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THE
ORCHID ALBUM,

COMPRISING

COLOURED FIGURES AND DESCRIPTIONS

OF

NEW, RARE, AND BEAUTIFUL

ORCHIDACEOUS PLANTS.

CONDUCTED BY

Plate 498
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AND

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

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CYPRIPEDIUM SEDENII CANDIDULUM.

CYPRIPEDIUM SEDENII CANDIDULUM.

[PLATE 481.]

Garden Hybrid.

Epiphytal. Acaulescent, quite destitute of pseudobulbs, but producing a quantity of long strap-shaped *leaves*, which are persistent, sheathing at the base, channelled above, carinate beneath, and of a uniform full green. *Scape* erect, having numerous lateral branches, bearing many flowers, which in the best varieties have a beautiful pale ivory-white hue pervading the *sepals* and *petals*, and a pink pouch, but in other respects we fail to detect any difference in the blooms from the type.

CYPRIPEDIUM SEDENII CANDIDULUM, *Reichenbach fil.*, in *Gardeners' Chronicle*, 1884, xxii., p. 489.

CYPRIPEDIUM SEDENII CANDIDULUM, *Lindenia*, vi., t. 245.

The variety of the plant which we here figure may be a somewhat high-coloured one, but as it is a hybrid that has been obtained by many, both amateurs and tradesmen, since the first was raised by Messrs. Veitch and Sons, it is difficult to obtain plants with the pure ivory-white flowers, such as the one originally sent out in the first place, which was the result of a cross between *C. Schlimii albiflorum* and *C. longifolium*. Many of the plants called *C. Sedenii candidulum* are the result of crosses from other plants.

The plant here figured flowered in our own collection, in the Victoria and Paradise Nurseries, in the course of the present year. It was grown in the temperature of the East Indian house, and we have observed on several occasions that many of these hybrids of *Selenipedium* do not in the least object to this heat, although their parents may have come naturally from places having a much lower temperature than is given them under cultivation. The *Selenipediums* or the South American Slipper family are a very robust class of Orchids, and they have characters which we have often thought amply sufficient to thoroughly establish them as a distinct genus, but it does not appear to have made any impression upon the majority of our Orchidists, although many genera are established upon much finer distinctions. These plants, although of robust constitution, require to be well drained, and nothing sour or stagnant should be allowed to lie or to gather about them. This should be carefully looked to, as upon good drainage we consider success or non-success in plant culture depends. Let the soil consist of a mixture of good brown fibrous peat and chopped sphagnum moss, with a little turfy light yellow loam added, but the latter should have most of the finer particles of soil shaken away, mixing with the whole some sharp Bedfordshire sand. During the summer season they require a liberal

supply of water to their roots, and they also enjoy a plentiful amount of moisture in the atmosphere, but, of course, the quantity will have to be reduced in the winter months; in fact, *C. Sedenii candidulum* thrives well side by side with the original *C. Sedenii*, from which it differs only in the colour of its flowers.

This Cypripedium may be said to be a perpetual bloomer, for if the old spikes are allowed to remain upon the plant they will continue to produce flowers for many months; on this account it will be found very valuable where cut flowers are required, especially where coat flowers are in demand, a single flower with a frond of Maidenhair fern making a very pretty combination.

CYPRIPEDIUM BURTONII.—A very handsome and richly coloured hybrid raised by F. M. Burton, Esq., of Highfield, Gainsborough, to whom we dedicate it, although he has not kept the parentage in black and white, and consequently the records of its origin are gone; however, the plant remains. Mr. Burton himself suggests that its parents were probably *C. Lowii* and *C. Hookerae*, but it is a great pity that we have to go upon guess-work for the parents of such a fine hybrid. The foliage we know nothing about. The flower is in shape and build like *C. macropterum*, raised by Messrs. Veitch and Sons, of Chelsea, but in this case the colour is brighter and better than many others of the long-petalled varieties. The dorsal sepal is of good size, some two inches high by about one and a half wide, ovate, white, profusely veined with bright green; the lower sepal is of the same colour but much smaller. The petals are deflexed, more than three inches long and upwards of an inch wide, the apical half of a very deep red, the basal half green much spotted with black. The lip is close and compact, with a small opening, pale reddish on the upper side, pale greenish beneath veined with darker green, and deep crimson on the inner side.—W. H. G.
