

THE
GARDENERS' CHRONICLE.

A Weekly Illustrated Journal

OF

HORTICULTURE AND ALLIED SUBJECTS.

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returnable. But even choice fruits fail to satisfy in every case. Tomatos and Cucumbers, Vegetable Marrows and Cauliflowers, Cabbages and Lettuces, Potatos and Turnips, *ad infinitum*, all become acceptable. No wonder that some gardeners feel that the demands they are thus called upon to satisfy are not only irksome, but make very serious inroads upon the supply of products to meet the requirements of their employer's family. But where this feeling exists the ideas of gratitude and self-sacrifice become, to say the least, debased and of little worth.

Few gentlemen would care to deny gifts from their gardens for this purpose, and few gardeners would like to seem wanting in such a matter, but there must be a limit to their good nature and the gardeners' capacity. The greatest restraint, however, would be that enforced by public opinion, for it is not possible to suppose that excessive and incongruous use of the fruits of the soil will not presently meet with wide condemnation. There is another objectionable aspect to these harvest decorations in its selfish element. Whilst those egotistically tempered may prefer to boast of the superior beauty or variety of their contributions, all admit that they prove eminently attractive to sightseers, as contrasted with worshippers, but as collections in hard cash always follow, the decorations, if involving much labour, prove not unprofitable. We may well ask, however, whether they have not gone far enough, and even whether it is not well for the moderate-minded of the clergy to set an example, by returning to the employment of those things which are simple yet appropriate, and not calculated to evoke the selfish feelings to which allusion has been made. *A.*

New Garden Plants.

VANDA HOOKERIANA, *Rchb. f.*

On the 24th of April, 1856, I first saw Dr. Lindley, Sir William Hooker, the Hookerian Herbarium, Mr. J. Bateman, and Kew Gardens.

Amidst the treasures of the Herbarium this plant made an extraordinary impression on me. It came from Labuan: Motley 347! I published it in Seemann's *Bonplandia*, 1856, 324. In 1862, having made Mr. Stuart Low's acquaintance, I urged him to introduce this lovely plant. Mr. Low knew the species but too well, and speaking hard words about its being the worst traveller he knew, predicted it would not easily come alive to Europe.

Then a so-called plant appeared on the Continent. It had thin blunt leaves, and the fact of its dying before flowering prevented its identification.

Finally, at the end of the summer, 1873, there came a living cargo to London. I believe all went direct to Sir N. de Rothschild, Bart., and the plants one afterwards saw at other places were all presents from Tring Park.

Now, after nearly ten years, Mr. Hill, Sir N. de Rothschild's Orchid grower, has succeeded in flowering the plant, and if progress may be seen later on in the quantity and diameter of the flowers, it is scarcely to be expected that the actual brilliancy of colour can be surpassed.

Details about the plant were given when it made its *début* at the Royal Horticultural Society, on September 12, as noted in the *Gardeners' Chronicle*, 455, September 16, p. 375, col. 1. We should have had liked some remarks from Mr. Hill as to how he succeeded in flowering the plant. I remember that somebody, most probably Mr. Stuart Low, informed me it should be flooded with water during the growing season even more than a *Nepenthes*.

The general appearance of the plant is that of *Vanda teres*, though it is probably more delicate. I have at least no knowledge of such giant plants as my *Vanda teres* from Pegu. The leaves are provided with a subulate point, mucronate at the apex. I always saw the leaves yellowish-green in the typical plant, but I am not sure whether it does not change colour when in fine health. The peduncle exceeds the leaf in length. The one at hand is two-flowered. A wild inflorescence with ripe fruits bears five and so also one of Mr. Motley's Hookerian peduncles.

The flower has rather unequal sepals. The odd

one is cuneate-oblong, wavy, and appears to be bent over the column. The lateral ones are nearly of the same shape, but much larger, and the median nerve projects on the outside beyond the margin in a subulate apiculus. The petals are spatulate, oblong, blunt, and undulated. When fading, all these organs, which are bent in an elegant manner, are cream-white, with a few crimson-lilac spots. When first I saw them they had a light lilac hue.

