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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

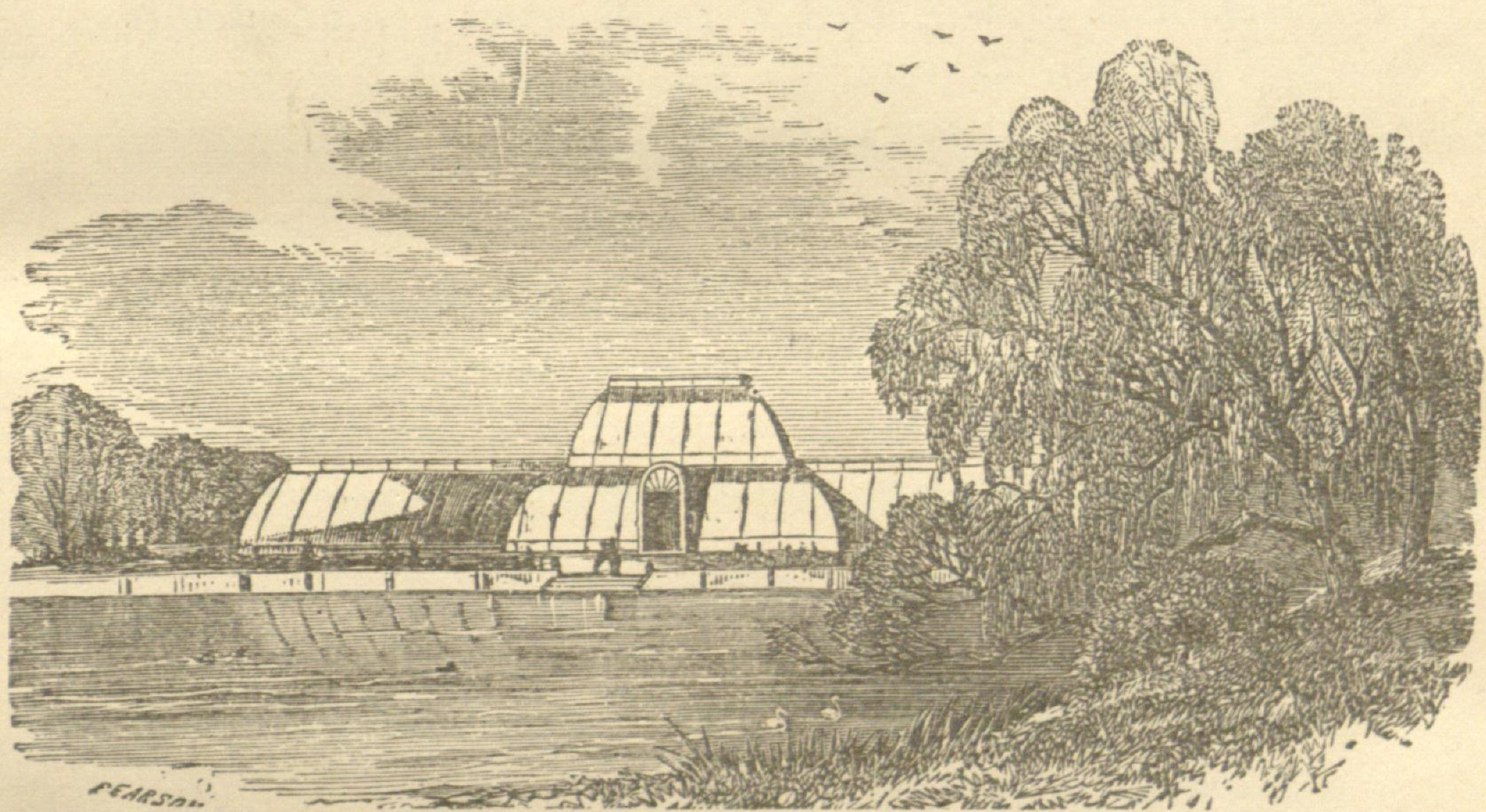
SIR JOSEPH DALTON HOOKER, M.D., C.B., G.C.S.I.,  
F.R.S., F.L.S., ETC.,

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

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(Or Vol. CXXIV. of the Whole Work.)



“The genuine life  
That serves the steadfast hours,  
Is in the grass beneath, that grows  
Unheeded, and the mute repose  
Of sweetly-breathing flowers.”

