

represented at *f* and *g*; the latter being of the natural Size, but the former is a little magnified.

This Plant approaches near to the *Osteospermum frutescens*, *subrotundis foliis, ad oras dentibus rubris notatis* *Burm. Plant. African. P. 169*; but the Leaves of this are shorter, rounder, and more indented on their Edges, and have longer Footstalks. The Flowers have a much greater Number of Rays, which are shorter and more obtuse than those of our Plant; so that we may pronounce it a distinct Species.

The Plant here figured continues in flower great Part of the Year; and those Flowers which appear early in the Spring, are frequently succeeded by Fruit which ripens in the Autumn.

OTHONNA *Lin. Gen. Plant. 888. Jacobaea Hort. Amst. Jacobæastrum Vaill. Atl. R. Par. 1720. Bastard Ragwort.*

This Genus of Plants is ranged by Doctor *Linnaeus* in the same Section and Class with the former.

The Species here represented is,

Fig. 2. OTHONNA *foliis pinnatifidis, laciniis linearibus parallelis Hort. Cliff. 419.* Othonna with wing-pointed Leaves, whose Segments are narrow and parallel. This is the *Jacobaea Africana frutescens, foliis absinthii umbel-*

liferi incanis Hort. Amst. 2. P. 137. Shrubby African Ragwort, with hoary Leaves like the umbellated Wormwood.

This Sort rises with a shrubby Stalk from Two to Three Feet high, sending out several Branches toward the Top, which are closely garnished with hoary Leaves standing without Order. They are cut into many narrow Segments almost to the Midrib, and these are indented at the Top, as is represented at *a*. The Flowers stand upon long naked Footstalks, which arise from the End of the Branches; these have an Empalement of One Leaf, divided into Eight or Ten Segments, which are obtuse at their Base, but end in acute Points, represented at *c*. The Flower is composed of several female Half-Florets in the Border; and the Disk or Middle is made up of hermaphrodite Florets, represented at *b*. The female Half-Florets, or Rays, are indented at their Ends in Three Parts; they are of a bright yellow Colour, and are succeeded by Seeds; but the hermaphrodite Flowers in the Center are barren. This Plant flowers in *March, April, and May*; but these are not succeeded by Seeds in *England*. It is a very ornamental Plant in the Greenhouse; for its silvery Leaves continuing all the Year, make a very fine Variety when intermixed with other foreign Plants; and as these produce their Flowers early in the Spring, so at that Season they are beautiful.

P L A T E C X C V .

OXALIS, *Lin. Sp. Plant. 515. Oxys Tourn. Inst. R. H. 88. Tab. 19. Trifolium acetosum Raii Meth. Plant. 86. Wood Sorrel; in French, Alleuia.*

THIS Genus of Plants is ranged in the Fifth Section of *Linnaeus's* Tenth Class, which includes the Plants whose Flowers have Ten Stamina and Five Styles. *Tournefort* places it in the Third Section of his First Class, which contains the Herbs with a bell-shaped Flower of One Leaf, whose Pointal turns to a dry Fruit or Head, with several Capsules. Mr. *Ray* ranges it in his Nineteenth Class, where he places the Herbs with a Flower of One Petal, which is succeeded by a Fruit with many Cells.

The Species here represented are,

Fig. 1. OXALIS *Scapo umbellifero, foliis ternatis bipartitis Lin. Sp. Plant. 434.* Wood Sorrel with an umbelliferous Stalk, and trifoliate Leaves divided into Two Parts. This is the *Oxys Africana bulbosa, floribus amplis luteis, foliis minimis birsutis Raii Hist.*

This Plant grows naturally at the *Cape of Good Hope*, from whence the Roots were sent me. It hath a small bulbous Root, covered with a purplish Skin, from which come out several trifoliate Leaves upon very long Footstalks; these are small, hairy, and indented at their Ends in Two Parts, as represented at *a*, of a bright green Colour. The Flowers stand upon very long Footstalks, which divide at the Top into smaller, as is shewn at *b*; each of these smaller Footstalks sustain One bright yellow Flower, represented at *c*, which is cut into Five obtuse Segments. In the Center of the Flower is situated the Germen, surrounded by Ten Stamina, as is shewn at *d*; these arise from the Side of the Column, as is represented at *e*. The Column is terminated by Five Styles, as is shewn at *f*; these are magnified, and at *g* they are represented of their natural Size. *b* shews the Five-cornered Capsule fully grown; and *i* is One cut through transversely to shew the Five Cells; and at *k* are Two of

the Seeds taken out of the Capsule. This Plant flowers in *February*, when it makes a fine Appearance.

Fig. 2. OXALIS *scapo unifloro, foliis ternatis, radice squamoso-articulata Hort. Cliff. 175.* Wood Sorrel with One Flower upon a Stalk, trifoliate Leaves, and a squamous jointed Root. This is the *Oxys flore albo Tourn. Inst. R. H. 88*; Wood Sorrel with a white Flower. *John Bauhin* titles it *Oxys five trifolium acidum Hist. 2. 387*; *Oxys*, or Sower Trefoil. It is the *Trifolium acetosum vulgare, flore lacteo C. B. P. 330.* Common three-leaved Sorrel with a milk-white Flower.

This Plant grows naturally in moist shady Woods in most Parts of *England*; and of late Years it has been cultivated in some Kitchen Gardens as a Sallad Herb, and is by many preferred to the common Sorrel, having a more agreeable acid Flavour; and the Leaves of this, being small and tender, mix better with the small Herbs of which Sallets are usually composed in the Spring. It is a low Plant with trailing scaly-jointed Roots, as is represented at *a*, from which the Footstalks of the Flowers immediately arise; and by this it may be easily distinguished from the yellow American Wood Sorrel which is now commonly sold for it in the Markets, though there is scarce any Acid so very improper to be substituted for it; for that rises with branching Stalks Four or Five Inches high, whereas every Leaf of this stands upon a separate Footstalk arising from the Root; as do also the Flowers which come out early in the Spring, before the Leaves are grown to their full Size. These are commonly white, but often vary to a bluish Colour within, and have some purplish Stripes on the Outside, as is represented at *b*. These are succeeded by pyramidal Five-cornered Capsules, represented at *d*, which have Five Cells, as is shewn at *c*; these are filled with small oval Seeds, as is shewn at *e*. When the Seeds are ripe, the Capsules, on being touched, spring open with an Elasticity, and cast out the Seeds to a considerable Distance. The Leaves of this Plant are used in Medicine.