

X. *Characters of three new Species of Boronia.* By James Edward Smith, M.D. F.R.S. P.L.S.

Read December 18, 1804.

AMONG a number of new or rare plants, with which Mr. Menzies has enriched my herbarium from the western coast of New Holland, are three species of *Boronia*, all hitherto nondescript, of which I beg leave to offer some account to the Linnean Society.

This beautiful genus was first published in my Tracts on Natural History, in 1798, p. 287. Four species are there described and figured, of which the *B. pinnata* alone has been mentioned by any other writer, being the only species hitherto seen alive in Europe. Of this Mr. Andrews has published a figure in his *Botany*, and Mons. Ventenat has also given a figure and description of the same in his *Jardin de la Malmaison*. It is remarkable that *B. serrulata* has not yet been introduced into our gardens, being plentiful, and much admired, at Port Jackson, and probably not difficult to be raised from seed.

The essential generic character of *Boronia*, consisting in the *antheræ* being situated each on a peculiar slender footstalk, quite distinct from the proper filament, and inserted somewhere about the blunt or glandular top of that part, is confirmed by these new species, all of which have the same structure, only differing among each other as species of a good natural genus usually do differ in the particular conformation of that part, whatever it may be, whose general figure marks the generic character.

racter. These three new species, moreover, differ so much among themselves, as well as from the other four, in the form of their leaves, and yet the whole seven have so general a conformity in those organs in some respects, that the most elegant specific characters, as well as specific names, are easily deduced from thence.

It will be best to exhibit the characters of the whole at one view, in order to show how they differ, as well as to make some slight corrections in those species already published.

* *Foliis compositis.*

1. *BORONIA pinnata*, foliis impari-pinnatis integerrimis glabris, pedunculis axillaribus dichotomis, filamentis apice obtusis glandulosis. *Tracts*, t. 4. *Andrews*, t. 58. *Venten. Malmais.* t. 38.

Gathered near Port Jackson, by Dr. White. ♀.

2. *BORONIA alata*, foliis impari-pinnatis crenatis: rachi pilosâ, pedunculis dichotomis, filamentis obtusis, antheris subterminalibus.

Discovered at King George's Sound, on the west coast of New Holland, latitude 35°, by Mr. Archibald Menzies, F.L.S. ♀.

This appears by the dried specimens to be a larger and somewhat more handsome shrub than even the preceding. It differs in having hairs on the branches, as well as on the common foot-stalk of the leaves underneath, particularly at the joints. That part is also much more winged. The leaflets, mostly five pair, are broad, elliptical, revolute and crenate, hairy at the back of the nerve. Bunches of flowers nearly terminal, hairy, with fringed bractæ. Flowers larger than in *B. pinnata*; their petals whitish on the upper side. Filaments fringed all the way up, each terminating in a round knob, nearly on the top of which stands the tender capillary stalk bearing the *antheræ*.

* * *Foliis simplicibus.*

3. *BORONIA serrulata*, foliis trapeziformibus acutis inæqualiter serrulatis, pedunculis aggregatis terminalibus, filamentis apice cordatis hispidis. *Tracts*, t. 5.

Sent by Dr. White, with coloured drawings, from Port Jackson. ♀.

4. *BORONIA crenulata*, foliis obovatis mucronulatis crenulatis, pedunculis axillaribus terminalibusque unifloris, filamentis apice obtusis glandulosis.

Gathered at King George's Sound, by Mr. Menzies. ♀.

At first sight this appears only a small variety of the last, the leaves especially being but about one third the size of those of that species; but, on examination of the flowers, sufficient marks of distinction are to be found. Even the leaves differ essentially in being obovate, obtuse with a small point, and crenulated, not serrated, about the extremity. The flower-stalks are axillary as well as terminal, all situated towards the top of the branches, and all simple and single-flowered. Flowers small, red, with a fringed calyx. Filaments densely fringed, obtuse (by no means inversely heart-shaped, which is so remarkable in *B. serrulata*), glandular, scarcely at all bristly, bent and swelling below the top, the footstalks of the *antheræ* nearly terminal.

5. *BORONIA denticulata*, foliis linearibus denticulatis, pedunculis corymbosis, filamentis apice obtusis glandulosis.

Gathered at King George's Sound, by Mr. Menzies. ♀.

This approaches more to the habit of the following, *B. parviflora*, but is larger in all its parts. The leaves are much narrower than in any other known species, being quite linear, about an inch long, smooth, bluntish, though for the most part tipped with a small point, their margins regularly, closely, and finely toothed;

toothed; the base tapers down into a sort of footstalk. The flowers grow in axillary or terminal *corymbi*, with smooth stalks and small deciduous *bracteæ*. Calyx smooth. Petals of a pale rose-colour, with a dark-red rib. Filaments slightly fringed, their top obtuse, glandular, destitute of hairs. *Antheræ* on lateral horizontal stalks.

6. *BORONIA parviflora*, foliis obovato-lanceolatis obsoletè crenatis, pedunculis unifloris, filamentis apice oblongis glandulosis. *Tracts*, t. 6.

Gathered near Port Jackson, by Dr. White. 5.

7. *BORONIA polygalifolia*, foliis lineari-lanceolatis integerrimis, pedunculis axillaribus solitariis unifloris, filamentis apice abbreviatis obtusis. *Tracts*, t. 7.

Gathered near Port Jackson, by Dr. White. 4.

What is chiefly remarkable in this last species, besides its being herbaceous, is the diversity in the situation of the leaves, some of which, and consequently the flowers, are alternate, others opposite, or even three together, on different branches from the same root. I have remarked other instances in New Holland plants of a similar irregularity, some of which I shall take a future opportunity of mentioning.

Norwich, Dec. 17, 1804.