

NOTES ON THE LATIN NAMES OF SOME GAYFEATHERS AND THE FURTHER  
NEW WORLD SIGNIFICANCE OF THOMAS MARTYN'S EDITION (1795–1807)  
OF PHILIP MILLER'S GARDENERS DICTIONARY

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ABSTRACT

The nomenclatural significance of Thomas Martyn's monumental revision (and expansion) of Philip Miller's *Gardeners dictionary*, namely Martyn's puzzlingly neglected *The gardener's and botanist's dictionary* (1795–1807), is assessed with particular reference to New World botany. The publication dates of its constituent parts are discussed; a key resource is internal evidence, citation of recently published works, notably Roxburgh's *Plants of the coast of Coromandel*, publication dates of which are also made more precise through examination of Royal Society of London records. Besides making more secure currently accepted names in *Lagerstroemia* (Lythraceae), *Liatris* (Compositae) and *Meniscium* (Thelypteridaceae), a number of other additions and corrections to current databases are identified, those affecting currently accepted names being disposed of here. This results merely in a new combination in *Ctenodon* (Leguminosae) being proposed, though *Croton cochinchinensis* Martyn may well be an earlier name for *C. cascarilloides* Raeusch. (Euphorbiaceae), while *Mimosa carthagenensis* Martyn (Leguminosae) is lectotypified such that it conclusively falls into the synonymy of *Piptadenia retusa* (Jacq.) P.J. Ribeiro & al. (Leguminosae).

KEY WORDS: *Croton*, *Ctenodon*, *Lagerstroemia*, *Liatris*, *Meniscium*, *Piptadenia*, Philip Miller, Thomas Martyn, *Plants of the coast of Coromandel* (Roxburgh)

RESUMEN

Se evalúa la importancia nomenclatural de la monumental revisión (y ampliación) del diccionario de jardinería de Philip Miller, de Thomas Martyn, a saber, el desconcertantemente olvidado *The gardener's and botanist's dictionary* (1795–1807), con especial referencia a la botánica del Nuevo Mundo. Se discuten las fechas de publicación de sus partes constituyentes; un recurso clave es la evidencia interna, la cita de obras publicadas recientemente, en particular *Plants of the coast of Coromandel* de Roxburgh, cuyas fechas de publicación también se hacen más precisas mediante el examen de los registros de la Royal Society de Londres. Además de afianzar los nombres actualmente aceptados en *Lagerstroemia* (Lythraceae), *Liatris* (Compositae) y *Meniscium* (Thelypteridaceae), se identifican otras adiciones y correcciones a las bases de datos actuales, descartándose aquí las que afectan a nombres actualmente aceptados. Sólo se propone una nueva combinación en *Ctenodon* (Leguminosae), aunque *Croton cochinchinensis* Martyn podría ser un nombre anterior de *C. cascarilloides* Raeusch. (Euphorbiaceae), mientras que *Mimosa carthagenensis* Martyn (Leguminosae) se lectotipifica de tal manera que entra definitivamente en la sinonimia de *Piptadenia retusa* (Jacq.) P.J. Ribeiro & al. (Leguminosae).

INTRODUCTION: GAYFEATHERS

While checking the currently accepted name of the florist's gayfeather or blazing star (*Liatris spicata*, Compositae) for a mooted new edition of *Mabberley's Plant-book* (ed. 4, Mabberley 2017b), the first author, in preparing a catalogue of The Peter Crossing Collection (Sydney, Australia; Mabberley 2022: 72, n. 33), found that the name of this commonly seen species in temperate horticulture worldwide, as well as other currently accepted names in *Liatris*, were first coined by Thomas Martyn in his *The gardener's and botanist's dictionary; containing the best and newest methods of cultivating and improving the kitchen, fruit, and flower garden, and nursery; of performing the practical parts of agriculture; of managing vineyards, and of propagating all sorts of timber trees ... to which are now first added, a complete enumeration and description of all plants hitherto known, with their generic and specific characters, places of growth, times of flowering, and uses both medicinal and*

*economical. The whole corrected and newly arranged, with addition of all the modern improvements in landscape gardening, and in the culture of trees, plants, and fruits, particularly in the various kinds of hot houses and forcing frames: with plates explanatory both of them, and the principles of botany* ([1795-] 1807; TL-2 6046; see also discussion of publication dates below; ‘\*’ indicates corrections or additions to currently accepted names in modern databases):

1. \****Liatris pilosa*** (Aiton) Martyn, Gard. Bot. Dict. 2(1): *Liatris* n. 6. c. 1797–8 [before Dec 1798]; Willd., Sp. Pl. 3:1636 (1803), isonym—Compositae.

