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LINDENIA

ICONOGRAPHY

OF ORCHIDS

CONDUCTED BY

J. LINDEN, and LUCIEN LINDEN.

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1897.

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TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH BY J. WEATHERS.

CONTENTS :

	Pages		Pages
Odontoglossum × cirrho-Halli L. Lind.	37	Cypripedium × Pauli Hort.	41
Cattleya Trianae Lind. var. eminens L. Lind.	39	Cymbidium Lowianum Rchb. f. var. flaveo- lum Lind.	43

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CYPRIPEDIUM x PAULI HORT.

PL. DLXXI.

CYPRIPIEDIUM × PAULI HORT.

Mr. PAUL MITEAU'S CYPRIPIEDIUM.

CYPRIPIEDIUM. Vide *Lindenia*, I, p. 17.*Cypripedium* × *Pauli*. Hybridum inter *C. insigne Chantini* et *C. villosum Boxallii* artificiosa fecundatione apud exc. G. MITEAU productum.

Cypripedium × *Pauli* first appeared in 1894, having been obtained by Mr. G. MITEAU, the well-known Belgian amateur, by fertilising *C. insigne Chantini* with the pollen of *C. villosum Boxallii*. It was shown at a Meeting of the ORCHIDÉENNE on January 14, when it received a First Class Diploma of Honour. At the following Meeting on February 11, the raiser exhibited a new and more highly coloured form of it, which was awarded a First Class Certificate of Merit, under the varietal name of *eximium*.

The crossing of *C. insigne* with *C. villosum* is one of the most fortunate in the genus, and it is also the source of the largest number of diverse forms. Thus, in the year following the first flowering, Mr. G. MITEAU again exhibited at a Meeting of the Brussels Society a series of hybrids raised from the same cross, which were so distinct, that one would have hardly guessed, unless told before hand, that they all had the same origin. Some had a very light colour, like that figured in our plate, others were very dark, while the blotches on the upper sepal were more or less numerous or scarce, &c.

These differences are easily explained when it is remembered that the two parents, and particularly *C. insigne*, are extremely polymorphous; and it will suffice to show the wide range, to mention that *C. Sallieri* is generally believed to be the result of the same cross which has produced many reputed hybrids.

C. × Pauli is quite intermediate between its two parents. From *C. insigne* it derives its light colour, good appearance, the clear yellow blotch which covers two thirds of the lower portion of the upper sepal, and the broad white band at the apex of this segment; while *C. Boxallii* supplies the large and well-formed petals, and the shape of the upper sepal the edges of which are folded backwards at the base. The magnificent cluster of purple-brown blotches, which extend almost to the apex of the upper sepal, and assume a more violet tint on the white border, remind one a little of both parents, but more especially of *C. insigne*. The influence of *C. villosum* is shown chiefly in the size of the flowers and the form of the petals, as is the case in most of the crosses in which it has been employed.

Mr. GEORGE MITEAU is one of the principal *Cypripedium* amateurs and

connoisseurs in Belgium deserving of mention, and his charming collection at Jette-St-Pierre, near Brussels, consists of very choice and well-cultivated plants of noble Orchids. He described and accounted for his passion two years ago in the *Journal des Orchidées* with great ability and a contagious enthusiasm which could not fail to make converts. Many other first-class seedlings will doubtless issue from his collection, the essential conditions for producing them — superior varieties, and knowing how to combine them gracefully — being certainly realised in his case. Besides, *Cypripedium* × *Pauli* is alone sufficient to indicate a memorable event and to mark out a hybridist.

(Continued from p. 40)

number of varieties which exist. Only the names of the more remarkable and striking varieties are retained and preserved. Beyond these forms of the first class, which are naturally very rare, many amateurs give their plants distinguishing names, which however cannot be regarded as of any value outside any particular collection or circumstance. It frequently happens that the same variety receives several names simultaneously in different collections, and it also happens that some of these varieties cannot be identified with any degree of certainty, as the variations of *Cattleya Mossiae* are infinite. The practice of giving names to various forms ought therefore to cease, unless in the case of very choice varieties which have been figured in specially illustrated publications.
