

06168  
1888  
V. 7

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

COMPRISING

COLOURED FIGURES AND DESCRIPTIONS

OF

NEW, RARE, AND BEAUTIFUL

**ORCHIDACEOUS PLANTS.**

CONDUCTED BY

ROBERT WARNER, F.L.S., F.R.H.S.,

AUTHOR OF SELECT ORCHIDACEOUS PLANTS,

AND

BENJAMIN SAMUEL WILLIAMS, F.L.S., F.R.H.S.,

AUTHOR OF THE ORCHID-GROWER'S MANUAL, ETC.

---

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

---

**VOLUME VII.** <sup>□</sup>

---

LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY B. S. WILLIAMS,

AT THE

VICTORIA AND PARADISE NURSERIES, UPPER HOLLOWAY, N.

—  
MDCCLXXXVIII.



J. Nugent Fitch del

CYPRIPEDIUM MORGANIANÆ

B.S. Williams. Publ.

# CYPRIPEDIUM MORGANIÆ.

[PLATE 313.]

## *Garden Hybrid.*

A terrestrial plant, bearing distichous, ligulate, obtuse leaves, which are from nine to twelve inches long, and about two and a half inches wide, leathery in texture and deep shining green in colour, faintly tessellated with darker green. *Scape* radical, terete, erect, purplish brown, slightly hirsute, about eighteen inches high, bearing from three to four very large flowers; *bracts* large, ovate-acute, streaked with purple; *dorsal sepal* broadly oblong or elliptic, about two and a half inches long, and an inch and three-quarters broad, white within, suffused with delicate rose colour, and ornamented with eight to ten longitudinal reddish purple streaks, the two lateral combined sepals being smaller, and similarly though less highly coloured; *petals* ligulate, acute, about five inches long and three quarters of an inch broad, curved downwards, slightly undulate, and ciliated on the margin, white, tinged with sulphur-yellow, and heavily spotted with brownish purple, especially so towards the apex; *lip* nearly as in *C. superbiens*, but bolder, unguiculate, standing forward horizontally, above rose colour veined with brownish purple, whitish beneath; *staminode* pale yellow, somewhat lunate, with incurved cusps and a deep sinus at the back.

CYPRIPEDIUM MORGANIÆ, *Rchb. fl.*, *Gardeners' Chronicle*, 1886, xxvi., p. 243; *L'illustration Horticole*, fifth series, 1887, t. 5; *Garden*, 1883, xxiii., p. 58, t. 372; *Williams, Orchid-Grower's Manual*, 6 ed., p. 251.

---

Many hybrid *Cypripediums* have been raised in this country during the last twenty years, and the named kinds have now become very numerous; the subject of our present plate, however, we think cannot fail to enchant all lovers of these "Slipper Orchids." We consider this the grandest hybrid that has yet been raised. It is the result of carefully selecting two good parents, and when this is done the cross is almost sure to be a successful one; in this case the parents chosen were *C. superbiens* and *C. Stonei*, the former belonging to the *barbatum* section, and the latter to the long-petalled, glossy-leaved Eastern species which resemble the Western *Selenipediums* in everything, but wanting the three-celled ovary. *C. Morganiæ* appears to resemble its first-named parent more closely in the flower, and the latter in its foliage, although the beauties of both may be said to be fairly blended. This splendid hybrid was raised by Mr. Seden, in Messrs. J. Veitch & Sons' Nurseries at Chelsea, and is named in honour of the late Mrs. M. Morgan, of New York, U.S.A., who was a great admirer of Orchids, and one of the most liberal and enthusiastic purchasers of her day. Within the last few years the taste for *Cypripediums* has become almost universal, for these

plants, in addition to the extreme beauty of their flowers, are easy of cultivation, very free blooming, and their flowers remain for a long time in perfection. Our drawing was taken from a grand specimen in the collection of W. Lee, Esq., Downside, Leatherhead (which has since come into our own possession), where a splendid collection of this genus is maintained.

*Cypripedium Morganiaë* is a fine evergreen plant with tessellated leaves from nine to twelve inches long. The scape is terminal, erect, and attains a height of twelve or eighteen inches, bearing from three to four large flowers, which much resemble those of the rare *C. Stonei platytænium*, whilst the scape itself is more like that of *C. Stonei*. The dorsal sepal is elliptic, white tinged with rose colour, and veined with reddish purple; petals ligulate, sulphurous white, with numerous dark brownish purple spots and blotches on the inside; lip similar to that of *C. superbiens*, but longer, brownish purple above, yellowish white below. During the past year (1887) we flowered four plants of *C. Morganiaë*, at different times, in the Victoria and Paradise Nurseries; the first plant commenced to bloom in July, the flowers of each plant continuing in full beauty for two months, which affords ample proof of its perpetual-blooming properties, and the length of time its beauties may be enjoyed. This *Cypripedium* is of free habit of growth, and when the plant becomes strong and thoroughly established, it produces lateral growths very freely; but, being a hybrid, its numbers cannot be augmented by importation from abroad; it is, consequently, likely to remain a rare plant for many years to come. We find this variety requires the same treatment as *C. superbiens*—thriving best in the East India House; it enjoys a liberal supply of moisture to its roots during active growth, and, indeed, during the whole year, in order to keep the foliage plump and vigorous; in the summer time a slight syringing daily will be found highly beneficial, but avoid heavy syringing, as the water is liable to lie in the axils of the leaves and injure the young growths. These plants do not form pseudobulbs, and consequently they have nothing to support them during the resting season; if they are subjected to drought at that time, therefore, a moderate amount of moisture is necessary in winter to maintain them in a healthy condition. *Cypripediums* should be grown near the glass in order to obtain all the light possible, so that their growths may become well matured, without which they cannot bloom freely; this ripening of the growths produces stronger spikes and intensifies the colour in the flowers. The material we use in the cultivation of this plant is a mixture of rough fibrous peat, sphagnum moss and potsherds, the pots being well drained, which keeps everything clean and sweet about its roots. The best time for re-potting is just after the flowering season, at which time it commences to make new growths. A thin shade should be used to screen this plant from the sun, but it should never be shaded unless the sun is shining.

*Cypripediums* are subject to the attacks of red and black thrips, but we find these pests are readily destroyed by steaming with the Thanatophore, the use of which is becoming very general on account of its cleanliness and the safety with which the remedy may be applied.