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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“The genuine life
That serves the steadfast hours,
Is in the grass beneath, that grows
Unheeded, and the mute repose
Of sweetly-breathing flowers.”

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6, HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT GARDEN.
1898.
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TAB. 7629.

PAPHIOPEDILUM MASTERSIANUM.

Native of Java.

Nat. Ord. Orchideæ.—Tribe Cypripedieæ.


Paphiopedilum Mastersianum; robustum, foliis late lineari-oblongis obtusis supra tessellatis subitus pallidis, scapo valido rufo-brunneo pilis patentibus purpureis hirsuto 1–2-floro, floribus magnis 4 poll. latis, perianthio crassiusculo, bracteis 1½ poll. longis sacciformibus herbaceis, ovario fere tripollicari angulis hirsutis, sepalo dorsali erecto 2 poll. lato orbiculari ciliolato intus striamino viridi striato nervis dorso hirsutis, lateralibus in laminam minorem viridem late ovatum obtusum labello breviorem confluentibus, petalis sepals longioribus divaricatis linear-oblungis apice rotundatis fusco-purpureis ciliatis basin versus verrucis purpureis ornatis, labello saccoformi fusco-purpureo versus orem subdilatatum amplum flavido, marginibus inflexis punctatis, staminodio parvo viridi ambitu orbiculari hippocrepiformi cuspidibus acutis.


A very robust and large-flowered species of the extensive genus Paphiopedilum, first described by Reichenbach in 1879, from a plant the native country of which was then doubtful, but which country Mr. Rolfe has ascertained to be Java, from a communication with Messrs. Low, who recently imported it from that island.

My reasons for adopting Pfitzer’s generic name of Paphiopedilum are given under Tab. 7573. I think they are botanically unassailable, nevertheless I do not object to the substitution of Cypripedium for it, in common parlance, just as I do of Aster chinensis for the “China Aster,” though that plant differs by important characters from all the species of that vast genus, and is known to botanists as Callistophus hortensis. The plant of P. Mastersianum here figured, which flowered in the Tropical Orchid House of the Royal Gardens, Kew, in March, 1898, was obtained from Messrs. F. Sander & Co. It is a noble species, named in compliment to Dr. Masters, F.R.S., through whose exertions, following those of his

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predecessor, Dr. Lindley, the *Gardener’s Chronicle* has done more to extend a knowledge of the *Orchidex* than any other periodical.

**Descr.**—Tall, very robust. *Leaves* six to nine inches long, by one and a half broad, linear-oblong, obtuse, tessellate above with dark and very pale green, very pale beneath. *Scape* stout, a foot to a foot and a half high, very dark red purple, hirsute with dark, spreading hairs, one to two-fld. *Bracts* an inch and a half long, cymbiform, herbaceous, erect, dark green, dorsally hirsute on the keel and towards the base. *Flower* three inches across the petals, segments of perianth of a very thick texture. *Dorsal sepal* erect, orbicular, two inches broad, pale yellowish within, streaked with green from the base to three-fourths of its breadth, dorsally with hairy ribs. *Petals* spreading, linear-oblong, three-quarters of an inch broad, tip rounded, dull purplish brown, green, and marked with minute purple warts towards the base. *Lip* a large, inflated sac, of a dull red-purple colour, yellowish towards the somewhat dilated truncate mouth, inflected margins dotted. *Staminode* small, greenish, orbicular in outline, horse-shoe-shaped, with the incurved cusps acute, upper margin bifid. *Ovary* nearly three inches long, narrow, erect, ribs hispid with purple hairs.—*J. D. H.*

Fig. 1, Staminal column:—Enlarged.