BASIONYM: *Serratula pilosa* Aiton, Hort. Kew. 3:138. 1789. TYPE: UNITED KINGDOM: Surrey, cultivated at [Royal Botanic Gardens,] Kew, Anon. s.n., 1785 (BM001050765) (BM, lectotype, designated by G.L. Nesom and J.M. Stucky in Sida 21:822. 2004).

**Distribution.**—E United States.

**Note.**—Martyn’s description was clearly based on Aiton’s account of *Serratula pilosa*. ‘*Anonymos pilosa*’ Walter, Fl. Carol. 197. 1788, nom. inval. is also cited, but Martyn expressed doubt about its being conspecific; he was right, as the latter is actually *L. pycnostachya* Michx.

2. \****Liatris scariosa*** (L.) Martyn, Gard. Bot. Dict. 2(1): *Liatris* n. 5. 1797–8 [before Dec 1798]; Willd., Sp. Pl. 2:818. 1803, isonym—Compositae.

BASIONYM: *Serratula scariosa* L., Sp. Pl. 2:818. 1753. TYPE: Anon. s.n. [Herb. J.F. Gronovius] in Herb. Linn. 965.14 (LINN, LECTOTYPE designated by Gaiser [1946: 294]).

**Distribution.**—E United States. Several named cultivars are widely grown ornamentals.

3. \****Liatris spicata*** (L.) Martyn, Gard. Bot. Dict. 2(1): *Liatris* n. 8. 1797–8 [before December 1798]; Willd., Sp. Pl. 3:1636. 1803, isonym—Compositae.

BASIONYM: *Serratula spicata* L., Sp. Pl. 2:819. 1753. TYPE: *P. Kalm* s.n. in Herb. Linn. 965.15 (LINN, LECTOTYPE designated by Gaiser [1946: 221]).

**Distribution.**—E North America. This is the ubiquitous cut flower and garden plant (florist or marsh gay-feather, blazing star) with many named cultivars grown in all temperate parts of the world.

4. \****Liatris squarrosa*** (L.) Martyn, Gard. Bot. Dict. 2(1): *Liatris* n. 4. 1797–8 [before December 1798]; Michx., Fl. Bor.-Amer. 2:92. 1803, isonym; Willd., Sp. Pl. 3:1635. 1803, isonym—Compositae.

BASIONYM: *Serratula squarrosa* L., Sp. Pl. 2:818. 1753. TYPE: Anon. s.n. in Herb. Linn. 965.13 (LINN, LECTOTYPE designated by Gaiser [1946: 403]).

**Distribution.**—C, S and E United States including Texas.

#### THOMAS MARTYN AND HIS DICTIONARY

Martyn’s book is a completely rewritten edition of a long-running bestseller, Philip Miller’s *Gardeners* [sic] *dictionary* and includes many New World plants lately introduced to Britain. Miller’s *Dictionary* had first appeared in 1731, the eighth edition, using Linnaean nomenclature, in 1768. According to Gorham (1830: 170–171), William Curtis (1747–1799), author of the lavish *Flora Londinensis*, was the first to be asked to prepare a new edition of ‘Miller’ but, after three years, he had done nothing. The job was therefore offered to Thomas Martyn (1736–1825) with an honorarium of 1000 guineas (some \$US 262 000 in 2024 money), the task being expected to take 11 years to complete. Martyn’s work completely updated and greatly expanded Miller’s book, as it covered not only plants in cultivation but also all those others to be found in Linnaeus’s *Systema vegetabilium* and Willdenow’s *Species plantarum*. Moreover, it also indicated the position of each plant in the Natural System of Jussieu. Indeed, it was originally advertised (as in Martyn’s *The language of botany*, 1793) as ‘The Botanist’s and Gardener’s Dictionary’.

