MEMOIRS, HISTORICAL AND ILLUSTRATIVE, OF THE BOTANIC GARDEN AT CHELSEA, BELONGING TO THE SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON

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HENRY FIELD & R. H. SEMPLE

MEMOIRS, HISTORICAL AND ILLUSTRATIVE, OF THE BOTANIC GARDEN AT CHELSEA, BELONGING TO THE SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES OF LONDON





SIR HANS SLOANE, BART., M.D.

(From an Engraving in the British Museum.)

MEMOIRS

OF THE

BOTANIC GARDEN AT CHELSEA

BELONGING TO THE

Society of Apothecuries of Condon.

BY THE LATE HENRY FIELD, Esq.

REVISED, CORRECTED, AND CONTINUED TO THE PRESENT TIME,

By R. H. SEMPLE, M.D.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS, PLANS OF THE GARDEN, AND A CATALOGUE OF THE PLANTS, ARRANGED ACCORDING TO THE NATURAL SYSTEM.

LONDON:

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1878.

TO THE

MASTER, WARDENS, COURT OF ASSISTANTS, AND MEMBERS

OF THE

Society of Apothecaries of London,

THESE

MEMOIRS OF THE CHELSEA GARDEN

ARE MOST RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED

BY

THE EDITOR.

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VIEW OF CHELSEA GARDEN FROM THE RIVIA, BEFORE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CHELSEA EMBANKMENT,

MEMOIRS

OF THE

BOTANIC GARDEN AT CHELSEA.

Or the various and important events recorded to have taken place, during the two centuries and a half which have elapsed since the Society of Apothecaries became a separate and independent Corporation, there is none which reflects greater honour upon it as a Society, and more forcibly evinces the zeal, energy, and disinterestedness of its early members in the promotion of science, than the establishment of a Botanic Garden at Chelsea.

Were not the fact indisputable, it would scarcely be credited by posterity that this expensive design was commenced at a time when the Society could not with propriety be said to have emerged from its state of infancy; when it was totally destitute of any disposable funds which could be employed for that purpose; and