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**The Botanical register :consisting of coloured figures of ...**

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THE  
BOTANICAL REGISTER:

CONSISTING OF

Coloured Figures

OF

EXOTIC PLANTS,

CULTIVATED IN

*BRITISH GARDENS;*

WITH THEIR

HISTORY AND MODE OF TREATMENT.

THE DESIGNS BY

Sydenham Edwards,

AND OTHERS.

VOL. X.

—viret semper—nec fronde caducâ  
Carpitur.

MISSOURI  
BOTANICAL  
GARDEN.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR JAMES RIDGWAY, PICCADILLY.

1824.



*Cypripedium* Pub by S. Ridgway 170.

Lissadilly Apr 1. 1824.

J. Watts. sc.

**CYPRIPEDIUM venustum.**

*Spotted-leaved Ladies' Slipper.*

—◆—  
GYNANDRIA DIANDRIA.

Nat. ord. ORCHIDÆ. Jussieu gen. 64. Brown prod. 1. 300. Div. Diandria.

**CYPRIPEDIUM.** *Labellum* ventricosum, inflatum (nunc saccatum). *Columna* posticè terminata lobo petaloideo (stamine sterili), antheras distinguente. *Petala* dua antica sæpiùs connata. Brown in Hort. Kew. ed. 2. 5. 220.

*C. venustum*, foliis distachyo-patientibus, equitantibus, lanceolato-oblongis, acute canaliculatis enerviis, supra triste glaucescentibus, maculis obscuris informibus laxè notatis, subtus purpureo-punctatis, scapo villosus.

*Cypripedium venustum.* Wallich MSS. Curtis's magaz. 2129.

*Acaulis.* *Folia* firmisscula, radicalia, plura ad plurima, alternè et imbricatè bifaria, basi equitantia supernè recurvo-patientia, oblonga, acutata, altè et acutissimè carinata, 4-5-uncialia latitudine subunciali, ex glauco tristè virentia, opaca, papillulis atomoideis veluti in Araneæ epidermidi densè pruinata, cartilagine subtili marginata, supra maculis saturatoribus subliteratis laxè sparsa, avenia, enervia, subtus glabriora pallidiora et punctis purpureis rotundis varie approximatis vel passim confluentibus et modò in lineas catenatis sparsa. Scapus rigidus foliis parum altior, erectus, teres, marmorato-maculosus, villosus, pennâ corvinâ crassior. Germen sessile oblongum villosum spatha brevius, costis rotundatis, 3 alternis minoribus. Corollam recentem completam nequimus habere; sed ex tabula CYPRIPEDII insignis pluribus videtur diversam.

Our plant is a recent acquisition from the East Indies, and the first that has accrued to the genus from that country. Independent of novelty and beauty, the paramount importance of conformity in the structure of those organs which have been adopted for generic standard, receives from this species an unprecedented illustration, even when contending with extreme anomaly of habit. Who of us, if he could have been apprized of this difference alone, that would not have prognosticated such consequent distinction in those parts, termed from their influence essential, that would at least have justified the removal of plants of so heterogeneous an appearance into separate groups? But he will find, upon inspection, that the present species can, with no more propriety, be kept from a place in CYPRIPEDIUM than those which rank in that genus by almost indefinable gradation.

The drawing was taken in the hothouse of Mr. Colvill's Nursery at Chelsea; where the plant grows in company with many others of the tribe from tropical countries, in a column formed of the rinds of cocoa-nuts, intended by Mr. Sweet, who superintends that extensive establishment, as a substitute for the decaying trunks of the forest, on which they are usually found in their native places.

*Leaves* radical, of a rather firm consistence, but not thick; several or many, alternately and imbricately two-ranked, equidistant (or alternately and mutually interclasping), recurvedly spreading, oblong, pointed, sharply and deeply keeled, 4-5 inches long by about one broad, apparently without veins or nerves, with a fine cartilaginous margin of a dull glaucous and opaque green, with the epidermis finely shagreened like the coat of a spider, loosely spotted on the upper side with darker shapeless marks that remind us of the letters of some oriental alphabet, freckled at the paler under side with deep purple dots, sometimes confluent and sometimes linearly catenated. *Stem* a little taller than the leaves, marbled with purple stains, rigid, upright, round, and somewhat roughly furred. *Germen* oblong, rather more than half an inch in length, furred, six-furrowed, the ridges alternately larger. We could not obtain the fresh perfect corolla for inspection; but, judging from the figures, we think it must differ, in several material points, from the *insigne* subsequently introduced from the same country.

The genus is the only one of its natural order that comes into the Order DIANDRIA, of the Class GYNANDRIA, which comprizes all the rest in the Order MONANDRIA. It is also remarkable as the only group of the natural order where it belongs, that has a middle sterile filament with two fertile side ones. In all others the middle filament bears the only anther present; while those at the sides are obliterated in the view of certain Botanists, and their existence questionable.