The auricles of the lip are nearly triangular, with a thick triangular area, bordered by callous lines. Two blunt calli stand in front of the mouth of the small acute spur. The lip's blade is large, transverse, trifid, the side lacinie semi-oblong, a little retrorse at the apex, the anterior lacinia semi-oblong, all undulate, and even lobed. The lip is whitish, with an exceedingly light hue of lilac, and it is covered by numerous fine dark purple-lilac spots, which look exceedingly fine. The column is hairy under the fovea, white with a few purple-lilac lines on the back and on the androclinium. The pollen apparatus is that of *Vanda teres*.

I feel very grateful for the glorious specimen. No doubt Mr. T. Moore will have a difficult position when giving his verdict over the new Orchid beauties of this year. What will our modern Paris find to prefer to this grand plant?

My wild specimens, including nine flowers, are due (chronologically) to Mr. Stuart Low, Mr. Bull, Dr. Wallace, Sir Joseph Hooker. Some flowers came also from Singapore, where it may be grown easily. *H. G. Rchb. f.*

ANGRÆCUM BILOBUM (Lindl.) KIRKEI, *n. var.**

This has just flowered with Mr. B. S. Williams, Victoria and Paradise Nurseries, having been sent by Dr. Dougal Kirk, of Zaozibar. The same thing flowered as early as 1875 at the Hamburg Botanic Garden, and later, one sent by my late friend, C. M. Hildebrandt, from the same country. When it arrived it looked very distinct in its very narrow leaves (see also C. M. Hildebrandt's dried specimens, No. 1286). By-and-bye the flowers got broader and less acuminate, and the leaves became much broader. Thus I might suggest this to be a starved form of the Cape Coast Castle plant. I may add the remark, that I never saw such leaves as are represented by Miss Drake in the *Botanical Register*. I have drawn in the garden of Herr Keferstein, Kröllwitz bei Halle, a variety that forms an excellent connecting link, not having the rounded sides to the leaves. *H. G. Rchb. f.*

ANGRÆCUM FUSCATUM, *n. sp.†*

This is near *Angræcum bilobum*, Lindl. Its leaves are as much cuneate, oblong, unequally bilobed at the blunt top. I have no information about the height the plant reaches. It bears a thin lax peduncle with many flowers, which are nearly equal to those of *Angræcum caudatum*. The peduncle is cinnamon coloured, as are the ovaries and the very short blunt triangular bracts. Sepals ligulate acuminate, ochre coloured, the lateral ones reflexed. Petals nearly the same, a little broader, white. Lip oblong acuminate, white, with a filiform long flexuose brown spur. Column with a membranous toothletted border to the androclinium and a linear rostellar process. The flower might safely be compared with that of a *Brassia* in shape, provided the spur were not regarded. The plant was imported from Madagascar by Messrs. Hugh Low & Co.

The first flowers came from Mr. George Marriott, Exotic Nursery, Upper Edmonton, N. I finally persuaded my correspondent to spare a leaf for me, which was a great sacrifice, his flowering plant having only had three such organs. Then I had it from Messrs. Hugh Low & Co. Finally it came from Sir Trevor Lawrence's Orchid paradise of Burford Lodge. *H. G. Rchb. f.*

CYPRIPEDIUM CARDINALE, *n. hyb.*

This is a Sedenian cross, raised at the Royal Exotic Nursery of Messrs. James Veitch & Sons. The

* *Angræcum bilobum* (Lindl.) var. *Kirkei*.—Mius, angustius; folis angustioribus apice divergentibus; lacinis oblongo-ligulatis obtusis; sepalis lanceolatis acuminatis; labello oblongo abrupte secus seasim cuspidato. *H. G. Rchb. f.*

† *Angræcum fuscatum*, *n. sp.*—Folius cuneato oblongis apice obtusato inaequalibus; racemo plurifloro flaccido; bracteis triangularibus ovaria longe non aequantibus; sepalis ligulato lineari- acutis, lateralibus reversis; tepalis cum sepalis inaequali fornicatis; labello oblongo-ligulato acuminato, calcaris filiformi flexuoso ovarium pedicellatum ultra duplo superante, jugo semilunato uno supra alterum sub fovea.—Ex Madagascar insula imp. cl. Low. *H. G. Rchb. f.*

parents are *Sedeni* and *Schlimii* (*Sedeni* × *Schlimii*). It is distinct from *Schlimii* in its acute undulate petals, a looser odd sepal, in its white staminode with a purple angulate marking, and in its purple hue on the upper sepals and petals. It differs from *Sedeni* by a narrower bract, straight petals, and the most intense glorious purple of the lip. It will be interesting to know whether it is as free a grower as the beloved *C. Sedeni* (*Selenipedium cardinale*). *H. G. Rchb. f.*

