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CURTIS'S
BOTANICAL MAGAZINE,

COMPRISING THE

Plants of the Royal Gardens of Kew,

AND

OF OTHER BOTANICAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN GREAT BRITAIN,
WITH SUITABLE DESCRIPTIONS;

BY

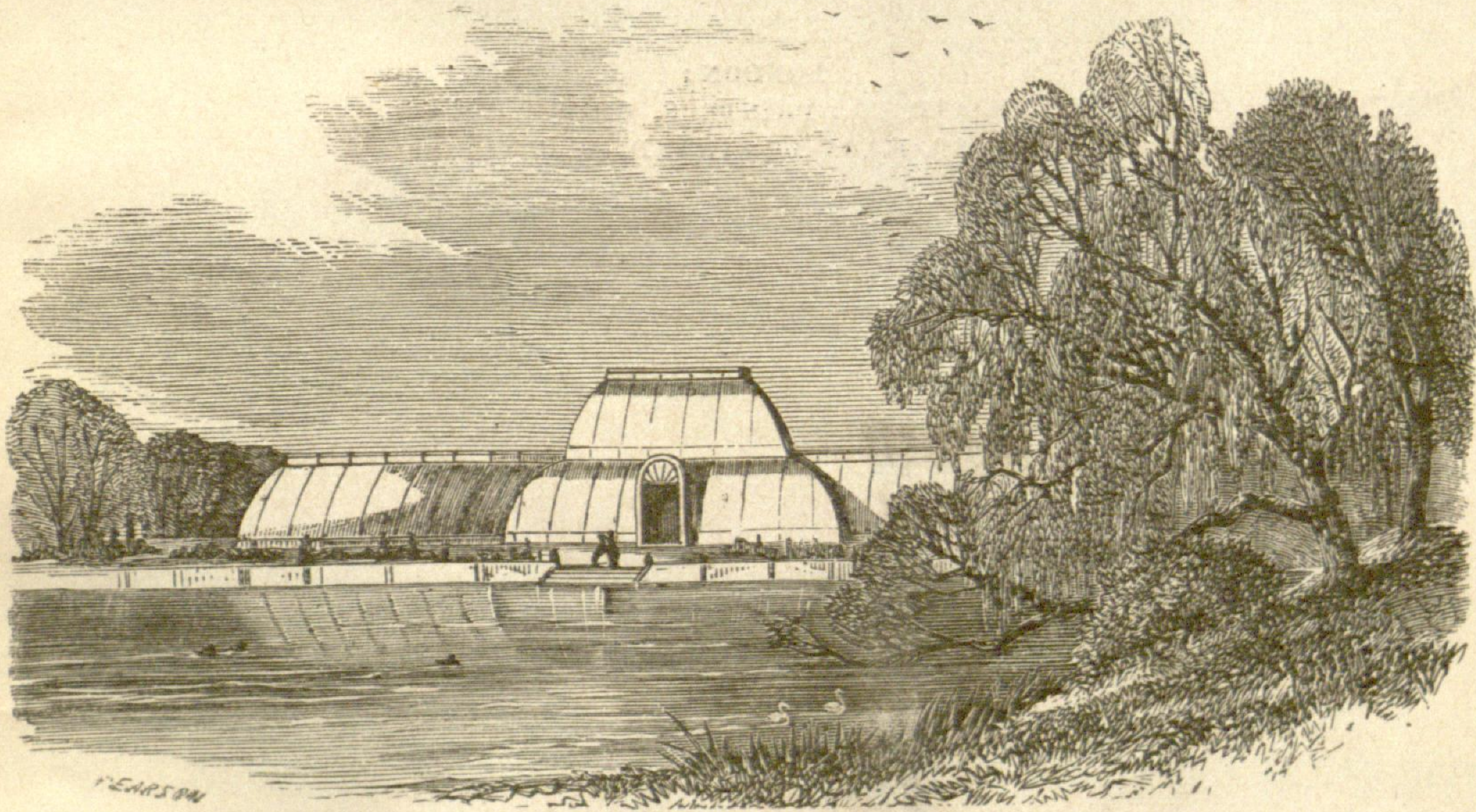
JOSEPH DALTON HOOKER, M.D., C.B., P.R.S., F.L.S., &c.