Thomas Martyn was an early exponent of Linnaean nomenclature. He was a fellow & tutor at Sidney Sussex College, University of Cambridge, England from 1758 when ordained, becoming a priest in the next year (Gorham 1830). Aged 26, he succeeded his father, John (1699–1768), as professor of botany at Cambridge, 2 February 1762, and held that post for over 60 years (Walters 1981: 36), though ceased lecturing in 1796, by then living in London.

On 11 November 1785 Martyn began work on the revision, issuing a Prospectus in 1788. By June 1791 he had got to the end of F, according to his curate, George Gorham (Gorham 1830: 193), the first part (40 sheets) appearing on 30 May 1795; by 1 August 1796 “We are printing deep in H,” but the book was not completed until 1807, taking twice as long as had been estimated; perhaps bringing out his *Flora rustica* (4 vols., 1792–94, abandoned after publication of the fourth volume) contributed to the delay. The dictionary was first issued in parts (Mabberley 2022: 74), from 1795 onwards, and was advertised in a handbill thus: I. This Work will make two large Volumes in Folio, and be handsomely printed on a new Pica Letter, and fine Demy Paper. II. A Number, containing Four Sheets, will be delivered every Saturday, stitched, Price One Shilling, until the Whole is completed. III. For the Convenience of those who prefer a more speedy Mode of Publication, this Work will also be delivered in [20] Parts, each containing Forty Sheets, sewed in blue Paper, Price Ten Shillings and Sixpence. A Part will be delivered at the End of every Ten Weeks. IV. In the Course of the Work will be given, Gratis, a Set of Copper Plates, elegantly engraved, exhibiting a general Illustration of the Science of Botany. Also various Plans, and Designs for Green-Houses, Stoves, Ice-Houses, &c. &c.”

According to a photocopy (FAC/74/3 ff. 27–29, held in the Bedfordshire Record Office, Bedford, England), of a Martyn MS (kindly transcribed by Edwin Rose and communicated in litt. January 2023): *Manuscript memoirs of Professor Thomas Martyn* [at front, “It appears, from a letter addressed by Professor Martyn to Sir J.E. Smith, that this memoir was drawn up at the beginning of 1821; the writer being then in his 86th year”]:

“... this year (1788) he [Thomas Martyn] began to dedicate most of his time to it [the dictionary]. In the year 1792 he prepared for beginning to print and on the 29th December he received the first sheets [proofs] from Mr. Bye printer St John's Square Clerkenwell. On Nov. 15th. 1793 the work was advanced as far as [bound in; ?Epi] *idendrum*. On May the 1st 1795 Proposals were delivered for Publishing; and on [30 May 1795] the first number containing 4 sheets and the first part containing 40 sheets were published. March 31st 1797 received the last sheet of the first volume from the printer; and during this year the first volume entire was published, and the printing of the second continued. In Decr. the year following the 12th part was published, containing part of M, all N, and great part of [?O] the 13th in 1799—the 14th in 1800—the 15th & 16th in 1801—the 17th in 1802—the 18th in 1803—the 19th in 1804. And on Decr. 21st 1807 the Dictionary was finally published entire in two volumes folio each divided into two parts [A-CIV; CLA-I; K-P; Q-Z], price 14 guineas well over \$US 2100 in 2024 money for the set, complete with plates].

“That the editor was employed in this work [?]years, and during the most of them dedicated a chief part of his time to it. The botanical part is almost all new—considerable additions are made in the Gardening department; and much is given on agricultural subjects, which were scarcely treated at all in the original. The preliminary matter contains a great mass of Botanical Elementary information. Without vanity it may be said to be one of the largest works executed in modern times by one man alone.”

