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THE  
**ORCHID ALBUM,**

COMPRISING

COLOURED FIGURES AND DESCRIPTIONS

OF

NEW, RARE, AND BEAUTIFUL

**ORCHIDACEOUS PLANTS,**

CONDUCTED BY

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*THE COLOURED FIGURES BY JOHN NUGENT FITCH, F.L.S.*



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ODONTOGLOSSUM GALLEOTTIANUM.

# ODONTOGLOSSUM GALEOTTIANUM.

[PLATE 423.]

*Native of Mexico.*

Epiphytal. *Pseudobulbs* roundish-ovate, compressed, plump and smooth when young, becoming furrowed and wrinkled with age, green slightly suffused with ferruginous brown at the base, monophyllous. *Leaves* oblong acute, membranaceous, dark green. *Scape* rising with the young growth, three or more flowered. *Flowers* upwards of two inches across; *sepals* oblong-acute, white, the lateral ones sparingly dotted at the base with purplish magenta; *petals* ovate, much broader than the sepals, white, and like them dotted at the base with purplish magenta; *lip* large, somewhat cordate, acute, with two fleshy crests at the base, white, bearing a few streaks of yellow at the crests.

ODONTOGLOSSUM GALEOTTIANUM, *A. Richard, Orchids of Mexico*, tab, ined, p. 27, 89; *Lindley, Folia Orchidacea*, No. 22; *Reichenbach, Gardeners' Chronicle*, 1870, p. 39; *Williams, Orchid-Grower's Manual*, p. 440. *Annales des Sciences Naturelles*, 1845, Series iii., vol. 3.

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The present plant is an old species first discovered about 1844, but it was not until 1870 that it was introduced in a living state to our gardens; about this time it was introduced by us with a batch of *Odontoglossum Cervantesii*, and the fact of its being so scarce induced Professor Reichenbach to presume it to be a natural hybrid; but we imagine there are plenty of small-growing kinds ensconced in quiet nooks of the mountains of Mexico and other parts of the American Continent, to which the steps of no collector have yet penetrated, so that we may reasonably hope for fresh forms and faces new when these countries become more familiar to the plant collector. No better illustration can be given of this than the finding recently of that grand species *O. Harryanum*, and still later, the beautiful little *O. Youngii*, figured in these pages at t. 406. *O. Galeottianum* has also been introduced by the Messrs. Low and Co., of the Clapton Nurseries, as well as by ourselves, so that we may live in expectation of a batch of it being found by some lucky collector at no distant date. The plant here depicted was grown and flowered in the gardens of J. Statter, Esq., of Stand Hall, Whitefield, near Manchester, where every care and attention is bestowed upon all plants, be they ever so humble or grand, by Mr. Johnson, the successful gardener in charge of this collection.

*Odontoglossum Galeottianum* is a dwarf evergreen species belonging to the group of which *O. Cervantesii* may be taken as the type; it has roundish ovate pseudobulbs, and it has hitherto but produced a two-flowered raceme, but as the

plant becomes stronger, we may reasonably hope to see more flowers developed. The flowers measure some two inches across, and are pure white, saving a few spots and dots of purplish magenta at the base, the lip also has a few yellow lines and streaks on the crest. We only know this plant as coming with *O. Cervantesii*, and as that plant is scattered over an immense tract of country, we cannot at present determine where to look for it, but as we can grow *O. Cervantesii* well so also *O. Galeottianum* should yield to the same treatment.

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CYPRIPEDIUMS AT STREATHAM.—We called in at The Woodlands a week before Christmas, and the change from the dreary winter weather, frost and snow, which the interior of the Cyripedium house presented, was quite enchanting; such a sight makes one exclaim that there really is nothing in the Orchid world to equal these Slipper Orchids for making a display, at this season of the year especially. Here were upwards of half a hundred distinct kinds shedding their beauties around, and hundreds of bright and lively flowers, the hybrid forms which exist in such numbers in this collection being by no means destitute of charming and delicate colours. Amongst them all the old *C. insigne*, which was represented by considerably over two hundred flowers, stands supreme; a large batch of this species, which were in bloom a week or two before, had been cut for indoor decoration, or there would have been quite five hundred flowers of this alone. *C. insigne Sanderæ* is one of the very best of its forms; it was recently in bloom here, and must take the palm from all the varieties which have appeared, for the chaste delicacy of its markings. This and the exquisite *C. Fairieanum*, however, were over, and did not count amongst the many fine kinds to be seen here at Christmas. From amongst the many we select a few. One of the prettiest of Messrs. Veitch's hybrids is *C. Niobe*, between *C. Spicerianum* and *C. Fairieanum*, and which is a beautiful flower. *C. Muriel Hollington* is also a superbly chaste and beautiful form, its pure white flowers being exquisitely dotted and spotted. The superb flower recently shown and certificated under the provisional name of *C. Osbornii* seems to be an extra good form of *C. Pitcherianum*; it has been named *C. Pitcherianum superbum*, and is the result of selecting two good varieties for its parents; this plant was raised by Mr. Osborne, gardener to Mrs. Howard, The Grove, Teddington, and better known as having had charge of the Wilton House collection of Orchids, at Southampton. *C. Pollettianum* is a grand flower, something in the way of *C. ænanthum superbum*, there were also *C. ænone*, *Mrs. Charles Canham*, *Measuresianum*, *Amesianum*, *Leeanum superbum*, *Dayanum*, a grand form of *Harrisianum superbum*, and a host of others, including many bright coloured flowers belonging to the *Selenipedium* group, which up to the present time take the lead for brilliant colours.—W. H. G.