



W. Fisch, del. et lith.

Vincent Brooks, Imp.

BEGONIA ROSÆFLORA.

Rose-flowered Begonia.

Nat. Ord. BEGONIACEÆ.—MONŒCIA POLYANDRIA.

Gen. Char. (Vide supra, TAB. 4131.)

BEGONIA (§ *Huszia*) *rosæflora*; acaulis, foliis omnibus radicalibus crasse petiolatis orbiculari-reniformibus basi profunde 2-lobis concavis, marginibus recurvis lobulatis dentatis ciliolatis rubro-marginatis, supra nervis radiantibus impressis bullatis, subtus pallidis, nervis robustis pilosis, stipulis membranaceis, scapis erectis robustis laxè villosis rubris sub-3-floris, bracteis bracteolisque late oblongis obtusis, floribus amplis breviuscule pedicellatis 5-petalis, petalis late roseis orbiculatis emarginatis, filamentis liberis, antheris brevibus latis obtusis, ovario 3-loculari piloso, placentis 2-fidis et lobulatis undique ovuliferis, stylis 3 2-furcatis, cruribus fascia papillosa torta cinctis.

This lovely plant is the second species of *Begonia* allied to *B. Veitchii* (Tab. 5663), which I alluded to under *B. Clarkei* (Tab. 5675), and about the specific distinctness of which I expressed my doubts. In all respects it is much more closely allied to *B. Veitchii* than to *B. Clarkei*, being stemless, with similarly concave leaves and few-flowered scapes; it differs, however very conspicuously, in the stouter red petioles and scapes, in the broader rounder leaves, with very deeply impressed veins (and hence bullate upper surface), in the broad obtuse stipules and bracts, in the villous scape, in the blunt bracteoles close under each flower, in the more numerous flowers, which are of a pale red, like those of the Briar Rose (not the vivid cinnabar-red of *B. Veitchii*), and in the acute wing of the hairy ovary. So many and such conspicuous characters would amongst less variable plants than *Begonias* abundantly establish these species as distinct, and whether they prove permanent or no, it appears particularly desirable to publish good figures of all these forms on their arrival, and before they fall into the hands of the hybridizers,

by whom the specific characters, of such beautiful and popular plants, will doubtless soon be blended.

B. rosiflora was imported by Messrs. Veitch and Sons from Peru, where it inhabits elevations on the Andes of twelve thousand feet. It flowered in July of the present year.

DESCR. A stout stemless herb. *Petioles, scapes, bracts, and stipules* pale or bright red. *Leaves* pale green, two to four inches across, on stout, hairy petioles two to six inches long, orbicular-reniform, very concave, with deeply sunk radiating nerves; margins recurved, lobulate, edged with red, toothed and ciliolate, veins below prominent, hairy, *Stipules* broad, blunt. *Scapes* stout, villous, three-flowered. *Bracts and bracteoles* broadly ovate, obtuse, *Flowers* two inches in diameter, bright rose-red. *Petals* five, orbicular, emarginate. *Stamens* very numerous; *filaments* short, free; *anthers* orbicular. *Ovary* hairy, with one short acute wing. *Styles and placenta* as in *B. Veitchii*.—J. D. H.

Fig. 1. Ovary. 2. Transverse section of ditto. 3 and 4. Stamens:—all magnified.