

The Quince-Tree.

Descript.] **T**HE ordinary Quince-Tree groweth often to the height and bigness of a reasonable Apple-Tree, but more usually lower and crooked, with a rough Bark, spreading Arms and Branches far abroad. The Leaves are somewhat like those of the Apple-Tree, but thicker, broader, and fuller of Veins, and whiter on the under-side, not dented at all about the edges. The Flowers are large and white, sometimes dashed over with a blush. The Fruit that followeth is yellow, being near ripe, and covered with a white Freeze or Cotton; thick set on the younger, and growing less as they grow to be through ripe, bunched out ofentimes in some places, some being like an Apple, and some a Pear, of a strong heady scent, and not durable to keep, and is sowre, harsh, and of an unpleasant tast to eat fresh; but being scalded, roasted, baked, or preserved, becometh more pleasant.

Place and Time.] It best likes to grow near Ponds and Water sides, and is frequent through this Land; and flowereth not until the Leaves be come forth. The fruit is ripe in September or October.

Government and Vertues.] Old Saturn owns the Tree. Quinces when they are green, help all sorts of Fluxes in Man or Woman, and Cholerick Lasks, Casting, and whatever needeth astringent, more than any way prepared by Fire; yet the Syrup of the Juice or the Conserve, are much conducible, much of the binding quality being consumed

by the Fire, if a little Vinegar be added, stirreth up the languishing Appetite, and the Stomach given to Casting; some Spices being added, comforteth and strengtheneth the decayed and fainting Spirits, and helpeth the Liver oppressed, that it cannot perfect the digestion, or correcteth Choler and Flegm. If you would have them purging, put Honey to them instead of Sugar; and if more Laxative, for Choler, Rhubarb; for Flegm, Turbith; for watry Humours, Scammony; but if more forcibly to bind, use the unripe Quinces, with Roses and Acacia, Hypocistis, and some terrified Rhubarb. To take the crude juice of Quinces, is held a preservative against the force of deadly Poyson; for it hath been found most certainly true, That the very smell of

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of a Quince hath taken away all the strength of the Poyson of White Helebore. If there be need of any outward binding and cooling of hot Fluxes, the Oil of Quinces, or other Medicines that may be made thereof, are very available to anoint the Belly, or other parts therewith; it likewise strengtheneth the Stomach and Belly, and the Sinews that are loosened by sharp Humours falling on them, and restraineth immoderate Sweatings. The Mucilage taken from the Seeds of Quinces and boiled in a little Water, is very good to cool the heat, and heal the sore Breasts of Women. The same with a little Sugar, is good to lenifie the harshness and hoarseness of the Throat, and roughness of the Tongue. The Cotton or Down of Quinces boiled and applied to Plague-sores, healeth them up, and laid as a Plaister, made up with Wax, it bringeth hair to them that are bald, and keepeth it from falling, if it be ready to shead.

Rhadish or Horse-Rhadish.

THE Garden-Rhadish is so well known, that it needeth no Description.

Description.] The Horse-Rhadish hath his first Leaves that rise before Winter, about a foot and a half long, very much cut in or torn in the edges into many parts, of a dark green colour, with a great Rib in the middle; after these have been up a while, others follow, which are greater, rougher, broader and longer, whole, and not divided at the first, but only somewhat roundly dented about the edges; The Stalk when it beareth Flowers (which is seldom) is great, rising up with some few lesser Leaves thereon to three or four foot high, spreading at the top many small branches of whitish Flowers, made of four Leaves a-piece; after which come small Pods, like those of Shepherds-purse, but seldom with any Seed in them. The Root is great, long, white, and rugged, shooting up divers heads of Leaves, which may be parted for increase, but it doth not creep within Ground, nor run above Ground, and is of a strong, sharp and bitter taste, almost like Mustard.

Place.] It is found wild in some places of this Land, but is chiefly planted in Gardens, where it joyeth in moist and shadowy Places.

Time.] It flowereth but seldom; but when it doth, it is in July.