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A reproduction of the title page of the herbarium catalogue of Charles Ottley Groom, alias His Royal and Most Serene Highness the Prince of Mantua and Montserrat. Before realising who this really was, a return was made translating his atrocious writing as H. Randell... etc. The catalogue is over written many times in different inks, nibs, pencil and indelible pencil making it difficult to decipher in places. Once it is known that this is merely an abbreviation for a spurious title it seems obvious, but in the meantime it is catalogued in the Natural History Manuscript Resources in the British Isles incorrectly. The entry is from C. D. Sherborn's "Where is the - Collection" (1940).

A Catalogue British Herb

THE PRINCE'S GHOST ORCHID

The Ghost Orchid specimen in Bolton Museum Herbarium is accompanied by a host of information. It is one of the two flower spikes which comprise the first discovery of this species in this country in 1854.

1. Labels on sheet of *Epipogium aphyllum* Sw (Ghost Orchid).

"Epipogum aphyllum Sw. according to Mr. Boswell Syme was found by Mrs. W. Anderton-Smith at Tedston Delamere. This plant had 2 flower stalks proceeding from one root. M & M."(Prince of Mantua & Montserrat).

- 2. (In pencil) "A. the half of specimen found by Mrs. Smith. 2nd half in possession of Mr. Babington. Mr. Crotch said he thought this had been given to a young lady who was with Mrs. Smith."
- 3. (In pencil different writing? original label). "Epipogium aphyllum. The only specimen found at Tedston Worcest'r by Rev. Smith."

From Prince of Mantua & Montserrat's Catalogue

4 labels all in different hands plus Prince's title 'Epipogum 1298 aphyllum Sw - 1'.

- 1. This specimen was found in August by Miss Mason at Tedstone Delmere, Herefordshire.
- 2. The first (other) specimen as found by Mrs. W. Anderton-Smith belonged to Rev. Crotch's herb., when bought by the P. of Man & Mon. He understood it would be restored to the herb. by Prof. Babington to whom it had been lent, but on the Prince applying for it per Rev. W. W. Newbold he refused to restore it to the Prince.
- 3. I found \(\frac{1}{2} \) specimen in Dec 1883 (In pencil).
- 4. Label attached "Specimen was found Mrs. W. Anderton-Smith & (Miss Mason), a young lady, it had 2 flowers proceeding from one root (crossed out & plant substituted). Mrs. Smith had one flower, which her husband, Rev. W. A. Smith deposited on Prof. Babington's Herbarium at Cambridge. The other (half, crossed out) the young lady gave me in 1876. The Rev. Crotch with whose herbarium I purchased it (this last sentence crossed out). See his memorandum. It was found at Tedston Delamere, nr. Bromyard, Herefordshire. Rev. W. W. Newbold."



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