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LINDENIA

ICONOGRAPHY
OF ORCHIDS

CONDUCTED BY
J. LINDEN, LUCIEN LINDEN and EM. RODIGAS.

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JANUARY 1893.

LINDENIA

ICONOGRAPHY OF ORCHIDS

CONDUCTED BY

J. LINDEN, LUCIEN LINDEN and EM. RODIGAS.

THE COLOURED PORTRAITS BY

P. DE PANNEMAEKER, A. GOOSSENS and J. GOFFART.

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CYPRIPEDIUM X LEONAE L. LIND.

PL. CCCLX.

CYPRIPIEDIUM × LEONAE L. LIND.

Mrs H. S. LEON'S CYPRIPIEDIUM.

CYPRIPIEDIUM. Vide *Lindenia*, Engl. ed., vol. I, p. 31.
Cypripedium × *Leonae*. Novum hybridum inter *C. insigne* var. *Chantini* et *C. callosum* artificiose productum.

ybrid Orchids, and especially those obtained in the genus *Cypripedium*, attract more and more the attention of amateurs. At the present time their number is very considerable, and is being augmented with ever-increasing rapidity. In the *Catalogue* published by M. ERNEST BERGMAN 326 hybrids are enumerated. Their diversity, on the other hand, permits one to make a selection, and to discard those which are not really meritorious.

The new hybrid which we figure on the opposite page is worthy to be considered as one of the best forms produced by hybridisation, and the cross has unquestionably yielded a remarkable offspring. It was obtained during recent years by the Society L'HORTICULTURE INTERNATIONALE, of Brussels, and flowered for the first time in the month of October, 1892. It was derived from *C. insigne Chantini*, fertilised with the pollen of a very fine variety of *C. callosum*.

The product of a cross of this kind could not fail to possess a highly developed dorsal sepal. This organ is indeed of exceptional size and shape, nearly orbicular, with the apex lightly apiculate. As to colour, it is quite intermediate between that of the two parent species. It bears on its lower half an area of dark green, which becomes brighter above, and then a series of parallel red lines spotted with red-brown points, leaving round the margin a broad band of pure white. The petals and lip in form resemble very closely *C. callosum*, but in colour they are about intermediate between the two parent-species. The petals are of a bright red, without spots or warts, and with a pale green border at the extremities.

Altogether the new hybrid is very remarkable. The dorsal sepal from the very first absorbs attention, and its bright and gay colour, and remarkable size, produce an impression which is not often the case elsewhere.

It is absolutely an unique plant, the other seedlings having been destroyed by an accident while they were very small; very fortunately a single plant was saved. It flowered four and a half years from the time the seed was sown.

We have the pleasure of dedicating this hybrid to Mrs LEON, wife of H. S. LEON, Esq., M. P., of Bletchley Park, Bletchley, an amateur of Orchids who possesses a very choice collection.

It is somewhat remarkable how small a number of hybrids have hitherto been procured from *C. callosum*. Certain species, such as *C. Spicerianum*, *C. villosum* and *C. insigne*, not to speak of the Selenipediums, have yielded a very numerous progeny, but *C. callosum* has only hitherto figured in three or four crosses at the most. We think, however, that in the future it will play an important part in the work of hybridisation. It is one of the most robust and rapidly growing species, and therefore we are not at all surprised to find that *C. × Leonae* also possesses the same character to an eminent degree; otherwise it would singularly disgrace its origin.

L. L.

ORCHIDS AND MANURE

The recent issues of the *Journal des Orchidées* contain a series of interesting articles concerning that cultural point of great importance, whether certain special manures are beneficial to Orchids. MM. Count DE MORAN and LUCIEN LINDEN, editor, pronounce themselves most decidedly against manuring, on the ground that whenever this treatment causes no injury to the plants (and the reverse is most frequently the case, because the active growth caused during the first two or three years by the stimulating food is followed by an excessive weakness, and by a rapid and inevitable death), the manure is yet unnecessary, as Orchids, in our gardens, prove as vigorous and healthy as we may expect to find them in a natural state.

The conclusion which the above-named writers arrive at is therefore the following : — that manures, of whatever kind, must be, either dangerous, or at least useless; and therefore in both cases undesirable.

M. LUCIEN LINDEN also states that no manure has ever been used in the treatment of Orchids at the establishment of L'HORTICULTURE INTERNATIONALE, and he requests all amateurs who may visit that famous nursery to take some pieces of the compost in the houses, as specimens which they can place under analysis, in order to ascertain that the compost used for Orchids cultivated at the establishment contains no trace of manure.

M. G.

