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CYPRIPIEDIUM CALIFORNICUM.

Native of California.

Nat. Ord. ORCHIDÆ. Tribe CYPRIPIEDIÆ.

Genus CYPRIPIEDIUM, *Linn. (Benth. & Hook. f. Gen. Plant. vol. iii. p. 634).*

CYPRIPIEDIUM (Foliosæ) *californicum*; glanduloso-puberulum, pluriflorum, foliis ovato-oblongis lanceolatisve acutis multinerviis, bracteis foliaceis flores multo longioribus, sepalo dorsali erecto elliptico subacuto, lateralibus connatis labello subpositis, petalis sepalis æquilongis lineari-oblongis subacutis, labello obovoideo globoso intus basi piloso, staminodio subsessili reniformi, stigmatе parvo quadrato, capsulis reflexis.

C. californicum, *A. Gray in Proc. Amer. Acad. vol. vii. p. 389; S. Wats. Bot. Calif. vol. ii. p. 138.*

The plicate-leaved *Cypripedia* are confined to the north temperate regions, and are for the most part natives of North America, where ten species occur, eight of them on the east side of the continent, and two, both different from the eastern species, on the west side. In Europe, on the other hand, there is but one species, the British *C. Calceolus*, which extends into Asia, and is represented in the Himalaya by *C. cordigerum*, distinguished more by colour than by better characters. In the same mountain range the Asiatic *C. macranthon* appears, which extends into Northern Asia and Japan. Of other plaited-leaved species two differ from their congeners in having two opposite leaves on the stem; they are *C. elegans*, Reichb. f. of the Sikkim Himalaya, and the fan-leaved *C. japonicum*, which is, from the singularity of the foliage, of all the most desirable to have in cultivation.

Of the North American species *C. californicum* is nearest in habit to *C. passerinum*, Richardson, a plant known to me only from specimens collected in latitude fifty-eight degrees North by Sir John Richardson, when accompanying Sir John Franklin's expedition to the Polar Sea more than half a century ago. In size and form of flower, foliage, &c., *C. passerinum* and *californicum* are identical, but the

first named is single-flowered and has a very different and oblong staminode.

C. californicum is confined to the northern parts of the state of California, where it inhabits damp woods and open swamps, growing with *Darlingtonia* in the valley of the Sacramento river. The only other Californian species, the sweet-scented *C. montanum*, Dougl. (*C. occidentale*, Wats.), has not been introduced into Europe.

For the specimen of *C. californicum*, here figured, I am indebted to W. E. Gumbleton, Esq., of Belgrove, Co. Cork, with whom it flowered in May of last year.

DESCR. Glandular-puberulous. *Stem* one to two feet, leafy throughout. *Leaves* three to four inches long, from broadly ovate to lanceolate, acute, many-nerved. *Flowers* in the axils of large leafy bracts, one to one and a quarter inches across the petals, sessile; ovary decurved. *Sepals* pale brownish yellow; dorsal erect, elliptic, sub-acute, five-ribbed; lateral completely united into an entire boat-shaped acute limb under the lip. *Petals* as long as the sepals, spreading, linear-oblong, obtuse, dull yellow. *Lip* rather longer than the sepals, obovoidly globose, hairy at the base within, white with a little pink on the inverted lips and obscurely spotted with pale brown. *Staminode* subsessile, broader than long, reniformly obcordate, rather longer than the small quadrate stigma. *Capsule* two-thirds of an inch long, oblong, reflexed.—
J. D. H.

Fig. 1, Top of ovary, column, and section of lip; 2, column seen in front; 3, front, and 4, back view of stamen:—*all enlarged.*