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#### Edwards's botanical register.

London: James Ridgway, 1829-1847. http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/383

v. 28 (1842): http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/29386

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#### EDWARDS'S

## BOTANICAL REGISTER:

OR,

# ORNAMENTAL FLOWER-GARDEN AND SHRUBBERY:

CONSISTING OF

COLOURED FIGURES OF PLANTS AND SHRUBS, CULTIVATED IN BRITISH GARDENS;

ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR

History, Best Method of Treatment in Cultibation, Propagation, &c.

AND

MONTHLY CHRONICLE

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#### BOTANICAL AND HORTICULTURAL NEWS.

CONTINUED

By JOHN LINDLEY, Ph. D. F.R.S. AND L.S.

PROFESSOR OF BOTANY IN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON,

AND THE ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN,

VICE-SECRETARY OF THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,

§c. &c. &c.

#### 1842.

OR VOL. XXVIII. OF THE ENTIRE WORK.
OR VOL. XV. OF THE NEW SERIES.

Carpitur. DUPLICATA DE LA BIBLIOTHÈQUE

DU CONSERVATCIRE BOTANIQUE DE GENEVE

VENDU EN 1922

LONDON:

JAMES RIDGWAY, PICCADILLY.

M.DCCC. XLII. COMSERVATOIRE



### CYPRIPEDIUM barbatum.

Bearded Lady's Slipper.

#### GYNANDRIA DIANDRIA.

Nat. ord. Orchidaceæ, § Cypripedeæ.

Cypripedium. Botanical Register, Vol. 10. fol. 788.

SECT. V. Acaulia; foliis omnibus radicalibus. Gen. & Sp. Orch. 531.

C. barbatum; acaule, foliis coriaceis acutis canaliculatis maculatis, scapo pubescente, sepalo dorsali cuspidato obtuso ciliato margine revoluto, petalis lineari-oblongis subundulatis fimbriatis margine superiore verrucoso, stamine sterili lunato pubescente.—Bot. Reg. 1841, misc. no. 110.

Folia coriacea, oblonga, acuta, canaliculata, rigida, viridi intensiore interruptè vittata. Scapus pubescens, uniflorus, purpurascens, foliis longior. Bractea ovata, cucullata, acuta, ovario multò brevior. Flores erecti. Sepalum dorsale album, purpureo viridique lineatum, subrotundum, ciliatum, marginibus reflexis; lateralia in unum parvum obtusum connata. Petala oblonga, marginibus subparallelis, apice atro-purpurea, basi viridia, ciliata, margine superiore verrucoso, verrucis atropurpureis vernicatis piliferis. Labellum fusco-purpureum, obtusum, glabrum, petalis longitudine æquale. Anthera sterilis lunata, vertice verrucosa, angulis acuminatis, margine posteriore emarginata.

There is something in the habit of the Indian Lady's Slippers so peculiar, that it was for a long time expected that they would be found to possess characters sufficient to separate them altogether from their associates. The fullest examination however shews this expectation to be fallacious, and that no peculiarity of organization exists among them. In fact, the genus itself has been found to vary so much in the aspect of its species, that the common European and North American kinds convey no idea of its nature. In addition to the Indian forms, of which this may be regarded as a type, the hotter parts of America have furnished, on the one hand, the singular C. Lindleyanum, a hairy rufous plant with panicled flowers, and the scarcely less curious C. palmifolium, which bears the aspect of a Sobralia, and has its flowers in long racemes.

The species now represented is a native of the Straits of Malacca, where Cuming found it on Mount Ophir. Messrs. Loddiges are, as far as I am aware, the only persons who have flowered it. The purple hairy shining warts which border the upper edge of its petals distinguish it immediately from C. venustum and purpuratum, which are most like it.

Fig. 1. in the plate represents the head of the sterile stamen.

Persons who are unskilful in the cultivation of Orchidaceous plants, manage the more common kinds of Cypripedium extremely well, and therefore it is only necessary to say that this species succeeds perfectly with the same treatment as C. venustum or insigne. The cultivator should not go to extremes with resting these plants, and should water with caution when they are just beginning to grow, as the young shoots are apt to damp off. They are terrestrial in their habits, and do best when grown in pots.