

THE
COUNTRY HOUSE-WIVES
GARDEN,

Containing rules for Herbs, and Seeds,
of common use, with their times and seasons
when to set and sow them.

Together
With the Husbandry of Bees, publi-
shed with secrets very necessary for every *Hous-*
wife: As also divers new Knots for Gardens.

The Contents see at large, in the last Page.

Genes. 2. 29.

*I have given unto you every Herbe, and every Tree, that shall be to you
for meat.*



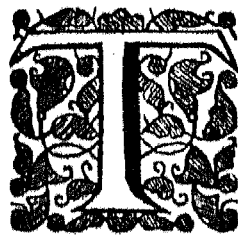
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THE COUNTRY HOUSE-VVIVES. GARDE N.

CHAP. I.

The Soyle.



The Soyl of an Orchard and Garden, differ only in these three poynts: First, the Gardens soyl would be somewhat dryer, because herbs being more tender then trees, can neither abide moysture nor drought, in such excessive measure, as trees; and therefore having a dryer soyl, the remedy is easie against drought: if need be, water soundly; which may be done with small labour, the compasse of a Garden being nothing so great, as of an Orchard: and this is the cause (if they know it) that Gardners raise their squares: but if moysture trouble you, I see no remedy without a generall danger, except in Hops, which delight much in a low and sappy earth.

Secondly, the soyl of a Garden would be plaine and leuell, at least every square, (for we purpose the square to be the fittest form) the reason is, the earth of a garden wanting such helps, as should stay the water, which an orchard hath, & the roots of herbs

Dry.

Hops.

being mellow and looſe, is ſoon either waſht away, or ſends out his heart by too much drenching and waſhing.

Thirdly, if a garden ſoil be not clear of weeds, and namely of graſs, the herbs ſhall never thrive: for how ſhould good herbs proſper, when evill weeds wax ſo faſt: conſidering good herbs are tender in reſpect of evill weeds: theſe being ſtrengthened by nature, and the other by art? Gardens have ſmall place in compariſon, and therefore may more eaſily be followed, at the leaſt one half year before, and the better dreſſed after it is framed. And you ſhall find that clean keeping doth not onely avoid danger of gathering weeds, but alſo is a ſpeciall ornament, and leaves more plentifully ſap for your tender herbs.

CHAP. II.

Of the Sites.

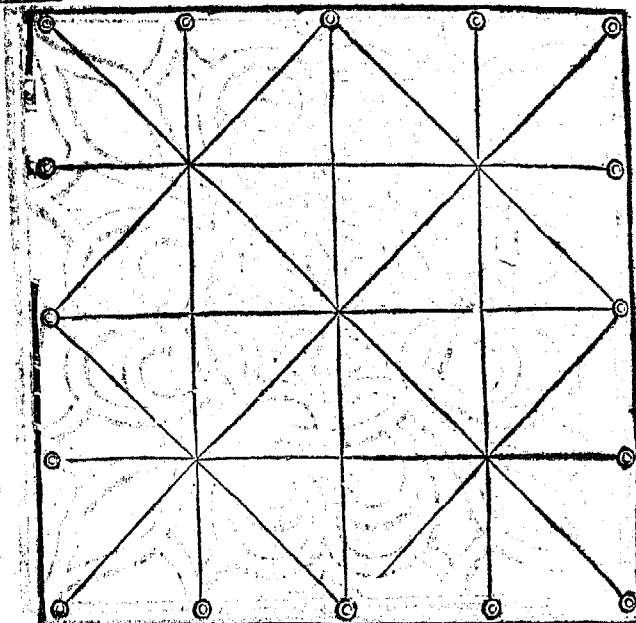
I Cannot ſee in any ſort, how the ſite of the one ſhould not be good, and fit for the other: The ends of both being one, good, wholeſome, and much fruit joynd with delight, unleſſe trees be more able to abide the nipping froſts than tender herbs: but I am ſure, the flowers of trees are as ſoon periſhed with cold: as any herbe except Pumpion, and Melons.

