faw the plant from whence it was taken, we might venture to fay, that the falks of the plant from whence that bloffom was taken were four fquare; that its leaves were opposite; the plant odoriferous and cephalic; fo certain it is that the general nature of every plant is marked in its bloffom. No plant with a bloffom like the above was ever found to be poifonous.\* 4th. Such as have a bloffom of one petal with five ftamina, and one flile, are generally poifonous, more or lefs; fuch are, nightshade, hen bane, deadly nightshade, mandrake, thorn apple, tobacco, and every species of convolvulus with many o-thers. 4th. Umbelliferous plants, or such as have their bloffoms growing in a bundle, (of which cellery is a good fample) if they grow in dry places, are 'aromatic, warming, refolving and carminiative; but if in water or very wet places, they are poifonous; of this order, are dill, caraway, parfley, lovage, masterwort, angelica, parinips, carrots, celery, anife, &c. Any of the above plants, with many others that have fuch bloffoms, when they grow in water or very wet ground, are to be fuspected; but move them on to dry ground, and they will foon become fweet and wholefome; their tafte and fmell alfo will be greatly changed by their being moved from wet to dry. Our wild celery, which grows most commonly in water, has in its wild flate fomewhat of the taile of celery, but along with that a ftrong and very difagreeable taffe; but move it into a dry foil, and it foon ac-, quires the fame tafte with common garden cellery.+ These few instances, out of many that might be brought, have been taken chiefly from the writings of modern hotanists, and may ferve to shew that boranists are now able, by what is to be observed in the fructification only, to do much in pointing out the general nature of plants; e, q. if they find a new plant, the bloffom of which has three flamina

and two files, enclo d in a fheath or hufk, upon reflecting that none of that order were ever yet found, but the plant was good for cattle, and the feeds for men or birds, they will have good reafon to conclude that this is of the fame gene-. ral nature, efpecially when it is confidered that many have already been difcovered in very different countries, climates and foils, through all parts of the globe, which have all agreed in the fame general na-Alfo, if he fhould find a new plant, ture. with a bloffom of one petal, five flamina, and one flile, he would have reafon to conclude, that it contained in fome part of it fomething poifonous, as plants of that order are generally poilonous.

To fum up all, it is now made clear, as far as the general nature of plants has ever yet been discovered, that all such plants as agree in their fructification, agree also in their general nature, and fuch as difagree in their fructification, difagree also in their general nature. But much remains yet to be done; many new plants are undoubtedly yet to be difcovered; and many that are difcovered are not yet ranged in their natural orders, and  $\ell_{\gamma}$ their general nature is not known; and what is more, the peculiar qualities of individuals, which diftinguish one species of plants from another in the fame natural order are not known ; and this is most. peculiarly the cafe in those instances wherein it would feem of most confequence to have them known. To illuftrate my meaning, I will bring into view again what is faid in the 4th article, viz. that bloffoms of one petal, five ftamina, and one file, are generally poifonous; yet the various plants of that order have very different effects one from another; gr the poifons are of different kinds, and in different parts of the plants, and in different A fmall quantity of folanum, or degrees. nightfhade, is violently emetic, catharic and

\* Plants of this order are ftrönger or weaker, according as they have more or lefs fmell and taile. Take away all their fmell and tafts, and you take away all their firength; but they have more or lefs fmell or tafte, as their foil is dry or moift. The drier the foil, the more the fmell and tafte; the moifter, the lefs. Therefore, to have fage, hyflop, thyme, marjoram, &c. in the higheft perfection, the drieft foil fhould be chosen.

† Plants, therefore, of this kind, if defigned for carminiatives or food, fhould be in a dry foil, as by a wet foil they are capable of being turned into poifens; fome of the fronger kinds of lettuce, allo, growing in very wet fhady places, have been found poifonous. Indeed, every kind of garden produce is fweeter and better for being in a dry foil. In wet foils, many things, as cabbage, parfnips, &c. will often grow thouter, but they are never fo fweet: thefe plants, allo, which grow in the fhade, are never fo fweet as those which have the fullest exposure to the fun. No fruit, therefore, can be in fuch perfection as that by a wall which faces the fun, especially if care is taken to remove the branches and leaves which fhade the bunches of fruit.