CYPRIPEDIUM GRANDE, *n. hyb.*

This is indeed a curious thing. It was raised by Mr. Seden at the Royal Exotic Nursery of Messrs. J. Veitch & Sons from a cross between *Cypridium Roezlii* and *caudatum* (I guess *caudatum roseum* = *Warszewiczii*). It is a giant plant, with leaves and habit of the latter. The peduncle is that of *Cypridium Hartwegii* with the acute bracts of a *Heliconia*. The grand flower would be that of a *Hartwegii* in an exaggerated edition had it not oblong-lanceolate sepals, the inferior one surpassing the lip. A fresh inflorescence is at hand bearing three flowers, which of course are not quite equal to the flower of the one flowered first inflorescence (*Selenipedium grande*). *H. G. Rchb. f.*

CYPRIPEDIUM CILIOLARE, *n. sp.**

Could Reinwardt or Zippel, who discovered the two first *Sondaic* *Cypridia*, have foreseen what a rich store of those curious, even lovely plants, was concealed in the Malayan and Philippine Archipelago! There is no end to them. Here appears once more a fresh species on the scene, very near *Cypridium superbiens*, *Rchb. f.* (*Veitchianum*, Hort.), and yet well distinct, as I must believe from the materials at hand—a fresh leaf and dried flowers. It has already made its *début* at Mr. Stevens' rooms, having been introduced by Messrs. Hugh Low & Co. The leaves come near those of *Cypridium superbiens*. The flower has everywhere far more copious nerves, and the hairs on the margins of the sepals and petals are much more numerous and much denser, and not chiefly retrorse. The principal characters are to be found in the lip and in the staminodes. The nail of the apparently velvety lip is much shorter than in *Cypridium superbiens*, and the staminode is much lower and broader, with blunt almost obscure inner teeth in front. The species will prove a good member of this fine genus, so much esteemed by many. *H. G. Rchb. f.*

THE FUNGUS WEEK AT HEREFORD.

HEREFORD! a name which calls up a host of pleasant memories to the present generation of British mycologists. Year after year do the devoted members of this confraternity look forward to the Woolhope week with an ardent no pluvial downpour can damp. For twelve years past it has been the privilege of the writer to be present at the fuogus foray of the Woolhope Club, but never has the weather been more propitious than was the case this year. In the earlier days of these forays it was considered rather meritorious than otherwise to journey some 200 miles to be present, but times have changed since then. Now mycologists come double the distance, as the Rev. J. Stevenson did this year, from Glamis, in Forfarshire, and nothing is thought of it, or, as when our French *confères* came a year or two ago, some of them from (to us) unknown regions trending towards the Jura mountains. This much is certain, that to acquire anything like an extended knowledge of the larger fungi the student must be an enthusiast. Of course any one with ordinary care and attention may learn to recognise the commoner species, but to pursue the study of the rarer, or, perhaps, it would be more correct to say, the less known and less easily recognised species, necessitates a great amount of enthusiasm, for several reasons; firstly, because the bulk of the specimens can only be obtained at one period of the year, and that but a limited one; then, as a rule, they occur in great numbers simultaneously; then, again, their ephemeral nature compels one to work at them almost night and day if their characters are to be grasped; and, lastly, the absence of any easily applicable method of preservation by which the determined specimen of one year can be compared with the

* *Cypridium ciliolare*, *n. sp.*—Aff. *Cypridium superbiens* *Rchb. f.* (*Veitchianum*, Hort.); tepalis latis obtuse acutis brevioribus, pilis quacuaversis densissime ciliatis; labelli ungue brevi; staminodio latissimo, brevissimo, extus dente utrinque inflexo brevissimo; dentibus anticis obscurissimis creniformibus. Ex ins. Philipp., imp. cl. Low. *H. G. Rchb. f.*