CHAP. III.

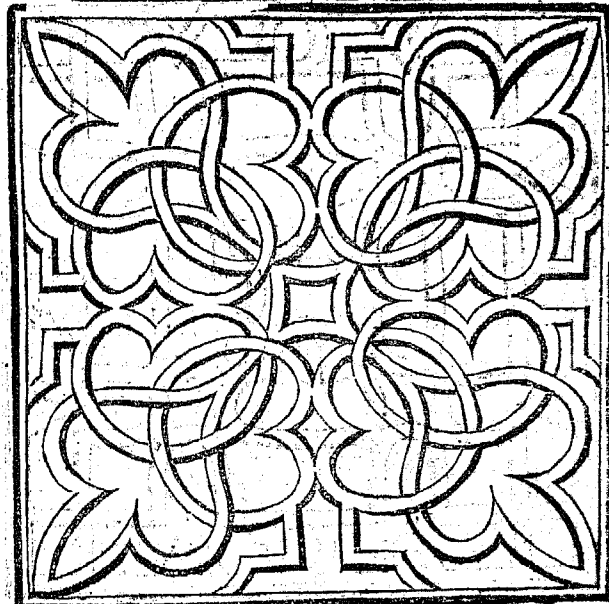
Of the Forme.

Let that which is ſaid in the Orchards forme, ſuffice for a Garden in generall: but for ſpeciall formes in ſquares, they are as many, as there are devices in Gardners brains. Neither is the wit and art of a ſkilfull Gardner in this point not to be commended, that can work more variety for breeding of more delightſome choice, and of all thoſe things, where the owner is able and deſirous to be ſatisfied. The number of formes, Mazes, and Knots is ſo great, and men are ſo diverſly delighted, that I leave every Houſe-wiſe to her ſelf, eſpecially ſeeing to ſet down many, had been but to fill much paper; yet leſt I deprive her of all delight and direction, let her view theſe few, choiſe new formes; and note this generally, that all plots are ſquare, and all are bordered about with Privie, Raiſins, Fea-beerries, Roſes, Thorne, Roſemary, Bee-flowers, Ilop, Sage, or ſuch like.

CHAP.

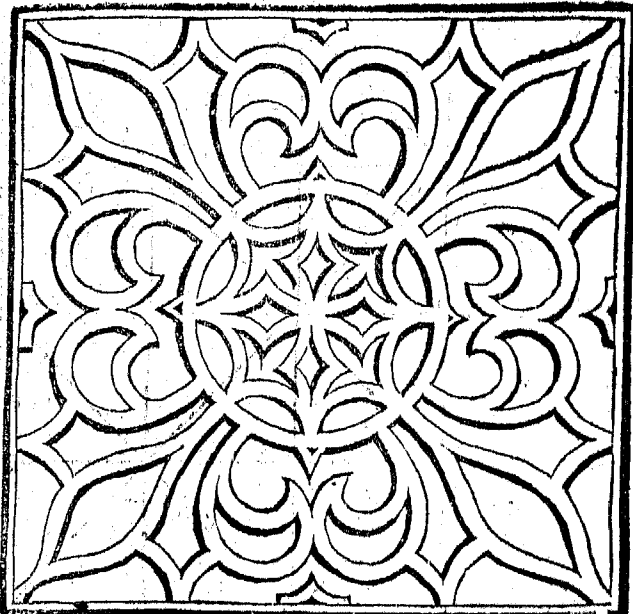


The ground plot for knots.

