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LINDENIA

ICONOGRAPHY

OF ORCHIDS

CONDUCTED BY

J. LINDEN, and LUCIEN LINDEN.

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APRIL 1897.

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TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH BY J. WEATHERS.

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CYPRIPEDIUM INSIGNE WALL. VARIETATES NOVAE
 1. FUSCUM 2. PICTURATUM 3. IMMACULATUM

PL. DLXIII.

CYPRIPEDIUM INSIGNE WALL. VARIETATES NOVAE.

1. FUSCUM. 2. PICTURATUM. 3. IMMACULATUM.

CYPRIPEDIUM. Vide *Lindenia*, I, p. 17.*Cypripedium insigne*. Vide *Lindenia*, IX, p. 63.

he fresh plate which we herewith devote to *Cypripedium insigne* will enable one to appreciate at a glance the extent of the variations of this remarkable species, and to compare the merits of the various forms.

The three varieties portrayed by our artist were exhibited at a Meeting of the ORCHIDÉENNE on January 10 last, by MESSRS. LUCIEN LINDEN & Co. of Moortebeek in a beautiful group which contained not less than thirty distinct and superior varieties, a collection such as could not fail to create a sensation. From them we have chosen to be painted three of the most characteristic varieties, the description of which is herewith appended : —

Var. fuscum. This is a remarkably large flower ; the upper sepal is folded backwards at the base, broadly spreading upwards, and very wavy at the top, while the petals are very long and broad.

The colour of this variety is very striking and uncommon. The whole flower is bright yellow with a tinge of green on the upper and lower sepal, and of brown on the lip ; the petals are delicately striped with brown, and washed with the same colour at the edges, while the upper sepal has a great number of large purple-brown blotches arranged in longitudinal lines. On the whole this variety may be compared to an extremely large *Chantinii* varnished with a wash of bright yellow.

The variety *picturnum* presents a very dark and spotted appearance. The upper sepal, which has a white base slightly shaded with clear yellowish green is covered with a mass of large contiguous blackish purple-brown blotches, somewhat after the fashion of certain hybrids from *C. villosum Boxallii*. The petals present a similar appearance — one very rarely seen on these organs ; they are large and broad, the whole of the clear yellow surface being dotted with large brownish-red blotches. The lip is light brown and the staminode yellow.

The variety *immaculatum* is on the whole very pale. The white upper sepal has a greenish yellow area at the base extending upwards a little beyond the centre, and traversed by some very delicate brown lines. The petals are

a pale greenish yellow with several yellowish brown lines running lengthwise down the lower half. The lip is yellowish, washed with pale brown at the tip.

These three varieties have a very distinct, and as regards the two first, even novel appearance. They were selected by the Judges of the ORCHIDÉENNE, from the large group in which they stood, to receive the First Class Diplomas of Honour, the two first mentioned varieties obtaining the award unanimously.

