ORCHIDACEÆ LINDENIANÆ;

OR,

NOTES

Apon a Collection of Orchids

FORMED IN COLOMBIA AND CUBA,

By MR. J. LINDEN.

BY

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I am not sure that this is the same as Presl's Peruvian plant. Its lip appears to be less sagittate; indeed it is not sagittate at all, being furnished with two short diverging lobes. Its flowers too are less hairy, according to the memoranda in my herbarium. The two plants, however, if not the same, are very nearly so.

142. P. rariflorus; caulescens, foliis ovato-lanceolatis acuminatis undulatis 3-nerviis scapo glabro multò brevioribus, floribus distantibus præsertim infimo, petalis linearibus cuspidatis erectis, labello concavo carnoso margine incrassato apice obscurè trilobo obtusissimo, calcare pendulo obtuso angusto.

"Terrestrial. Forests of Galipan, in Caraccas, at the height of 5000 feet; March. Flowers yellow." (No.—).

SUB-ORDER VII.—CYPRIPEDEÆ.

UROPEDIUM.

GEN. Nov. Omnia Cypripedii, sed labellum planum et petala longissimè caudata. Anthera sterilis trilobo-hastata.

143. U. Lindenii.

"This singular and magnificent plant grows on the ground in the little woods of the Savannah, in that elevated part of the Cordillera which overlooks the vast forests at the bottom of the lake of Maracaybo, and situated on the territory of the Indians of Chiguará, at the height of 8500 feet. Sepals oval-lanceolate, pale yellow, streaked with orange. Petals purple, orange at the base. The flower may be from fifteen to twenty inches long in its greatest diameter. Leaves thick and fleshy; June 1843." (No number).

The habit of this curious plant is exactly that of Cypripedium insigne. The leaves are a foot long, blunt, unequally two-toothed at the point, shining, spotless, and longer than the downy scape. The bracts are two, of which the exterior is spathaceous, compressed, blunt, coriaceous, and much longer than the inner. The peduncle is six inches long, downy, and one-flowered. The upper sepal is ovate-lanceolate, and four inches long; the lower are united into one of the same form, but rather wider. The petals are linear-lanceolate, extended into a long narrow tail, and are probably eight or nine inches long, but in my specimens they are broken. The lip is of exactly the same form, but broader, and like the sepals is shaggy at the base.