External praise came with a notice of the 18th part (*Sisyrrinchium* to *Tabernaemontana*) which was published ‘at the close of’ 1803 (Konig & Sims 1804), ‘it is well known, not only that the additions of the learned Professor are very considerable, but that he has displayed great judgement in the selection of them. A German translation of this work is commenced by Mr [Franz/Francois] Johannot [c. 1760–1838], to which is prefaced an introduction to the Linnaean system,’ ‘Gärtner Lexicon, in einem getreuen auszuge nach der neuesten von Dr. Martyn besorgten Englishen ausgabe, und mit zusätzen und anmerkungen von Franz Johannot. Frankfurt am M[ain]. Th. I. A-Bau. 1802, pp. 559. 8vo. Th.II 1803.’ The German edition seems to have got no further than the second volume (see a notice of this publication under *fide* notice, <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/41046237> (1818)). This 18th part of the dictionary seems to comprise just 78 leaves (156 pages) while the last two parts together amounted to 190 leaves, suggesting that merely counting pages cannot ascertain accurately the size of each part, as apparently these two at least were not the same as either the 18th or the first (160 pages).

Martyn's ‘edition’ was dedicated to Sir Joseph Banks, whose library and collections had been used in preparing the book, Martyn having moved to London despite his Cambridge duties. In the style of Miller's unpaginated text in the earlier editions, with entries in alphabetical order, ‘The Gardeners and Botanical

Dictionary by the late Philip Miller corrected and newly arranged by Thomas Martyn B.D. F.R.S., 4 volumes folio—[was] presented by Professor Martyn' to the Royal Society of London [president Sir Joseph Banks] on 14 January 1808 ('Presents received by the Royal Society' [back matter of] *Philosophical Transactions* 98:374. 1808<sup>1</sup>) some 20 years after Miller's death. The completed dictionary (p. clxviii: July 10, 1807<sup>2</sup>) was issued with 20 uncolored engraved plates—eight botanical plates (1 dated 1 May 1795 by F.P. Nodder; 2, 3, 7 & 8 dated 4–7 June 1806 by R.P. Nodder; 5 dated 3 August 1795 by F.P. Nodder; 6 dated 3 October 1795 by F.P. Nodder); plates 1–7 of Linnaean classes dated April 1807 by R.P. Nodder; five unnumbered plates of an ice-house (7 May 1796 unsigned), vinery (1 Jan 1798) and pine[apple]-stove (1 October 1797), both by Wilson Lowry (1762–1824) after ('designed by') William [and?] Jacob Malcolm, conservatory (12 December 1795) and greenhouse (27 February 1796), both unsigned.

The publication details of the 20 parts (besides the plates above; those would have been available separately from print sellers on the official publication dates required to be added by law), so far known from the evidence above, besides internal evidence cited below, are as follows:

**[Vol. 1]**

1. 30 May 1795 (40 sheets [80 leaves] - 160 pp.; Abele-tree - *Anthemis*, pars)
2. ?1795 (*Anthemis* pars-?)
3. ?1795 (?-?)
4. ?1796 (?-?)
5. ?1796 (?-Civis)
6. ?1796 (*Clandestina*-?)
7. ?1796 (?-?)
8. ?1796-7 (?-?)
9. ?1796-7
10. 1797 (-*Ixora*)

**[Vol. 2]**

11. 1798 (*Kadali* – part of M [*Limonia* entry cites William Roxburgh's *Plants of the coast of Coromandel* 1 (4): 60, tt. 85, 86. Jan.–Mar. 1798]).
12. Dec. 1798 (most of M; N; great part of ?O)
13. 1799 (–1800; last part of O?– part of P)  
(note that under *Pinus* [part 13 or 14] is “the common turpentine that the painters use is now, 1799, six-pence a quart. ... [larch] the season [i.e. summer months] of 1799 has been a cold wet one”; under *Poa*, *P. caesia* Sm. (published Mar.–Apr. 1800) is listed)
14. 1800 (?-?)
15. 1801 (?–*Pyxidantha*)
16. 1801 (*Quadrifolium*-?)
17. 1802 (?-?)
18. 1803 (?Dec. [‘at the close’ of 1803] *Sisyrrinchium* [pars; ?signature ‘Vol. II; ‘15A’] to *Tabernaemontana* [pars; ?signature ‘Vol. II; ‘16 Q] –78 leaves = 156 pages)
19. 1804 (*Tabernaemontana* pars-?)
20. 1807 ([plus prelims in vol. 1 ‘10 July 1807’] ?–*Zygophyllum*: 21 Dec. 1807).