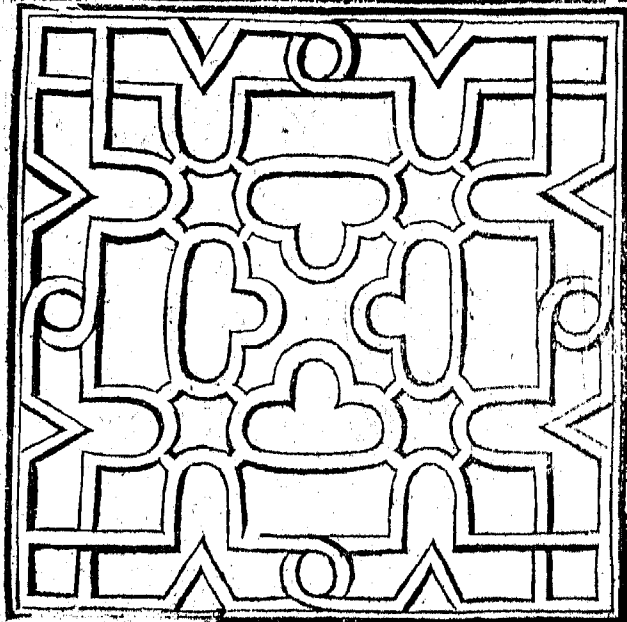


Cinkfoils.

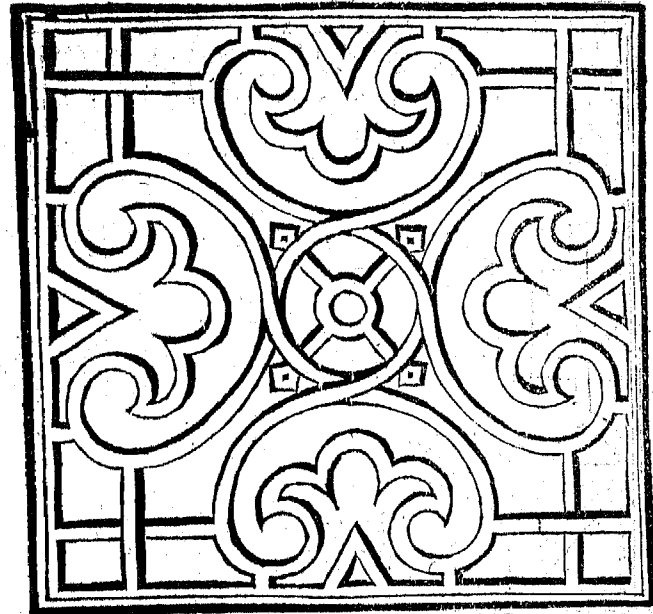
Flower
deluce.



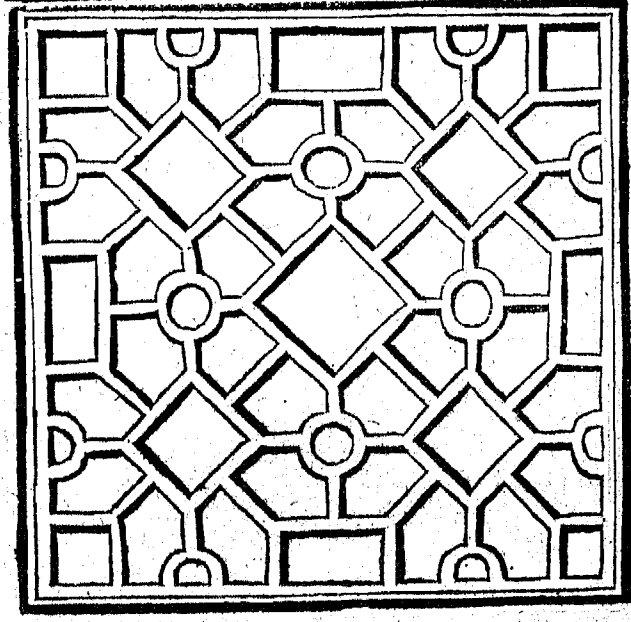
The Tre-
foyle.



