

Rare Book
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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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CYPRIPEDIUM ORPHANUM

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[PLATE 455.]

Garden Hybrid.

Epiphytal, ebulbous. *Leaves* distichous, some five to six inches in length and an inch and a half to two inches in breadth, channelled above, carinate beneath, light green, netted and marmorated with dark olive-green on the upper side, pale green below. *Scape* terminal, erect, one-flowered, deep brownish purple, slightly hirsute, the bract being very short. *Flowers* large and handsome, *dorsal sepal* ovate, white, tinged in the centre with bright emerald-green, and on the lateral margins with rosy purple; it has a brownish purple median band, with numerous equidistant smaller ones of the same hue; *lower sepal* white, tinged with pale green, with darker green veins; *petals* greenish purple, ivory-white on the borders, and a broad brownish purple median stripe, in addition the petals are slightly freckled towards the base with black dots, and the margin ciliated with black hairs; *lip* obtusely ovate, deep rosy purple, pale beneath.

CYPRIPEDIUM ORPHANUM, *Reichenbach fil.*, in *Gardeners' Chronicle*, xxvi, p. 166.

The present plant is one of the Veitchian hybrids raised by Mr. Seden at Messrs. James Veitch & Sons' Nurseries, King's Road, Chelsea; and although some years have elapsed since this plant first flowered, it still retains a foremost place amongst the bright-coloured and pleasing kinds. We do not know the exact parentage of this plant, but the flower shows evidently that *C. Druryi* was one of its parents, and it carries the distinct marks in the broad median band of its dorsal sepal and in the petals, whilst by the marbled leaves some form of *C. barbatum* we take to have been the other, but irrespective of its parentage it is a most distinct and beautiful variety. The plant here figured flowered in our collection in the Victoria and Paradise Nurseries.

Cypripedium orphanum is a dwarf-growing evergreen plant belonging to the coriaceous-leaved section, and requires to be kept with the other species and varieties of eastern origin. It should be grown in a pot which is well drained, and the soil may consist of good peat-fibre and sphagnum moss in about equal parts, the latter to be chopped tolerably fine to enable it to mix more freely with the peat-fibre; to this may be added some turfy loam with advantage, the turves of loam being well beaten, so that all the fine soil may be removed, and the fibrous part mixed with the peat and sphagnum moss. This mixture we have found to suit most of the species and varieties belonging to the *C. barbatum* section. It likes a moist atmosphere, and care should be taken that red spider does not attack it, nor the black thrips. These latter are great enemies to these

plants if allowed to get any headway, so carefully remove them as they put in an appearance.

AWARDS MADE BY THE ORCHID COMMITTEE (*continued from under Plate 454*).

An *Award of Merit* to Drewett O. Drewett, Esq., Riding Mill on-Tyne, for *Cypripedium Ceres*, a cross between *C. hirsutissimum* and *C. Spicerianum*, having much the appearance of the other crosses with *C. hirsutissimum*, but this is certainly the finest yet seen.

An *Award of Merit* to Baron Schroder, The Dell, Egham, for *Odontoglossum ioplocon*, which is a plant very much like *O. Edwardii*, and with a spike of bloom of the same colour.

An *Award of Merit* to Sir Trevor Lawrence, Bart., for *Lycaste Youngii*, a small but beautiful soft yellow-flowered species which appears to be a profuse bloomer.

An *Award of Merit* to Messrs. B. S. Williams and Son, Victoria Nursery, Upper Holloway, London, for *Lycaste Youngii*.

A *Cultural Commendation* to Lord Foley, Ruxley Lodge, Esher, for *Cælogyne cristata*, a group of well-grown and beautifully flowered plants.

Silver Gilt Medal to Messrs. Hugh Low and Co., Clapton, for a group of Orchids.

Silver Floral Medal to Messrs. B. S. Williams and Son, Holloway, for a group of Orchids.

Silver Banksian Medal to Messrs F. Sander and Co., St. Albans, for a group of Orchids.

MARCH 8th. An *Award of Merit* to J. F. Jackson, Esq., Bonner Place, Bexley, Kent, for *Odontoglossum Pescatorei* (*Jackson's var.*), a very much-spotted flower.

An *Award of Merit* to Messrs. James Veitch and Sons, Chelsea, for *Cypripedium Ianthe*, a cross between *C. Harrisianum* and *C. venustum*.

An *Award of Merit* to the same firm for *C. Brysa*, a cross between *C. Sedenii candidum* and *C. Boisserianum*; this seems to be a large form of the first-named, tinged with green.

A *Botanical Certificate* to Messrs. Lewis and Co., Southgate, for *Disa incarnata*, a very pretty species, having orange and yellow flowers; it is a native of Madagascar.

A *Botanical Certificate* to Messrs. Hugh Low and Co., Clapton, for *Dendrobium amethystoglossum*, a species introduced from the Philippines just twenty years ago.

A *Botanical Certificate* to W. L. Barkley, Esq., The Briars, Reigate, for *Oncidium chrysomorphum*, a very rare species, having flowers less than an inch across, golden yellow.

(*Continued under Plate 456.*)