One (TF001171/2) of the two copies held in the State Library of New South Wales, Sydney, apparently comprises the text as originally issued in parts (there are similar copies at both K and P), the second (F/1337 SET), like that in The Peter Crossing Collection (Sydney; Fig. 1), being, like online copies, the 1807 impression. The first is bound in two volumes, the first of which is dated 1797 and ‘LONDON PRINTED FOR F. AND C. RIVINGTON’ then 19 other booksellers; there is no dedication page and the second volume [beginning with *Kadali* has no title-page (nor plates). The last page has ‘Printed by Bye and Law [!] Clerkenwell’. The 1807 set has title-pages differing in having ‘LONDON’ then, below, ‘PRINTED FOR F.C. AND J. RIVINGTON’ and 26 other booksellers ‘BY LAW AND GILBERT, ST JOHN’S SQUARE, CLERKENWELL’. The prefatory matter

<sup>1</sup>The manuscript *Journal Books of the Royal Society* is a valuable, if somewhat neglected, source for dating botanical works; for example, among works contemporary with Martyn's, the four parts of the second volume of William Roxburgh's *Plants of the coast of Coromandel* (1795–1820) can be further refined: *Journal books of the Royal Society* 36 f. 615 Roxburgh Pl. Coast Corom. 2(1) presented 2 May 1799 [May 1799 in TL-2]; 37 f. 111 (meeting of 24 April 1799) part 2(2) presented [May 1800 in TL-2.]; 38 f. 393 part 2(3) presented 10 December 1801 [April 1802 in TL-2]; ff. 514-5 part 2(4) presented 9 May 1805 [May 1805 in TL-2]. Joseph Banks (President of the Royal Society at this time) had much to do with the production of this book (“published ... under the direction of Sir Jos. Banks, Bart. PRS”).

THE  
GARDENER'S AND BOTANIST'S  
DICTIONARY;

CONTAINING  
THE BEST AND NEWEST METHODS OF CULTIVATING AND IMPROVING THE  
KITCHEN, FRUIT, AND FLOWER GARDEN, AND NURSERY;  
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PRACTICAL PARTS OF AGRICULTURE;  
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CULTURE OF TREES, PLANTS, AND FRUITS,  
PARTICULARLY IN THE VARIOUS KINDS OF HOT HOUSES AND FORCING FRAMES:  
WITH PLATES EXPLANATORY BOTH OF THEM, AND THE PRINCIPLES OF BOTANY.

BY  
THOMAS MARTYN, B.D. F.R.S.  
REGIUS PROFESSOR OF BOTANY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. II. PART II. Q—Z.

L O N D O N :

PRINTED FOR F. C. AND J. RIVINGTON, J. JOHNSON, G. AND W. NICOL, R. BALDWIN, W. J. AND J. RICHARDSON,  
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BY LAW AND GILBERT, ST. JOHN'S SQUARE, CLEVELAND.

M DCCC VII.

Fig. 1. Title page of the last part (1807). The Peter Crossing Collection, Sydney, Australia

(pp. clxviii) must have been issued with the 1807 title pages, as it includes discussion of authors and publications up to at least 1805. It also includes a catalogue of plants in cultivation thereby filling the gap between the two editions of Aiton's *Hortus kewensis* (1789, 1810–13). Pp.\*[1-] \*x have the legends of the plates and are followed by 'CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS' for the whole work.

#### OTHER NOMENCLATURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Fulsomely praised by Robert Thornton of *Temple of flora fame*, in his *Elements of botany* (Thornton 1812), in a way only he knew how, writing an oleaginous, perhaps almost hysterical, dedication, dated 1 May 1810, to Martyn, as ““*Prince of Botanists*,” a gigantic labour presented itself to your enlarged understanding, the revision of the “*Gardener's Dictionary*, by Miller” ... has been now accomplished with a skill, a diligence, and knowledge, such as must astonish an expecting and admiring world, and weave around your name laurels that will never fade; and afford you also the present satisfaction of having, like LINNAEUS, lived to some useful purpose, ...” but, surprisingly, the nomenclatural importance of this major work has until now not been assessed.

