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LINDENIA

ICONOGRAPHY

OF ORCHIDS

CONDUCTED BY

J. LINDEN, and LUCIEN LINDEN.

XII.

1896.

GHENT,

PRINTED BY EUG. VANDER HAEGHEN.

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PART LXVII.

AUGUST 1896.

LINDENIA

ICONOGRAPHY

OF ORCHIDS

CONDUCTED BY

J. LINDEN, LUCIEN LINDEN and A. COGNIAUX.

THE COLOURED PORTRAITS BY

P. DE PANNEMAEKER, A. GOOSSENS and J. GOFFART.

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CYPRIPEDIUM × LEBAUDYANUM HORT.

PL. DXXIX.

CYPRIPEDIUM × LEBAUDYANUM HORT.

M. ROBERT LEBAUDY'S CYPRIPEDIUM.

CYPRIPEDIUM. Vide *Lindenia*, I, p. 17.*Cypripedium* × *Lebaudy anum*. Hybridum inter *C. philippinense* et *C. Haynaldianum* artificiosa fecundatione productum.*Cypripedium* × *Lebaudy anum* HORT., *Journ. Soc. Nat. d'Hort. de France*, 1895, p. 338. — *Journ. des Orch.*, VI, p. 185.

At the present time artificial hybrids are numerous in the *Cypripedium* genus, and some raisers have arrived at the third or fourth generation. This however does not mean that they have exhausted the whole series of crosses which may be obtained from the typical species; and the hybrid which we figure to day is a striking proof of this, for it is certainly one of the most interesting which have been obtained in the genus.

C. × Lebaudy anum is the result of a cross between two of the most distinct species of *Cypripedium* that exist, both possessing great merit; if their crossing be of recent date, when *C. Spicerianum*, *C. barbatum*, *C. callosum*, *C. insigne* and several *Selenipedium* number already a long and numerous progeny, we must not be surprised; as both are relatively rare, and moreover of rather slow growth.

C. philippinense is held in high repute; it has been already figured in the *Lindenia*, and we need not introduce it to our readers. It belongs to the section which comprises *C. praestans* and *C. Rothschildianum*; the flowers of these plants grow in racemes of extreme beauty; but they are of slower growth than the *Selenipedium* and certain species from continental Asia, very common at the present time. It is extremely probable that its hybrids will be more rustic and more vigorous; our opinion is not founded on theory, or on horticultural analogies only, but on the example of *C. selligerum*, the result of a cross with *C. philippinense*, and which has been so abundantly multiplied that at the present time it figures in almost every collection.

C. Haynaldianum is still less common than *C. philippinense*, and is of rare distinction. It is a species bearing flowers in racemes, but quite distinct from the preceding group, and whose only analogue is *C. Lowi*. Like in the latter the petals are narrow, drooping, spathulate and slightly convolute; but the dorsal sepal is gracefully blotched instead of being uniformly of a yellowish green, suffused with dull brown at the base.

The crossing of these two species has proved quite a success, for *C. Lebaudy anum* combines in a wonderful way the qualities of both parents, and is of remarkable beauty.

The aspect is quite intermediate, the foliage ample; the flower-spike, about 30 inches long, bears on an average five very large flowers, of a very distinct shape and lovely coloration. The upper sepal is fully expanded, nearly as broad as long, of a beautiful pure white, with a greenish area at the base, and bears large blackish brown spots generally forming nine longitudinal lines; from the half of the height, these lines become continuous and gradually become paler until they are brownish rose. The lower sepal, nearly as large as the dorsal, but more concave and very broad, is tinted with pale green at the base and also bears a few rosy brown spots forming short lines.

The petals horizontal at first, then twisted and drooping from the third part of their length, are rather broad; the base is greenish, ornamented with large dark purple-brown blotches; the extreme half is of a beautiful bright violet-rose, tinted with brown on the edges.

The lip is clearly intermediate between those of the two parents, as well as the staminode; it is light greenish-yellow, veined with green, and the lateral lobes are pale yellow.

C. × Lebaudy anum is the result of a cross effected by M. PAGE, head-gardener on the beautiful estate of M. ROBERT LEBAUDY, at Bougival. The seeds were sown in 1890; the plant flowered five years later. We may thus hope, as we said above, that the seedling will be more vigorous and of faster growth than its parents: this period of five years is quite normal.

The new hybrid was exhibited at the National Horticultural Society of France at a Meeting held on the 13th June 1895; it obtained great success, and was awarded a First-Class Premium and a First-Class Certificate of Merit.

Such a remarkable addition does great honour to the distinguished amateur who in a few years has formed a collection of Orchids well worthy of notice and full of promise for the future; it does honour also to the skilful gardener this amateur has made choice of and encouraged. This reminds us of what the Reporter of the Commission said, when sent by the National Horticultural Society of France to examine the estate of M. LEBAUDY:

“ M. PAGE is as modest as skilful; besides taking care of his flower-garden and vegetable-garden, he has found time for assembling a collection of Orchids in a small hot-house (merely from his love for plants, as he was not required to do so) and has made it thrive under conditions such that many would fail, for senseless and ridiculous pretexts; by degrees, M. LEBAUDY'S SON, M. ROBERT LEBAUDY, began to take an interest in these flowers, and becoming the owner in his turn, he did not hesitate in having special hot-houses built for the Orchids.

(To be concluded on p. 10.)