

DESCRIPTION
OF
SAGINA CERASTOIDES.

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AND THE ADJACENT SEAS

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DESCRIPTION

XXXV. Description of *Sagina cerastoides*, a new British Plant discovered in Scotland by Mr. James Dickson, F. L. S. By the President.

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SAGINA CERASTOIDES.

S. caule diffuso dichotomo, foliis spatulatis obovatisve recurvis, pedunculis fructiferis reflexis.

Habitat in arenosis maritimis et fissuris rupium, in Bodotriæ infulis.
Junio, Julio. ☉ ?

Herba facie *Cerastii*, sed floribus semper quadrifidis.

Radix fibrosa, annua ut videtur.

Caules plurimi, diffusi, spithamæi, teretes, foliosi; basi attenuati, glabriusculi, alternatim ramosi; supernè magis pubescentes, dichotomi, geniculis tumidiusculis, pallidis, ramulis divaricatis.

Folia opposita, patienti-recurva, integerrima, acuta, mollia, utrinque pubescentia; subtus pallidiora atque nitidiora, venulis rectis, longitudinalibus; inferiora spatulata, longiùs petiolata; superiora obovata, sessilia; summa ovata. *Stipulæ* nullæ.

Flores

Flores è dichotomiâ caulis, solitarii, primo subseffiles, statim pedunculati; *pedunculis* uncialibus, filiformibus, pubescentibus; fructiferis reflexis.

Calyx è foliolis quatuor, parum patentibus, lanceolatis, acutis, concavis, basi obtusè carinatis, extùs pubescentibus, intùs lucidis; quorum duo opposita angustiora sunt, margineque membranacea.

Petala quatuor, calyce ferè duplo breviora, cuneiformia, alba, tenuissima, apice bifida, lobis acutis, rectis.

Stamina quatuor, æqualia, petalis alternantia parumque breviora. *Filamenta* capillaria, alba. *Antherae* parvæ, subrotundæ, luteolæ.

Pistillum. *Germen* ovatum, longitudine staminum, pallidè virescens, glabrum. *Styli* quatuor, brevissimi, erecti. *Stigmata* recurva, villosa, alba.

Capsula cylindrica, longitudine calycis, aureo nitens, apice dehiscens denticulis octo, triangularibus, obtusissimis.

Semina numerosa, luteo-fusca, subcuneiformia, depresso, basi emarginata, margine scabriuscula.

THIS plant was first discovered by Mr. Dickson on the rocky and sandy shores of Inch-Keith and Inch-Combe in the Firth of Forth, as well as on the beach below Prestonpans. Its habit is altogether that of a *Cerastium*, most nearly resembling *C. semidecandrum*, *pentandrum* and *vulgatum*. But its flowers being constantly

constantly quadrifid, oblige us to refer it to the genus of *Sagina*, with which they exactly agree; more especially as the genera in this natural order are scarcely to be discriminated without taking into consideration the comparative number of the parts of fructification.

The flowers are scarcely to be found expanded except in a sunny afternoon.

