

X. *Additional Observations on the Tropæolum pentaphyllum of Lamarck.*
By Mr. DAVID DON, Libr. L.S.

Read March 18th, 1834.

IN the account of this remarkable plant already given, at page 11, I omitted to notice several interesting facts, which an examination of living specimens in a more perfect state has enabled me to supply, and which greatly strengthen its claims to be regarded as the type of a distinct genus. The first character I shall have to notice is the persistent nature of the calyx, so different from that of *Tropæolum*, which is strictly deciduous. Not only is the calyx persistent, but it undergoes considerable changes during the progress of the fruit towards maturity, at which period it will be found to have increased very much both in size and thickness, its vitality continuing undiminished until the decay of the stem that supports it. In the advanced state, the tube or spur assumes a fleshy consistence, and is abundantly supplied with a honey-like fluid, its extremity being partially separated from the rest by a constriction, as if formed by a ligature, and finally withering and falling off, while the other parts remain in a healthy state.

The internal structure of the seeds differs materially from that of *Tropæolum*; the embryo is small and white, contained in a thin cartilaginous testa; and the cotyledons round and compressed.

I would therefore propose the following additions to the technical part of my former description.

Calyx persistens, demùm, fructu maturescenti, valdè auctus, carnosus: *calcaris* infundibuliformi, infernè constricto, extremitate clavatâ melliferâ deciduâ! *Seminis testâ* cartilagineâ, albâ. *Embryo* parvus, albus: *cotyledones* subrotundæ, compressæ.

XI. *A Commentary on the Fourth Part of the Hortus Malabaricus.* By
(the late) FRANCIS HAMILTON, M.D., F.R.S. and L.S.

Read February 21st, and November 7th, 1826.

MAO, seu MAU, p. 1. tab. 1 et 2.

THE word *Mange*, which, the author says, is the name of this tree among the Indians, is of Malay origin, and was introduced by Garcias ab Horto, Acosta, and other early writers. These absurdly applied the *Mangka*, or *Manga*, of the Malays to the fruit, and called the tree *Mangifera*, which has been copied by modern botanists, although Rumphius properly called the genus *Manga*. His specific name *domestica* has been changed with equal want of propriety; for the name *indica* is equally applicable to every species of this genus. The Sanscrita name *Amra*, corrupted in the vulgar dialects of Gangetic India into *Am*, is the source of the word *Ambo*, used by the Brahmans of Malabar.

For one circumstance in Rheede's description I cannot account; and, as there can be no doubt that he knew the tree perfectly, and meant to describe it, this circumstance must be attributed to one of those errors into which even the most accurate are liable to fall. He says, "*folia bina, terna, aut quaterna simul ex eodem pediculo ramulis inhærent.*" This, converted into Linnæan language, would imply that they are *folia composita*; but this is perfectly erroneous. Another error, respecting the *stamina*, induced Linnæus to place this tree in the class *Pentandria*. Rheede says, *flores—quinque intus albicantibus fibris, flavescentibus apicibus dotatis—præditi*. Now in ninety-nine flowers out of a hundred only one filament has an *anthera*, and I have never observed one flower in which all the five *stamina* were complete.

ADA MARAM, p. 5. tab. 3 et 4.

Maram annexed to *Ada* signifies tree; the Malabar name therefore is *Ada*,



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