



ECHINOCACTUS WILLIAMSII.

Mr. Williams' Echinocactus.

Nat. Ord. CACTEÆ.—ICOSANDRIA MONOGYNIA.

Gen. Char. (Vide supra, TAB. 4190.)

ECHINOCACTUS *Williamsii*; humilis cæspitosus turbinatus inferne teres transversim cicatricatus cinereo-fuscus superne umbilicato-depressus glaucus 6-8-costatus, costis latis convexis parce tuberculatis inermibus pulvilligeris, pulvillis e pilis fasciculatis densis erectis formatis, floribus parvulis subsolitariis albo-roseis.

ECHINOCACTUS *Williamsii*. "*Lemaire, ex Salm-Dyck in Otto et Dietr. Allgem. Gartenzeit, xiii. p. 385.*" *Walp. Repert. v. 5. p. 816.*

A neatly-formed species, which has a very pretty appearance when its starry blossoms are expanded. We received several plants of it at the Royal Gardens of Kew, through the favour of the Real del Monte Company, from the rocky hills of their district of mines in Mexico, with many other treasures. It flowers in the summer months.

DESCR. Our largest plants do not much exceed the size represented. They grow in a tufted manner and are often proliiferous, as in the instance here shown: the parent plant being, as it were, stifled or subdued by its offspring. Each individual is turbinate: from the base to the crown, or summit, terete, of an ashy brown colour, and scarred with close transverse lines, occasioned, it would appear, by the progressive withering and contraction of the tubercles: the summit is broadly convex, but with a deep depression in the centre, glaucous, traversed from the centre outwards by 6-8 furrows, and thus divided into as many convex ridges, and these again, transversely, but more or less deeply, into rather large, rounded, more or less confluent unarmed *tubercles*, each of which has a dense tuft or short pencil of compact erect hairs:—no aculei. *Flowers* proceed from a young tubercle, near the centre of the crown. The base of

the *calyx* is downy. The *petals* lanceolate, rather numerous, white, externally tipped with pale green, and having a rose-coloured line down the centre. *Stamens* yellow. *Stigma* of four spreading rays.