CURTIS’S
BOTANICAL MAGAZINE,
COMPRISING THE
Plants of the Royal Gardens of Kew,
AND
OF OTHER BOTANICAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN GREAT BRITAIN,
WITH SUITABLE DESCRIPTIONS;
BY
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Mo. Bot. Garden
1897.
CYPRIPEDIUM ROEZLI.

Native of New Grenada.

Nat. Ord. ORCHIDÆ.—Tribe CYPRIPEDIÆ.


CYPRIPEDIUM (Selenipedium) ROEZLI; foliis distichis elongato-ligulatis 2-pedalibus
2 poll. latis attenuato-acuminatis carinatis, scapo viridi multifloro vaginato,
vaginis appressis, bracteis erecto-patentibus lanceolatis acuminatis ovarium
superantibus, sepalo dorsali ovato-lanceolato acuto rubro-purpurascence,
lateralibus in laminam ovato-oblongam obtusam labello æquilongo supposi-
tam connatis carneis, petalis sepalis duplo longioribus horizontaliter
patentibus anguste linearibus pallidis rubro-marginatis, labello oblongo
flavo-viridi, ore amplo margine auriculato, staminodio triangulati-cordato
margine purpureo-villoso, ovario 3-loculari.

Selenipedium ROEZLI, Rchb. f. in Regel Gartenfl., 1871, 163, t. 714, et 1873,
97, t. 754.


The nearest ally of this magnificent species is undoubtedly
C. LONGIFOLIUM (Tab. nost. 5970), which differs in its much
smaller stature, narrower leaves, spreading sheaths of the
purple scape, shorter, more obtuse dorsal sepals, and colour
of the flower. In all essential characters they agree very
closely indeed, and the almost identical structure and form of
the lip and sexual apparatus suggest the possibility of their
being races between which intermediates will be found. For
horticultural purposes C. ROEZLI is incomparably the finest of
the two, not only in colour, but on account of its size, it
being by far the largest of the genus hitherto discovered.
Probably these species would hybridise with facility, but I
see nothing to be gained by such a proceeding, C. LONGIFOLIUM
presenting no one superiority but the bright red colour of its
scape.

Cypripedium ROEZLI is a native of New Grenada, where it
was found by ROEZL on the banks of the Dagua river, which,
according to Regel, occupies a valley between two ranges of
the Andes. I find, however, no such river on the map, but
a small town of Dagua on the western declivity of the Andes,

March 1st, 1876.
near the Bay of Choco. The specimen here figured flowered at Messrs. Veitch’s establishment in January, 1874. It is said to flower perennially and profusely, a statement inconsistent with the habits of any plants in continuous health, but which, if taken with the caution to be used in accepting the laudatory advertisements of choice plants, may be regarded as evidence of its being a very free flowerer.

Descri. Quite glabrous. Leaves two feet long and upwards, nearly two inches broad, strap-shaped, narrowed into a point, keeled, deep green above, pale beneath. Scape sometimes three feet high, strict, green, many-flowered, sheaths appressed. Bracts three inches long, green, strict, erecto-patent, lanceolate, acuminate, compressed, rather exceeding the ovary. Flowers very large, five inches long from the tip of the dorsal sepal to that of the combined lateral ones, and seven inches broad across the petals. Dorsal sepal ovate-lanceolate, acuminate, waved, yellowish-green, with a suffused rose-purple border; two lateral sepals combined into an ovate-oblanceolate, obtuse, flesh-coloured, concave limb. Petals narrowly linear-lanceolate, horizontal, with bright red-purple border and tip. Lip three inches long; saccate portion green, half the length of the whole, with auricled sides and truncate mouth; edges of lip above the sac inflexed, with flat, dirty yellow surfaces speckled with pale red. Staminodes triangular-cordate, with red-purple villous margins.—J. D. H.

Fig. 1, Lateral, and 2, side view of staminode:—magnified.