. *Stigma* verticale. *Pollinia* 2, posticè fissa, caudiculæ brevi et glandulæ ovatæ adnata.—Herbæ *epiphytæ*, pseudobulbis *vaginat*is, foliis *coriaceis*, pedunculis *radicalibus*.—Genus *Aspasie* proximum, clinandrio cucullato, columnâ tereti, nec non stigmatè verticali nec faciali diversum.

- Sp. 1. *Pilumna laxa*; folio lineari-oblongo, racemo laxo multifloro brevior, bracteis laxis cucullatis obtusis, sepalis petalisque lineari-lanceolatis, labello oblongo indiviso rotundato medio constricto per axin unilamellato. —*In the woods of Timbio near Popayan.*
- Sp. 2. *Pilumna fragrans*; folio lato oblongo, racemo 2-3-floro brevior, bracteis lanceolatis erectis obtusis, sepalis petalisque oblongo-lanceolatis acuminatis, labello oblongo apiculato subtrilobo lævi. —*Near the city of Popayan.* — Flowers large, white, sweet-scented, with an orange-coloured spot on the lip, according to Mr. Hartweg.