



*M. Drakei*

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G. Bunting del.

## \* HOYÄ coriäcä.

*Thick-leaved Hoya.*

## PENTANDRIA DIGYNIA.

Nat. ord. ASCLEPIADACEÆ.

HOYA. R. Br. Corolla rotata, 5-fida. Corona staminea 5-phylla, foliolis depressis patentibus carnosis, angulo interiore producto in dentem antheræ incumbentem. Antheræ membranâ terminatæ. Massæ pollinis basi affixæ, conniventes, compressæ. Stigma muticum, vel subapiculatum. Folliculi læves. Semina comosa.—Frutices aut suffrutices, volubiles, scandentes, aut decumbentes. Folia opposita, carnosâ v. membranacea. Umbellæ late-  
rales, multifloræ. Wight Contributions to the Botany of India, p. 35.

H. coriacea: foliis subvenosis ovalibus acutis v. acuminatis coriaceis glabris, corolla intus sericeâ. Blume Bijdr. 1063?

Suffrutex. Caulis teres, glaber. Folia glabra, subcoriacea, ovalia, acuta, venosa nec nervata, suprâ atroviridia, infrâ pallida. Umbellæ multifloræ, pedunculatæ, pendulæ, axillares; pedicellis glabris; bracteis minutis, squamiformibus, tomentosis involucatæ. Flores albidî; corollâ rotatâ, reflexâ, intus pubescente, basi tomentosâ, laciniis linearibus acuminatis. Corona staminea glaberrima; foliolis utrinque acuminatis. Antheræ oblongæ, obtusæ, membranâ brevi bidentatâ terminatæ. Pollinia erecta, glandulâ simplici exsulcâ.

A very pretty stove plant, sent by Mr. Cuming to Messrs. Loddiges, from Manilla; it flowered for the first time in August 1838.

The genus Hoya is a large one, the species of which abound in the southern parts of India, and are but imperfectly known to Botanists. Dr. Wight mentions twenty as found in Hindostan and the neighbouring islands; to which Dr. Blume adds nine more. The characters of the latter are so very short that it is impossible to ascertain, in the

\* Named in compliment to Mr. James Hoy, for many years the Botanical Gardener to the Duke of Northumberland at Syon House.

absence of authentic specimens, whether a plant corresponding with those characters is really the one intended; for distinctions expressed in such brief terms may apply to several different species and not be peculiar to one only. For this reason I am in doubt whether the plant now figured is really the *H. coriacea*, although I perceive no difference between it and Dr. Blume's definition of that species. It is to be hoped that this and all such points will be settled by M. Decaisne, who, fortunately for science, has undertaken the elaboration of the natural order Asclepiadaceæ for DeCandolle's Prodrômus.

Fig. 1. represents an anther viewed from the inside; and fig. 2. a pair of pollen-masses adhering to their common gland.

This curious species seems to be nearly parasitical in its habits. Messrs. Loddiges grow it in the Orchideous house, on the block of wood upon which it was imported,—this is placed in a pot, and surrounded with soil. It will grow in any light soil, the chief thing in its cultivation being a warm and moist atmosphere.

It does not send out roots from its stem like the other species, and is found at present rather difficult to propagate. However, there is little doubt of its being multiplied with a little patience either by cuttings or layers.