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LINDENIA

ICONOGRAPHY

OF ORCHIDS

CONDUCTED BY

J. LINDEN, and LUCIEN LINDEN.

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1896.

GHENT,

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ICONOGRAPHY OF ORCHIDS

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TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH BY J. WEATHERS.

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CYPRIPEDIUM X MASSAIANUM WEATHERS

PL. DIXL.

CYPRIPIEDIUM × MASSAIANUM WEATHERS.

THE DUC DE MASSA'S CYPRIPIEDIUM.

CYPRIPIEDIUM. Vide *Lindenia*, I, p. 17.*Cypripedium* × *Massaianum*. Hybridum inter *C.* × *superciliare* et *C. Rothschildianum* artificiosa fecundatione productum.*Cypripedium* × *Massaianum* WEATHERS, in *Gard. Chron.*, n. s., XIV (1893), p. 267, c. ic.

Although perhaps not comparable in beauty with *C.* × *Morganiae* which has recently been figured in this work, *C.* × *Massaianum* nevertheless has some features in common with that magnificent hybrid, and belongs to the same section. The differences between the two are evident and need not be specified. But the relationship rests upon the basis that the two plants spring from a cross effected between parents, very dissimilar in each case, but still more or less allied one to the other. On the one hand we have *C. Stonei* and *C. Rothschildianum* more or less similar in structure, and distinct in colour, and on the other hand *C. superbiens* and *C.* × *superciliare*, the latter being derived from the former, and both having as characteristic features the cylindrical brownish red lip rounded at apex, the wide and beautifully blotched petals, the erect poise, and the regular oval outline of the upper sepal.

These diverse features are all combined in *C.* × *Massaianum*, and it may be said that the flower of this hybrid is almost such as one might have imagined it before its appearance. The petals however remind one more of *C.* × *superciliare* or its ancestor *C. superbiens*, being broad, slightly deflexed, and decorated with numerous blackish purple blotches.

The upper sepal is yellowish white, longitudinally traversed by numerous purple red veins, and somewhat heavily stained with green for two thirds of its height from the base upwards. The lower sepal is almost as large as the upper, while the huge crimson red lip is veined with brownish red. The staminode is much more like that of *C.* × *superciliare* than that of *C. Rothschildianum* but still a slight resemblance to the latter is apparent.

This beautiful plant was exhibited for the first time on July 11. 1893 at the Royal Horticultural Society's Gardens, Chiswick, when it received an Award of Merit.

It is named after the Duc DE MASSA one of the principal French amateurs.

Our drawing was made from a plant shown by M^r ALFRED VAN IMSCHOOT, the well-known Ghent amateur, at a meeting of the ORCHIDÉENNE last October.