Tab. 7319.

CYPRIPEDIUM MONTANUM.

Native of California.


Cypripedium (Foliosæ) montanum; glandulosæ puberulum, foliis ovato-oblongis v. oblondo-lanceolatis acuminatis, floribus 1–3 sessilibus, bracteis foliaceis, sepalis labello subduplo longioribus dorso costatis petalisque longioribus fusco-rubris, dorsali lanceolato acuminato, lateralibus connatis apicibus liberis, petalis basi intus pilosis, labello oblondo vix a latere compresso apice rotundato albo purpureo-striato, staminodio stigmatæ longiore ovato breviter stipitato aureo rubro-maculato supra sulcato, capsula erecta.


Cypripedium montanum is the representative in Western America of the common C. pubescens of the Eastern States; and is so closely allied to the latter plant that except in its lip being white (not yellow) and its flowers fragrant, there is little to distinguish them. And with regard to the latter character it is to be observed that C. parvisflorum of the Eastern States which has fragrant flowers has by some American botanists been regarded as a variety of C. pubescens, from which, however, it differs in the lip not being laterally compressed. The only other N. American Cypripedium with a white lip is C. candidum of the Eastern States (Tab. 5855), which has crowded erect lanceolate leaves, small solitary scentless flowers, and short green sepals and petals.

S. montanum is described by Sereno Watson as being common in the mountains of Western North America, from the Mariposa and Santa Cruz valleys of California to Washington Territory, flowering in June and July; but it October 1st, 1893.
has a much wider range than this, for it appears to be common in Vancouver Island and the Fraser river, in British Columbia (lat. 50° N.), where probably it was found by Douglas, who discovered the species probably in the year 1830.

I am indebted to my friend, H. J. Elwes, Esq., F.L.S., of Colesborne, Andoversford, Gloucestershire, for the specimen figured, which that gentleman received from Oregon. As far as I am aware this species had not previously been in cultivation in Europe, nor had it been anywhere figured. It flowered in April of the present year, and was very fragrant—J. D. H.

Fig. 1, Front, and 2, side view of column:—Both enlarged.