



EPIDENDRUM plicatum.

Plaited-lipped Epidendrum.

GYNANDRIA MONANDRIA.

Nat. ord. ORCHIDACEÆ. § EPIDENDREÆ. (ORCHIDS, *Vegetable Kingdom*, p. 173.)

EPIDENDRUM.—Supra passim.

§ ENCYCLIUM.

E. plicatum; pseudobulbis ovato-oblongis teretibus diphyllis, foliis coriaceis ensiformibus, racemo paucifloro (?) tactu glabro, bracteis minimis squamiformibus, sepalis petalisque obovato-lanceolatis acuminatis, labelli laciniis lateralibus oblongis acuminatis obtusis intermediâ cordatâ plicatâ cuspidatâ subbrevioribus ungue crasso sulcato, columnâ apice utrinque dentiferâ.

This fine species has been introduced from Cuba, by Messrs. Loddiges, with whom it flowered last January. It is remarkable for the petals, which are green inside, with a few purplish stains near the point, being of a deep rich violet on the outside! The sepals are greenish, stained with dull purple on both sides. The lip is of a very rich purple, with a little yellow near the base; its middle lobe is strongly plaited, and deeply cordate.

It is most nearly allied to *E. ceratistes*, a plant found by Mr. Linden on the snow-capped mountain ridge of Santa Martha; but that plant has a large branching panicle, smaller flowers, and shorter lateral lobes to the lip, which is white, with the middle lobe not at all cordate.

Fig. 1. represents the inside of the lip of this species, somewhat magnified.

It may be interesting to some of our readers, to know that there exists in Florida, a species allied to this, the introduction of which would be desirable. It occurs near Tampa Bay, whence we have specimens communicated by Dr. Torrey, and

might be readily obtained by any one trading with Florida. It is a slender species, with the habit of *Epidendrum odoratissimum*, but with much larger flowers, (whose colour is unknown,) and very narrow leaves. The pseudo-bulbs are small and terete, with a narrow tapering neck. A Botanist will recognise it by the following definition :—

E. tampense (Encyclium); pseudobulbis anguste ovatis acuminatis teretibus, foliis linearibus apiculatis paniculâ racemosâ sparsâ duplò brevioribus, sepalis petalisque oblongo-linearibus acutis, labelli tripartiti laciniis lateralibus linearibus obtusis intermediâ basi obscure 3-nerviâ oblongâ acutâ paulò longiore.