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THE
ORCHID MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN. **ALBUM,**

COMPRISING
COLOURED FIGURES AND DESCRIPTIONS
OF
NEW, RARE, AND BEAUTIFUL
ORCHIDACEOUS PLANTS.

CONDUCTED BY
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THE COLOURED FIGURES BY JOHN NUGENT FITCH, F.L.S.

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J. Nugent Fitch del

CYPRIPEDIUM EURYANDRUM.

B.S. Williams. Publ.

CYPRIPEDIUM EURYANDRUM.

[PLATE 301.]

Garden Hybrid.

Terrestrial. Acaulescent. *Leaves* distichous, broadly ligulate, unequally acute at the apex, channelled, rich green faintly tessellated with deep green, from nine to twelve inches long, and one and a half to two inches broad. *Scape* stout, erect, reddish purple in colour, pubescent, two to three flowered. *Bracts* ovate acute, about a third the length of the ovary, dull brown streaked with purple; *dorsal sepal* broadly ovate, convex, about two inches across, white suffused with crimson, and streaked with green and crimson-purple; the connate *lateral sepals* similar to the *dorsal sepal*, but paler and much smaller; *petals* ligulate, about four inches in length, and nearly half an inch in breadth, whitish at the base, passing into greenish yellow, streaked with crimson-purple veins, and heavily spotted with purple, more or less regularly arranged in lines, and fringed on the margins with long purplish black hairs; *lip* large and bold, oblong-obtuse, the pouch brown suffused with crimson. *Staminode* papillose, yellowish green bordered with white.

CYPRIPEDIUM EURYANDRUM, *Reichenbach fil., Gardeners' Chronicle*, new series, iv., p. 772; *Veitch, Catalogue*, 1880, p. 10, with figure; *Garden*, xix., p. 636, with figure; *Flore des Serres*, t. 2278—2279; *Williams, Orchid-Grower's Manual*, 6 ed., p. 244, with figure; *Floral Magazine*, new series, 1875, t. 187 (new hybrid).

The hybrid *Cypripediums* have now come so much into favour that we are pleased to be able to bring before our readers correct portraits of some of the most beautiful of these wonderful crosses, which are for the most part the result of the hybridiser's skill in this country. What can be a more delightful occupation for amateurs and gardeners than to aim at doing something for the pleasure and enjoyment of others who delight in improving nature's work. Although this is a somewhat difficult matter to accomplish, yet in many instances it has been done. It is astonishing what can be effected through study, and there is yet a wide field open for those who are pursuing this course, now such numerous forms are at their disposal. The Messrs. J. Veitch and Sons, of Chelsea, and others have done much to accomplish this object. *Cypripedium euryandrum* is a distinct hybrid of the Messrs. Veitch's, and is the result of a cross between *C. Stonei* and *C. barbatum*—two well-known species. The offspring partakes of both parents, and is one of the best hybrids we have yet figured; it is robust in growth, and no doubt is a free bloomer, judging by the plant our drawing was taken from, which was grown in the Victoria and Paradise Nurseries.

Cypripedium euryandrum is a plant with beautiful bright shining green foliage of leathery texture, and vigorous habit. The flower scape is produced when

the growth is completed; it is stout and hairy, bearing from two to three flowers, of which the dorsal sepal is very broad, roundish and convex, white, stained with crimson and striped with deep crimson-purple and green; the broad petals are much longer than those of *C. barbatum*, whitish at the base, with large purple spots running in lines over their entire length; the lip is similar to that of *C. barbatum*, but larger and of a brownish crimson colour. This plant blooms during October and November, and continues in flower for several weeks.

This *Cypripedium* requires to be grown in the East India house, and should be shaded from the hottest sun during the summer, but it requires all the light possible to induce it to grow strong. The potting material we use for it is rough fibrous peat and sphagnum moss, with some charcoal intermixed; pot culture suits it best. The plant should be kept moist at the roots, and by having good drainage the water will pass quickly away, which is a very important matter in the general cultivation of plants. This plant requires a good supply of water at the roots in summer, and in winter should also be kept moist, as it has no thick fleshy bulbs to support it. Always keep the foliage plump and vigorous, as this *Cypripede* is nearly always growing, and sends forth its young growths after the blooming season is over. This is a good time to re-pot, if it requires it; but the plant must not be overpotted. Should it not require to be newly potted, place some new material on the surface; before doing this, however, remove some of the old soil, taking great care not to injure the roots.