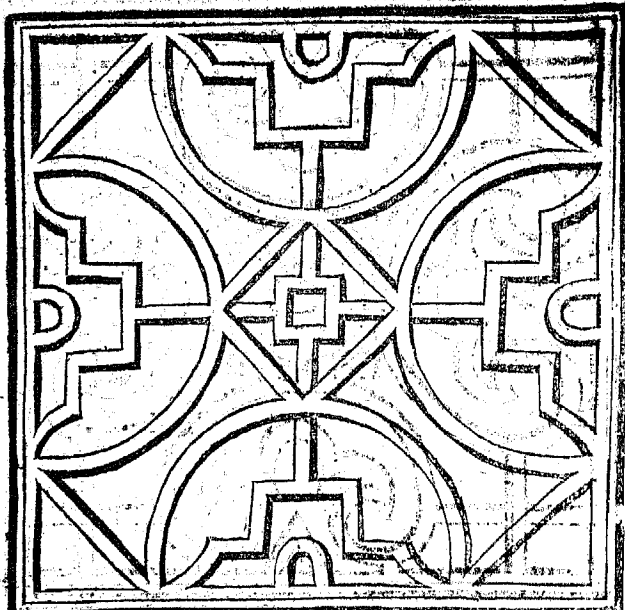
The Fret.



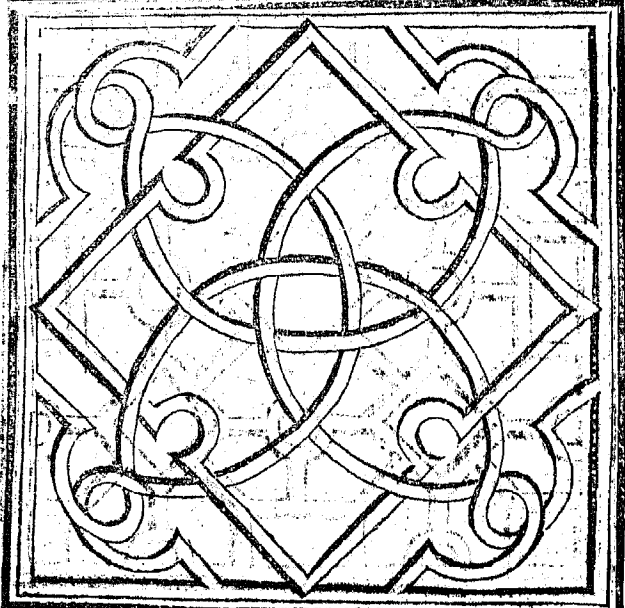
Lozenges.



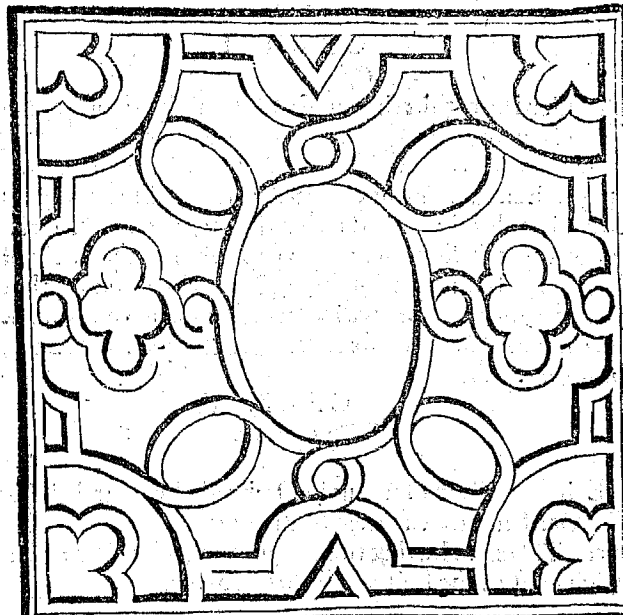
Crosse-bow.