D.C.L. OXON., LL.D. CANTAB., CORRESPONDENT OF THE INSTITUTE OF FRANCE.

VOL. XXXI. -

OF THE THIRD SERIES;

(Or Vol. CI. of the whole Work.)



“ A lily of a day
Is fairer far in May,
Although it fall and die that night—
It was the flower and plant of Light.
In small proportions we just beauties see ;
And in short measures life may perfect be.”

—BEN JONSON.

LONDON :
L. REEVE & CO., 5, HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT GARDEN.
1875.

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Mo. Bot. Garden,
1897.



CYPRIPIEDIUM ARGUS.

Native of the Philippine Islands.

Nat. Ord. ORCHIDÆ.—Tribe CYPRIPIEDIÆ.

Genus CYPRIPIEDIUM, *Lindl.*; (*Endl. Gen. Plant.*, p. 220).

CYPRIPIEDIUM *Argus*; foliis omnibus radicalibus subdistichis oblongo-lanceolatis acutis pallide viridibus maculis saturatoribus tesselatis, scapo valido elongato glanduloso-pubescente rubro-fusco 1 flore, spatha ovario valde elongato multo brevior, sepalo supremo late ovato-cordato acuminato albo-purpureo striato, lateralibus connatis angustis labello suppositis, petalis lineari-oblongis obtusis undulatis margine ciliatis pallide viridibus maculis purpureis ocellatis, labelli sacco ostio retuso utrinque angulato, staminodio hippocrepiformi.

CYPRIPIEDIUM *Argus*, *Reichb. f. in Gard. Chron.* 1873, p. 608, and 1874, p. 710.

A very near ally indeed of the old *C. barbatum* of Java (Tab. nost. 4234), but differing in the very acuminate upper sepal, and the brilliant ocellated markings on the petals, as also in the much larger size, stouter habit, and longer ovary. Also allied to *C. purpuratum* (Tab. nost. 4901), *C. Hookeræ* (Tab. nost. 5362), and others, of which the type is the old *C. venustum* of Wallich (Tab. 2129). All these have a similar habit, tessellated leaves, a broad upper sepal, variously-marked petals, similar sacs to the lip, and a horseshoe-shaped extremity to the column. All are further natives of the hotter parts of India and its Archipelago, and suggest the idea that they are races of one variable species. *C. Argus* is no doubt much the handsomest of all these; it was discovered by Mr. Wallis, Messrs. Veitch's collector, in the Island of Luzon, one of the Philippines, and was flowered in Messrs. Veitch's establishment in March of the present year.

DESCR. *Root* of stout fibres. *Leaves* five to eight inches long, by one to one and a half inches broad, subdistichous, oblong-lanceolate, acute, rather fleshy, nearly flat, pale green, tessellated with square dark green spots. *Scape* a foot high, stout, red purple, clothed with spreading glandular hairs, 1-flowered. *Spathe* two inches long, compressed, green, with

a very oblique mouth, much shorter than the stout erect glandular ovary, which is sometimes four inches long. *Flowers* four to five inches broad across the petals. *Upper sepal* broadly ovate-cordate, much acuminate, white with many dark green and purple stripes; lateral sepals combined into one ovate lanceolate blade, with a notched tip, which is placed under the lip, and is rather broader and larger than this is, pale with green stripes. *Petals* longer than the upper sepal, deflexed at an angle of forty-five degrees, three inches long, linear-oblong, obtuse, whitish, faintly tinged with green, rose-coloured towards the tip, studded with dark purple spots, some of which are ocellated; margins fringed with purple hairs, many of which are disposed in tufts in the marginal purple spots. *Lip* two inches long; sac inflated, smooth, dirty purple above; mouth with acute raised angular margins. *Staminode* horseshoe-shaped with incurved points. *Stigma* suborbicular.—*J. D. H.*

Fig. 1, Front; and 2, lateral view of column :—*both magnified.*