

Herb. Bot.
C.H.
.06169
1891
V. 9

THE
ORCHID 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,

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

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

HENRY WILLIAMS, F.L.S., F.R.H.S.,

AND

WILLIAM HUGH GOWER, F.R.H.S.

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



VOLUME IX.

Mo. Bot. Garden,

1894

LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY B. S. WILLIAMS & SON,

AT THE

VICTORIA AND PARADISE NURSERIES, UPPER HOLLOWAY, N.

MDCCXCII.



CYPRIPEDIUM ARTHURIANUM

CYPRIPEDIUM ARTHURIANUM.

[PLATE 389.]

Garden Hybrid.

Terrestrial. *Leaves* narrowly ligulate, three to four inches long, faintly tessellated with dark green upon a pale ground. *Scape* erect, flowers solitary, large and showy. *Dorsal sepal* yellowish green, upper portion wavy and pure white, the coloured portion marked with spotted veins of brownish crimson; inferior sepal much smaller, and paler in colour, sparingly spotted with brown; *petals* oblong-ligulate, deflexed, and slightly recurved, undulated on both edges, particularly the upper one, purplish green on the superior half, veined with deep crimson, the inferior half pale yellowish green, with dotted lines of crimson, the edges ciliate; *lip* calceiform, with a wide aperture, greenish yellow, veined and streaked with brown, and dotted with crimson on the interior. *Staminode* large, pale yellow, with green centre.

The result of a cross between *C. insigne* and *C. Fairrieanum*.

CYPRIPEDIUM ARTHURIANUM, *Reichenbach f.*, *Gardeners' Chronicle*, N.S. ii., 1874, p. 676; *Orchidophile*, 1887, p. 209, with plate; *Veitch's Manual of Orchidaceous Plants*, iv., pp. 77 and 78, with fig.; *Williams, Orchid-Grower's Manual*, 6 ed., p. 238.

We have already figured numerous species, varieties, and hybrid *Cypripediums* in the previous volumes of the ALBUM, but the one here depicted is thoroughly distinct from any that have already appeared, and this is a point which must be taken into consideration by hybridisers—there should be no countenance given to any hybrid unless it carries with it some point of distinction, and it is our aim to portray in the pages of the ALBUM the most beautiful and interesting forms of this deservedly popular genus of plants, which cannot fail to give satisfaction to all lovers of the Orchid family. The subject of our illustration is the result of a cross between *C. insigne* and *C. Fairrieanum*. It was raised by Messrs. J. Veitch & Sons, of Chelsea, and was dedicated in 1874 to the late Mr. Arthur Veitch by Professor Reichenbach; it is at the present time one of the most distinct amongst the numerous forms of this genus which are now to be found in our collections. This is still a rare plant, and these hybrids take time to increase sufficiently to insure an example for all our Orchid growers; they differ from the species which are found in their native countries by our collectors when they ruthlessly clear out every plant they can find, entirely clearing the species from the locality; such must have been the case with *C. Fairrieanum* many years ago, as it has never again been found to this day. *C. superbiens* is another kind which has only been imported once, which is remarkable, and we can but regret this, as it is the very best of the *barbatum* section. Our artist's portrait

of this plant was taken from a specimen in our own collection in the Victoria and Paradise Nurseries, Upper Holloway, where with us it blooms very freely every year.

Cypripedium Arthurianum is a distinct and beautiful hybrid. It is a dwarf-growing evergreen plant, with foliage some five inches long and an inch broad; the scape is about eight inches high, and single flowered, each blossom measuring about five inches across. The flowers have somewhat the general appearance of *C. insigne Maulei*, the dorsal sepal being of a pale yellowish green, veined and spotted with blackish crimson; the petals are also veined with deep crimson, deflexed and recurved, which is the peculiar character of *C. Fairrieanum*, its other parent; lip veined and mottled with brown on a pale greenish yellow ground. It blooms during the autumn months, and if the plant is kept in a warm house, where it has been growing, its blossoms remain in full beauty for upwards of six weeks.

This plant thrives well in the temperature of the Cattleya house well exposed to the light, and appears to be intermediate in its constitution, one of its parents being a cool-house plant, whilst the other requires the heat of the East India house, but the offspring thrives best in an intermediate situation. It will grow well in either a pot or basket, but we find pot culture the more congenial to its wants; it, however, requires careful potting, also judicious selection of the material used, and although it does inherit some of the peculiarities of *C. Fairrieanum*, it nevertheless also partakes of some of the vigour of its other parent, *C. insigne*. From experience we find that it requires ample drainage, which should be covered with some rough peat fibre, and the soil consist of good fibrous peat, leaf-mould, and nodules of charcoal; the plant must be firmly potted, and elevated on a cone-like mound above the pot's rim. This variety requires careful watering, as it does not like so great a quantity as some of the members of this genus, but yet its roots should never be allowed to become dry, and herein lies one of the peculiarities in its cultivation. These *Cypripediums*, having no thick fleshy pseudo-bulbs to support them, or to draw upon during a period of drought, require great attention as regards the supply of moisture to their roots at all seasons of the year.