The lengthy gestation of the dictionary meant that many of Martyn's intended botanical novelties (largely new combinations) appeared first in William Forsyth junior's *A botanical nomenclator* of 1794 (Mabberley 2017a), while others were in a contemporary French edition of 'Miller' by Chazelles, including an important supplement, again, until recently rather neglected (Mabberley 1991; Mabberley & Malécot 2023), besides Willdenow's *Species plantarum*. Why Martyn's huge, comprehensive book was neglected is difficult to understand. By comparison with the work of others apparently deliberately ignored or set aside (Mabberley 2020), Martyn was very well connected and respected in botanical circles, whereas those others were discriminated against because of ideological differences, snobbery, disapproval of personal behaviour, and, likely, misogyny (Mabberley 1991; Mabberley & Malécot 2023); there certainly was a copy of the 1807 edition at Kew by 1899 (Royal Gardens, Kew 1899: 418). So far only a handful of Martyn's nomenclatural novelties are to be found in IPNI/POWO, some of them being currently accepted names, like ***Solanum houstonii*** Martyn (Solanaceae, Mexico; though the correct publication date is 1803). The other hitherto disregarded or unnoticed ones in his book (some 60 names) are being passed thither; here only those very few affecting current nomenclature (cf. Merrill 1949) are considered.

#### Two other currently accepted names made more secure

1. \****Lagerstroemia speciosa*** (L.) Martyn, Gard. Bot. Dict. 2(1): Lagerstroemia n. 2 (1797–8, before December 1798); Pers., Syn. Pl. 2:72. 1806, isonym—Lythraceae.

BASIONYM: *Munchausia speciosa* L. in Münchh., Hausvater 5:357 (1770). TYPE: *Anon. s.n.* in Herb. Linn. 939.1 (LINN, LECTOTYPE selected by M.I. Dar in Nasir & Ali, Fl. W. Pakistan 78:3. 1975).

**Distribution.**—South and south-east Asia. This is a widely cultivated crepe myrtle (crapemyrtle) known as pride of India. It and ***L. indica*** L. (state shrub of Texas), also native to Asia, are common cultivated street trees in Texas.

2. \****Meniscium reticulatum*** (L.) Martyn, Gard. Bot. Dict. 2(1) Meniscium n. 1. 1798; Sw. in J. Bot. (Schrader) 1801(2):274. 1803–04, isonym—Thelypteridaceae.

≡ *Thelypteris reticulata* (L.) Proctor in Bull. Inst. Jamaica, Sci. ser. 5:63. 1953. BASIONYM: *Polypodium reticulatum* L., Syst. Nat. ed. 10, 2:1235. 1759. TYPE: [icon] 'Felix latifolia, non ramosa nigris tuberculis pulverulenta' Plumier, Descr. Pl. Amér. 6t. 9. 1693, LECTOTYPE designated by L.M. Underwood in Bull. Torrey Bot. Club 33:198. 1906. In Phytotaxa 463:94 (2020), R.S. Fernandes & A. Salino designated as epitype, Martinique, Mont Rouge, October 1870, *Hahn* L. 29 (P) without citing a barcode, but there are two sheets of this gathering, reaching P from different sources, viz. P01377393 and P01427682.

**Distribution.**—Florida, Caribbean islands and Venezuela. Widely cultivated internationally.

**Note.**—Not all pteridologists are in agreement that *Meniscium* is usefully separable from *Thelypteris* Schmidel.

## Other nomenclatural issues

1. \**Cassia minima* Martyn, Gard. Bot. Dict. 1(1): Cassia n. 45. ca. 1796 = *Ctenodon minimus* (Martyn) Wajer & Mabb., **comb. nov.**—Leguminosae.  
 = *Cassia houstoniana* Collad., Hist. Nat. Méd. Casses 132. 1816), nom. superfl. TYPE: UNITED KINGDOM: London, cultivated at Chelsea Physic Garden from seeds from Jamaica, *P. Miller s.n.* (BM000931561) (BM LECTOTYPE cited as 'TYPE:' designated by W. Fawcett & A.B. Rendle, Fl. Jamaica 4:28. 1920).  
 = *Hedysarum brasiliense* Poir. in Lam., Encycl., 6:448. 1805, **syn. nov.** = *Ctenodon brasiliense* (Poir.) Cardoso & al. in Neodiversity 13:14. 2020. TYPE: BRAZIL: near Rio de Janeiro, Jul 1767, *P. Commerson s.n.* (Catal. no. 15624; P00678649) (HOLOTYPE: P-JU).