LONDON:

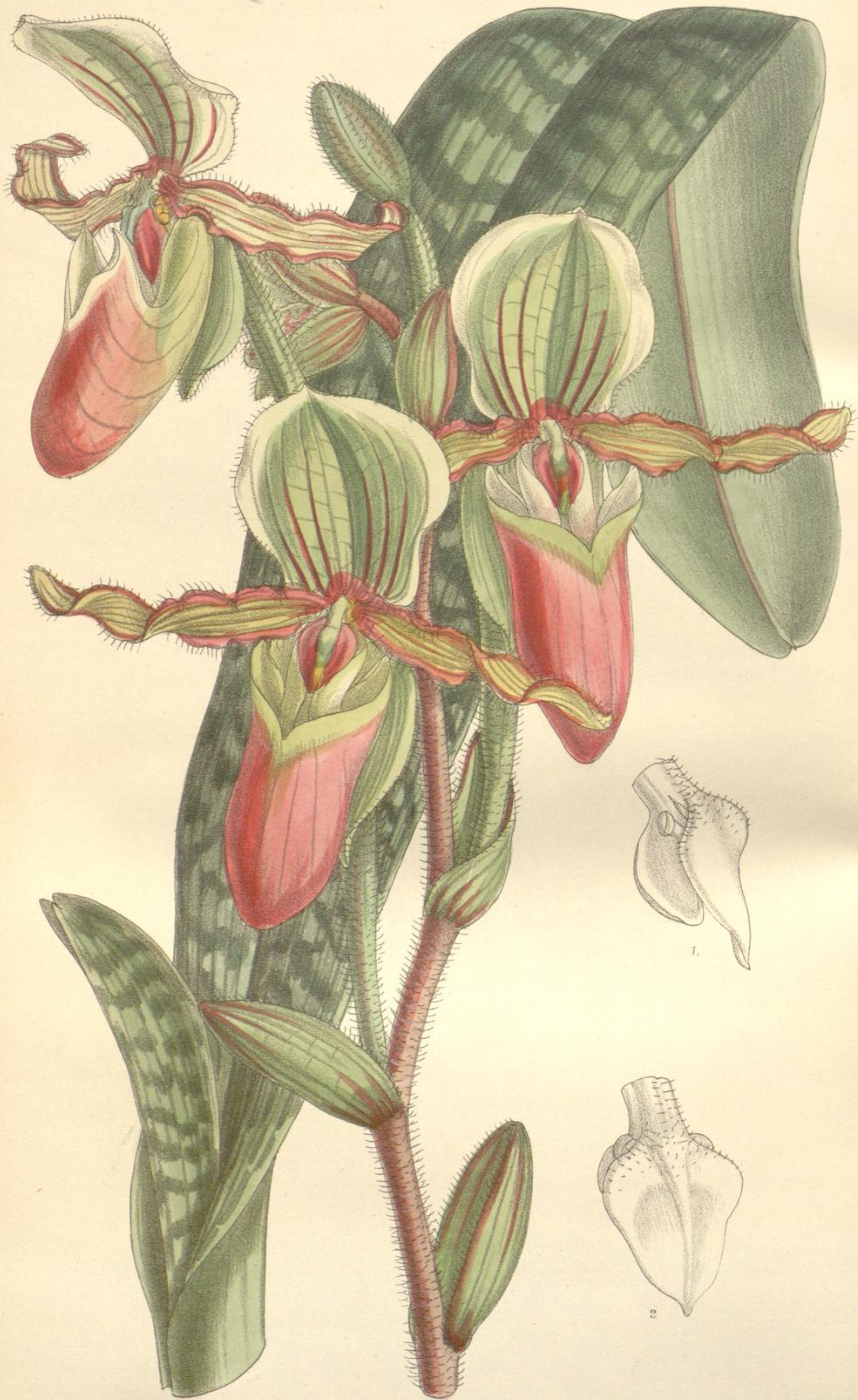
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## PAPHIOPEDILUM VICTORIA-MARIÆ.

*Native of Sumatra.*

Nat. Ord. ORCHIDÆ.—Tribe CYPRIPEDIÆ.

Genus PAPHIOPEDILUM, (*Pfitzer, Morphol. Stud. Orchid. p. 11.*)

PAPHIOPEDILUM *Victoria-Mariæ*; foliis late lineari-oblongis apice rotundatis et emarginatis, supra saturate viridibus tessellatis subtus pallidis unicoloribus, scapo valido rufo-brunneo superne inter flores hirsuto, racemo plurifloro diu persistente et florente, floribus seriatim evolutis, bracteis magnis cymbiformibus obtusis ciliatis herbaceis fusco-rubro striatis, ovario breviter pedicellato  $2\frac{1}{2}$  pollicari stricto piloso, floribus amplis, sepalo dorsali  $1\frac{1}{4}$  poll. lato erecto orbiculari viridi marginibus late albis ciliolatis, disco sanguineo hic illic striato, lateralibus in laminam labello suppositam late ovatam obtusam viridem confluentibus, petalis sepalis longioribus divaricatis linearibus tortis et undulatis ciliatis viridibus fusco-purpureo fasciatis et marginatis, labello elongato sepalo dorsali longiore obtuso purpureo, ore dilatato, marginibus viridibus, lobis lateralibus rostratis, staminodio ovato acuto basi pilosulo.