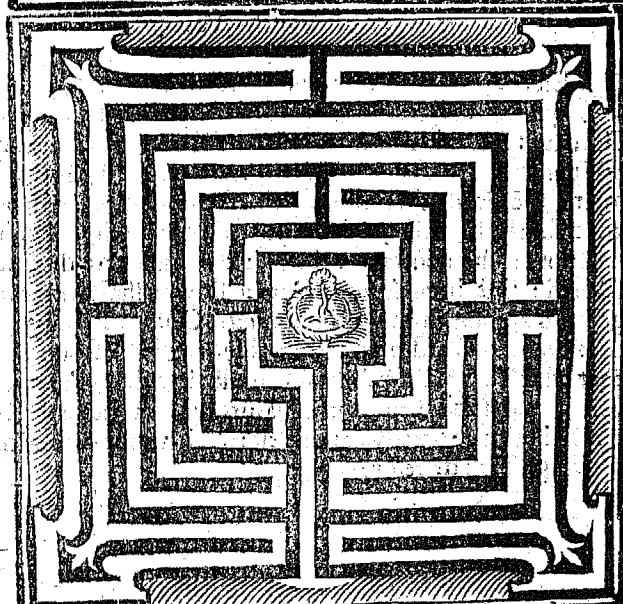
Diamond.



Ovall.



Maze.



CHAP. IV.

Of the Quantity.

A Garden requireth not so large a scope of ground as an Orchard, both in regard of the much weeding, dressing, and removing, and also the pains in a Garden is not so well repayed home, as in an Orchard: It is to be granted, that the Kitchin garden doth yield rich gains, by Berries, Roots, Cabbages, &c. yet these are no way comparable to the fruit of a Rich Orchard: But notwithstanding I am of opinion, that it were better for *England* that we had more Orchards and Gardens, and more large. And therefore, we leave the quantity to every mans ability and will.

CHAP. V.

Of Fence.

Seeing we allow Gardens in Orchard plots, and the benefit of a Garden is much, they both require a strong and shrowding fence. Therefore leaving this, let us come to the Herbs themselves, which must be the fruit of all these labours.

CHAP. VI.

Of two Gardens.

Herbes are of two sorts, and therefore it is meet, (they requiring diverse manners of Husbandry) that we have two Gardens: A garden for flowers, and a Kitchin garden: or a Summer garden: not that we mean so perfect a distinction, that we meane the Garden for flowers should or can be without herbs good for the Kitchin, or the Kitchin garden should want flowers, nor on the contrary: but for the most part they would be severed: first, because your Garden flowers shall suffer some disgrace, if among them you intermingle Onions Parsnips, &c. Secondly, your Garden that is durable, must be of one form: but that which is your Kitchens use, must yield daily Roots, or other herbs, and suffer deformity. Thirdly, the herbs of both will not be both alike ready, at one time, either for gathering, or removing. First therefore

Of

Of the Summer Garden.

These herbs and flowers are comely and durable for squares & Knots, and all to be set at *Michael-tide*, or somewhat before; that they may be setled in, and taken with the ground before winter; though they may be set, especially sown, in the spring.

Roses of all sorts, (spoken of in the Orchard) must be set: Some use to set slips and twine them, which sometimes, but seldom, thrive all.

Rosemary, Lavender, Bee-flowers, Isop, Sage, Thyme, Cowllips, Pyony, Daisies, Clove Gilliflowers, Pinks, Sothernwood, Lillies, of all which hereafter.

Of the Kitchin Garden.

Though your Garden for flowers doth in a sort peculiarly challenge to it self a perfit, and exquisite form to the eyes, yet you may not altogether neglect this, where your herbs for the pot do grow. And therefore some here make comely borders with the herbs aforesaid. The rather, because abundance of Roses and Lavender, yield much profit, and comfort to the senses: Rose water, Lavender, the one cordiall (as also the Violets, Borage, and Bugloss) the other reviving the spirits by the sense of smelling: both most durable for smell, both in flowers and water: you need not here raise your beds, as in the other Garden, because Summer towards, will not let too much wet annoy you, and these herbs require more moysture: yet must you have your beds divided, that you may go betwixt to weed, and somewhat of form would be expected: To which it availeth that you place your herbs of biggest growth, by walls, or in borders, as Fennell, &c. and the lowest in the midst, as Saffron, Strawberries, Onions, &c.