**Distribution.**—Southern Mexico to tropical South America.

**Note.**—Proposed by Martyn as a new name for *Cassia biflora* sensu Mill. Gard. Dict. ed. 8 (Cassia n. 14) non L., nom. rej. (= *Senna pallida* (Vahl) H.S. Irwin & Barneby), *Cassia minima* was based on plants raised at Chelsea Physic Garden from seeds sent by William Houstoun from Jamaica in 1730.

2. \**Croton cochinchinensis* Martyn, Gard. Bot. Dict. 1(1): Croton n. 39. ?1796—Euphorbiaceae.

BAIONYM: *C. punctatus* Lour., Fl. Cochinch. 581. 1790, nec Jacq. (1787) non Retz. (1789 = *Mallotus philippensis* (Lam.) Muell. Arg. [Euphorbiaceae]). TYPE: 'Cochinchina' [= Southern Vietnam or Cambodia], *J. Loureiro s.n.* BM000926610 (BM, LECTOTYPE selected by J. Beyer et al. in Blumea 68:10. 2023); BM000926609, ISOLECTOTYPE).

**Distribution.**—SE Asia.

**Note.**—If the date of Martyn's name is indeed 1796, it is an earlier name for *Croton cascarilloides* Rausch., Nomencl. Bot. ed. 3:280. 1797 (preface 'Spring') as they are homotypic.

## A further Martyn name

Among Martyn's other publications, there are a few names in his now rare third edition of Miller's *Figures of beautiful, useful, and uncommon plants described in the Gardeners' Dictionary* (see Henrey 1975), which Martyn considered as part of his dictionary project; it was the first edition to use Linnaean binomials (the new ones listed by McClintock & Fryxell 1979). It, too, was issued in parts, from 1798 to 1808. One Martyn name still needs clarification:

\**Mimosa carthagenensis* Martyn, Figures Pl. Gard. Dict. ed. 3:72 + t. 291. 1808 = *Piptadenia retusa* (Jacq.) P.G. Ribeiro & al.—Leguminosae. TYPE: [icon] 'Mimosa carthagenensis. Broad-podded Mimosa' Fig. Pl. Gard. Dict. ed. 3, t. 291. 1808, engraved by *J.S. Miller* after *J.D. Ehret* [fruiting branch and dissected pod only, excluding inflorescence and individual floret in the bottom right hand corner of the plate (Fig. 2) = *Senegalia riparia* (Kunth) Britton & Rose]—LECTOTYPE **designated here** by J. Wajer.

**Distribution.**—Tropical America.

**Notes.**—The Ehret plate, upon which Martyn's name was based is, in the second author's opinion, a composite illustration showing a fruiting branch and a dissected pod of *Piptadaenia flava* (Spreng.) Benth., considered conspecific with *P. retusa* by Ribeiro et al. (2020) based on similarities in leaflet venation, while the inflorescence is *Senegalia riparia*. Martyn noted that *Mimosa carthagenensis* "was found at Carthage in New Spain by Dr. Houstoun and does not agree with any of the Mimosas enumerated in the Dictionary" but apparently did not realise that Miller in the eighth edition of his *Gardeners Dictionary* had mistakenly referred both depicted species to *M. cinerea* L. (*Mimosa* n. 21), i.e. the Old World *Dichrostachys cinerea* (L.) Wight & Arn. Miller cited there "*Acacia spinosa tenuifolia siliquis latis spinis minimis recurvis solitaris* Houst. Cat.," the same as in his interpretative text for t. 291 in the first and second editions of his *Figures of plants*, where the inflorescence is described as globose (not mentioned in any edition of his *Dictionary*). A specimen from Miller's own herbarium (BM000952308), with Houstoun's polynomial in Miller's own hand, is filed at BM as *Piptadaenia flava*. It looks very similar to the fruiting branch in *Figures*, but this species has long spicate inflorescences, which is clearly reflected in the way that the pods are borne on the elongated rachides on Miller's specimen, so something is awry.