*P. Victoria-Mariæ*, *Rolfe in Orchid. Rev.* vol. iv. (1896) p. 364 (*Paphiopedium*).

*Cypripedium Victoria-Mariæ*, *Rolfe l.c.* p. 110.

The time has come, in the opinion of most orchidologists, for separating generically the tropical from the temperate species of *Cypripedium*, and adopting for the former the name *Paphiopedilum* proposed by Dr. Pfitzer ("Morphol. Stud. Orchid.," p. 11, 1886). Besides the wide difference of geographical distribution, the true *Cypripedia* being all natives of the colder temperate regions, and the *Paphiopedila* of tropical Asia and Australia, the following characters distinguish them. In *Cypripedium* proper the leaves are cauline, thin, and plicate in vernation, the perianth marcescent, and sepals valvate in æstivation. In *Paphiopedilum* the leaves are radical, coriaceous, and conduplicate in vernation, the perianth deciduous, and sepals imbricate in æstivation, the dorsal enfolding the lateral. Dr. Pfitzer has further included Reichenbach's (American) genus *Selenipedium* (as *Selenipedilum*) in his *Paphiopedilum*; and accepted Ascherson's ("Brandenb. Flora," p. 77, 1864) conversion

of *Cypripedium* into *Cypripedilum*, for etymological reasons.

Mr. Rolfe, on the other hand, rightly ("Orchid. Rev.," vol. iv. p. 364) retains *Selenipedium* on the grounds of its American habitat, unilocular ovary and globose seeds; but unfortunately, for the sake of uniformity in nomenclature, reduces *Paphiopedilum* to *Paphiopedium*.

As regards the conversion of *Cypripedium* into *Cypripedilum*, it involves a departure from Linnæus' meaning of the generic term, which he derived from *κύπρις*, *Venus*, and *πόδιον*, a *foot* ("Phil. Bot.," p. 186), and should have spelled *Cypripodium*. On the other hand, *πεδίον*, which would have given *Cypripedium*, is Greek for a *plain*, and *πέδιλον* (giving *Cypripedilum*), for a *slipper*. The simplest process, if change is desirable, would be to end all in *podium*:—thus, *Cypripodium*, *Selenipodium*, *Paphiopodium*, the only objection being the æsthetic one that, considering the shape of the lip of *Cypripodium*, the compliment to the goddess's foot is not a flattering one.

*Paphiopedilum Victoria-Mariæ* is a native of Sumatra, whence it was imported by Messrs. Sander of St. Albans, from whom the specimen here figured was procured. It flowered in the tropical Orchid-house of the Royal Gardens in March, 1897, and continued flowering for some months.

*Descr.*—Very robust. *Leaves* a foot long by one and a half to two inches broad, coriaceous, tip rounded, emarginate, with an apiculus in the sinus, upper surface bright green, mottled with darker green, under pale blueish green. *Scape* eighteen inches high, as thick as a goose-quill, dark purple-brown. *Racemes* erect, with many flowers, produced, one or two at a time, from below upwards on the stout, dark, red-brown, hirsute rachis. *Bracts* an inch long or more, cymbiform, obtuse, herbaceous, ciliate, green, with red-brown streaks. *Ovary* with short pedicel two and a half inches long, strict, erect, green, hairy. *Flowers* three inches long from the tip of the dorsal sepal to that of lip. *Dorsal* sepal orbicular, ciliolate, green, streaked with red, and with a broad, nearly white margin; lateral sepals united in an ovate, obtuse, green blade beneath the lip, about a third shorter than the latter. *Petals* two inches long, spreading horizontally, undulate and twisted, green, with

broad, red purple margins and nerves. *Lip* two inches long, by three-fourths of an inch broad below the broad mouth, slightly compressed laterally, dull purple, green round the mouth; side lobes erect, produced into short green horns. *Staminode* ovate, acute, hairy on the back towards the base.—*J. D. H.*

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Fig. 1, *Staminode* and stigma, seen laterally; 2, *staminode* seen from above:—*Both enlarged.*