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COMSERVATOIRE
BOTANIQUE



1991

* CYPRIPÉDIUM purpurátum.

Purple-stained Lady's Slipper.

GYNANDRIA DIANDRIA.

Nat. ord. Orchidaceæ, § Cypripedieæ.

CYPRIPEDIUM. Suprà, vol. 10. fol. 788.

C. purpuratum; foliis oblongis acutis striatis maculatis basi equitantibus, scapo aphyllo pubescente, sepalo dorsali acuminato ciliato margine revoluto, petalis oblongis subundulatis pubescentibus, stamine sterili lunato.

A further addition to the tropical section of the genus Cypripedium, of which C. insigne and venustum constitute the other species. It is a native of the Malayan Archipelago, and was imported by Mr. Knight, of the King's Road Nursery. The accompanying drawing was made in Nov. 1836, in Messrs. Loddiges' collection.

Not having had an opportunity of examining personally the only flower that was produced, I am unable to say any thing more of the plant than is shewn in the figure. It is manifestly distinct from the other two species in its crescent-shaped sterile stamen. Its leaves are most like those of C. venustum, but are more oblong, and far less rigid, besides having a pallid colour, quite unlike that of the species alluded to; its petals moreover want the long bearded fringe, and the dorsal sepal is convex, not concave.

(Continued from folio 1986.)

Whether or not the genus Maxillaria is well limited as it is at present understood is uncertain; nor, till a larger number of species shall have been accurately examined, will it be safe to arrive at any conclusion upon the subject. The value of the numerous modifications of the pollen masses and glandular apparatus is, in particular, still to be ascertained. But, in the meanwhile, there is one character at least, without which it may be safely asserted that no plant