

WARREÀ cyanëa.

Blue-lipped Warrea.

GYNANDRIA MONANDRIA.

Nat. ord. ORCHIDACEÆ. § VANDEÆ—MAXILLARIDÆ.

WARREA, Lindl. Flores subglobosi, subregulares, mento brevi rotundato. *Labellum* continuum, indivisum, lineis elevatis carnosis in medium. *Columna* semiteres, clavata. *Pollinia* 4, per paria in caudiculam brevem linearem inserta, *glandulâ* triangulari.—*Herba* terrestris, *pseudobulbosa*. *Folia* arundinacea. *Scapus* radicalis apice racemosus. *Flores* speciosi.

W. cyanea, *Supra*, 1844. *misc. no. 3.*

When, in the year 1843, I proposed to establish a new genus upon the *Maxillaria Warreana*, it certainly did not occur to me that two new and quite distinct species would be added to it in the course of as many years. Such, however, has been the fact; in the beginning of 1844 this beautiful species blossomed with Messrs. Loddiges, and a few months since another appeared in the collection of Mr. Rucker. Both the latter are from the Spanish main, and it is not improbable that others may lurk in the unexamined forests of that vast region.

Warrea cyanea is remarkable for the intense porcelain-blue colour of its lip, to which it is not easy to find a parallel in the order; for pure blue is scarcely known among Orchids. The plant has quite the habit of *Warrea tricolor*, but is very much smaller in all its parts. Its most distinctive character is found in the form of its lip, which has a distinct point, and five ribs, not three, near the base. Messrs. Loddiges imported it from Colombia, and it is no. 860 of their last catalogue.

Being a terrestrial species this requires treatment very similar to *Phaius maculatus*. The soil best suited is turfy heath mould with a mixture of silver sand; nor is it necessary to have the soil elevated above the brim of the pot, for it will not succeed well if the roots are too much exposed. In

summer it requires an ample supply of water and a moist atmosphere, at a temperature of 80° or 85° by day, and about 70° at night. Like all Orchidaceous plants this should be kept rather dry in winter, and repotted in spring as soon as it shows any symptoms of growth. While in a dormant state the temperature should never be raised above 65° with fire heat.