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Trichoplia marginata.

TRICHOPILIA MARGINATA.

Nat. Order.—ORCHIDACEÆ.

GENERIC CHARACTER.—*Trichopilia*, Lindley.—*Sepals* and *petals* of the spreading perianth equal, linear, crisp. *Labellum* large, convoluted, parallel to the column, three-lobed, the intermediate one somewhat two-lobed, flattish, naked inside. *Column* round, club-shaped, the *clinandrium* hooded, three-lobed, villous-fringed. *Anther* one-celled, compressed, convex in front. *Pollen-masses* two, furrowed at the back, adherent to slender wedge-shaped *caudicles*; *gland* very small.—Mexican herbs, with fleshy pseudo-bulbs, clothed with spotted scales, one-leaved; leaves leathery, flat or slightly folded; flowers axillary, solitary.—(*Endlicher Gen. Plant.*, 1451.)

TRICHOPILIA MARGINATA, *nov. sp.*—Bordered-lipped *Trichopilia*.—Pseudo-bulbs long and narrow, compressed, bearing one folded leathery leaf at the summit, clothed with brown scales at the base; scapes arising in the axils of basilar scales, short, thick, and fleshy, clothed with several small fleshy imbricated scales at the base, decurved, one-flowered; flowers large; sepals and petals pale greenish, with purple shading above; labellum large, deep purplish-crimson or plum-coloured in the middle, shading off into a white margin.

SVS.—*Trichopilia coccinea*, of gardens.

DESCRIPTION.—A pseudo-bulbous herb; the pseudo-bulbs occurring in groups, fleshy, long, narrow, and compressed, bearing one leaf at the summit, which is folded below and channelled to the summit; the base of the pseudo-bulbs clothed with a few rather large brown scales, closely applied. The scapes, arising from the axils of scales at the base of the pseudo-bulbs, are short, thick, and fleshy, and clothed with several small fleshy imbricated scales at the base. The flowers large, spreading, and solitary, with the sepals and petals alike, narrowly linear-lanceolate, acuminate, crisp, with a thickened midrib, pale green, with purplish shading, chiefly on the upper side, leaving a light margin. Labellum very large, narrowed into a long claw, parallel to and adherent nearly half way up the column, the margins of the expanded portion rolled over the column, so as to produce a funnel-like aspect in the labellum, the mouth of the funnel being recurved. The limb, when opened out, obscurely three-lobed, the middle lobe squarish, emarginate; the central part of the limb deep purplish rose or plum-coloured, shaded off, and with veins radiating into the broad white recurved margin. Column continuous with the ovary, terete, club-shaped, with a fringed membranous hood.—A. H.

HISTORY, &c.—This very pretty species was recently introduced into this country by Mr. Linden, from the interior of New Grenada, in the western hemisphere, and has already flowered in several collections. We believe J. H. Schröder, Esq., of Stratford, was the first to bloom it; and our plate is prepared from a drawing we were kindly permitted to make from Mr. Schröder's plant, after the Royal Botanic Society's May Show, at which, as well as at the Chiswick *fete*, one or two flowering plants were produced.

CULTURE.—This plant is found on trees in the higher parts of New Grenada, and therefore it may be concluded that it does not require the heat of the Indian orchid-house. It thrives best in a pot, in a compost of peat, leaf mould, chopped sphagnum, broken potsherds and charcoal, mixed in equal proportions, and used in as rough a state as possible. An important point is drainage: every pot should have at least half of its depth filled with broken potsherds; these should be in three sizes, the largest at the bottom, the middle sized upon them, and then a covering about half an inch thick of the smallest size. Upon the whole place a thin covering of moss. In proceeding to pot the plant, divest it of any old compost which may hang about it, clear the leaves, and the surface of the pseudo-bulbs, of any intruders of the insect tribe which may infest them, and wash the leaves quite clean; then fill up the pot to the level of the rim with the compost, set the plant in the centre, fill up all round with compost, and by means of some hooked pegs fix the plant firmly; give a good watering, and the potting is completed. The proper time for potting is as soon as the young growths have got to the length of from one to two inches. The season of growth should commence with us about March, and be carried slowly on till September. The season of rest should be the remainder of the year. The temperature to which the growing plants should be subjected is about 65° by day, and 60° by night; when the plant is at rest, 55° by day, and 50° by night, will be hot enough.

The propagation of this, as of other pseudo-bulbous *Orchidaceæ*, is effected by careful division of the plants.—A.