CHAP. VII.

Division of Herbs.

Garden herbs are innumerable, yet these are common, and sufficient for our Country-housewives.

Herbs of greatest growth.

K

Fen-

Fennell, Angelica, Tanfie, Hollihock, Lovage, Ellicampane, French Mallows, Lillies, French Poppy, Endive, Succory, and Clary.

Herbs of middle growth.

Burrage, Bugloffe, Parsly, Sweet Sicily, Flower-deluce, Stock Gilli-flowers, Wall-flowers, Anniseeds, Coriander, Fether-few, Mary-golds, Oculus Christi, Langdibee, Alexanders, Carduus-benedictus.

Herbs of smallest growth.

Pansie, or Harts-case, Coast-Marjoram, Savory, Straw-berries, Saffron, Lycoras, Daffadownillies, Leeks, Chives, Chibbals, Skerots, Onions, Batchelors buttons, Daisies, Peniroyall.

Hitherto, I have only reckoned up, and put in this rank, some Herbs: their Husbandry followes, each in an Alphabetical order, the better to be found.

CHAP. VIII.

Husbandry of Herbs.

Alexanders, are to be renewed as Angelica. It is a timely Pot-herb.

Angelica is renewed with the seed, whereof he beareth plenty the second year, and so dyeth. You may remove the roots the first year. The leaves distilled, yield water, soveraign to expell pain from the stomach. The Root dried, taken in the fall, stoppeth the pores against infections.

Anniseeds: make their growth, and bear seeds the first yeare, and dieth as Coriander: it is good for opening the pipes, and it is used in Comfits.

Artichoakes: are renewed by dividing the Roots into Sets, in *March*, every third or fourth year. They require a severall usage, and therefore a severall whole plot by themselves, especially, considering they are plentiful of fruit much desired.

Burrage and Bugloffe: two Cordials renew themselves by seed yearly, which is hard to be gathered, they are exceeding good Pot-herbs, good for Bees, and most comfortable for the heart and stomach, as Quinces and Wardens.

Camomile: set roots in banks and walks, it is sweet smelling, qualifying head-ach.

Cab-

Cabbages: require great room, they seed the second year, sow them in *February*, remove them when the plants are an handfull long, set deep and wet. Look well in drought for the white Caterpillars worm, the spaunes under the leaf closely: for every living Creature doth seek food and quiet shelter, and growing quick they draw to, and eat the heart: you may find them in a rainy dewy morning.

It is a good Pot-herbe, and of this herbe called *Cole*, our Country Housewives give their pottage their name, and call them *Caell*.

Carduus Benedictus, or blessed thistle: seeds and dyes the first year, the excellent vertue thereof, I refer to Herballs, for we are Gardiners, not Physicians.

Carrets are sown late in *Aprill* or *May*, as Turneps, else they seed the first year, and then their roots are naught: the second year they dye, their roots grow great, and require large room.

Chibals or Chives, have their roots parted, as Garlick, Lillies, &c. and so are they set every third or fourth year: a good pot-herbe, opening, but evil for the eyes.

Clary: is sown, it seeds the second year, and dyes. It is somewhat harsh in tast, a little in pottage is good, it strengtheneth the reins.

Coast, Root parted, makes Sets in *March*: it bears the second year: it is used in Ale in *May*.

Coriander: is for usage and uses, much like Anniseeds.

Daffadownillies: have their roots parted and set once in three or four year or longer time. They flower timely, and after *Midsummer* are scarcely seen. They are more for Ornament, then for use, so are Daisies.

Daisie roots parted and Set, as Flower-deluce and Camomile, when you see them grow too thick or decay. They be good to keep up, and strengthen the edges of your borders, as Pinks, they be red, white, mixt.

Ellicampane Root is long lasting, as is the Lovage: it seeds yearly, you may divide the Root, and set; the Root taken in winter it is good, (being dried, powdered, and drunk) to kill itches.

Endive and Succory: are much like in nature, shape, and use, they