Close examination of the published plate reveals that the globose inflorescence in the bottom right-hand corner is detached from the branch, almost as if, in the original watercolour, it had been painted separately



FIG. 2. *Mimosa carthagenensis*. Broad-podded Mimosa. Martyn, *Fig. Pl. Gard. Dict.* ed. 3, t. 291. 1808. Courtesy of the Trustees of the Chelsea Physic Garden.

and added later. This inflorescence is actually that of another spiny mimosoid, *Senegalia riparia*; in the vegetative state, *S. riparia* can closely resemble *Piptadenia retusa*. The BM sheet collected by William Houston in Cartagena (BM000895736, 'Herbar Dri. Ph. Miller' on verso) was cited by Rudd (1976) in the synonymy of *Acacia retusa* (Jacq.) R.A. Howard, i.e., *P. retusa*, but referred by her to *A. riparia* Kunth (*S. riparia*) *sensu lato* on a determinavit slip added in 1979). *Senegalia riparia* has distinctively dark spines along the stem (not light green spines as in *P. retusa*). It also has a globose inflorescence, just like that figured in t. 291 in *Figures*. This seems to correspond to a sheet in the Lord Petre Herbarium i.e., Herb. Petre vol. 6 f. 34, held in the Sutro Library in San Francisco, together with many other specimens from Houston's collecting journeys (Ewan 1970). Similar to material at BM, this is one of two sheets in Lord Petre's Herbarium, which were annotated with almost identical polynomials attributed to Houston by John Hill, who helped arrange the collection. They would appear to pertain to the same two different taxa: Herb. Petre vol. 6 f. 44 is *P. retusa*. Interestingly, in 'A catalogue of the plants in the garden of the Right Honble Lord Petre at Thorndon Essex' (Miller 1736), Miller listed two species of 'Acacia' that seem to relate to the two specimens at BM and the two in the Sutro Library:

'Acacia Americana, spinosa, pinnis foliorum angustissimis spinis recurvis nigris solitaris, siliquis latis compressis'. 'Prickly Acacia with very narrow leaves, black single crooked spines, and broad flat pods': BM000895736 and possibly Herb. Petre vol. 6 f. 34, although the mention of 'very narrow leaves' (i.e., leaflets) also suggests ***Senegalia tenuifolia*** (L.) Britton & Rose for which there is no corresponding Houston specimen in either Herb. Petre or BM.

'Acacia Americana, spinosa, tenuifolia, siliquis latis, spinis minimis recurvis solitaris' Houst. 'Narrow leav'd Prickly Acacia with small flat crooked pods growing single': BM000952308 and Herb. Petre vol. 6 f. 44.

These two quite different specimens were given very similar polynomials attributed to Houston by Hill in Petre's herbarium collection, respectively:

vol. 6 f. 34. *Acacia americana spinosa tenuifolia siliquis latis, spinis minimis recurvis solitariis* Houst.

vol. 6 f. 44. *Acacia spinosa tenuifolia siliquis latis, spinis minimis recurvis solitariis* Houst.

It would appear, then, that Ehret (or whoever worked with him at the time) confused these two taxa, in the same way that Hill confused them in the Petre collection and combined the two on the same plate. This deceived Martyn and he referred the whole plate to a single new species. It is not the only example found so far of a composite plate published in *Figures*. According to Irwin & Barneby (1982: 256), t. 82, also engraved by J.S. Miller after an Ehret original watercolour, shows the fruit of ***Senna pentagonia*** (Mill.) H.S. Irwin & Barneby and a flowering branch of ***S. bicapsularis*** (L.) Roxb.

The least disruptive thing to do nomenclaturally in this case, in keeping with Rudd's (1976) published disposition and the most recent published synonymy in this group of taxa (Ribeiro et al. 2020), is to select the vegetative branch as the lectotype of Martyn's name, because, in this way, *Mimosa carthagenensis* falls into the synonymy of *Piptadenia retusa*, whereas selecting the inflorescence component of the plate would necessitate renaming *Senegalia riparia*, a common species in tropical America, as '*S. carthagenensis*,' because Martyn's binomial would in that case provide the earliest available species epithet.

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