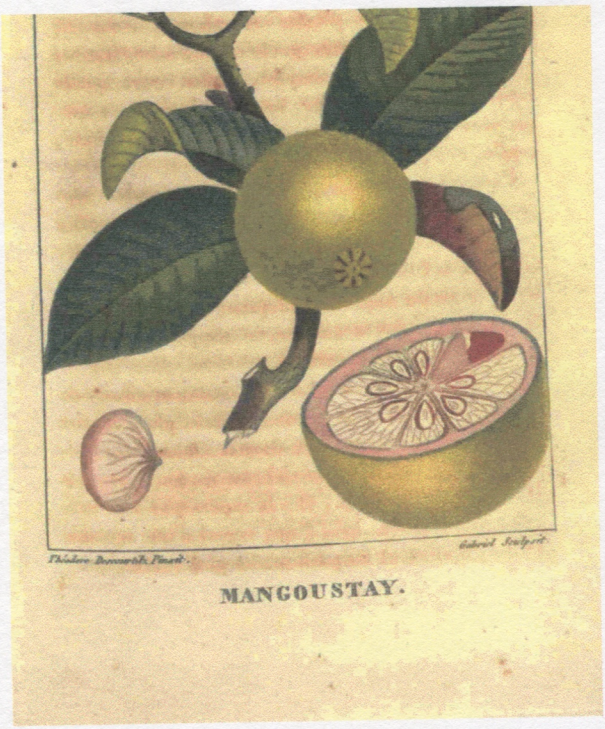
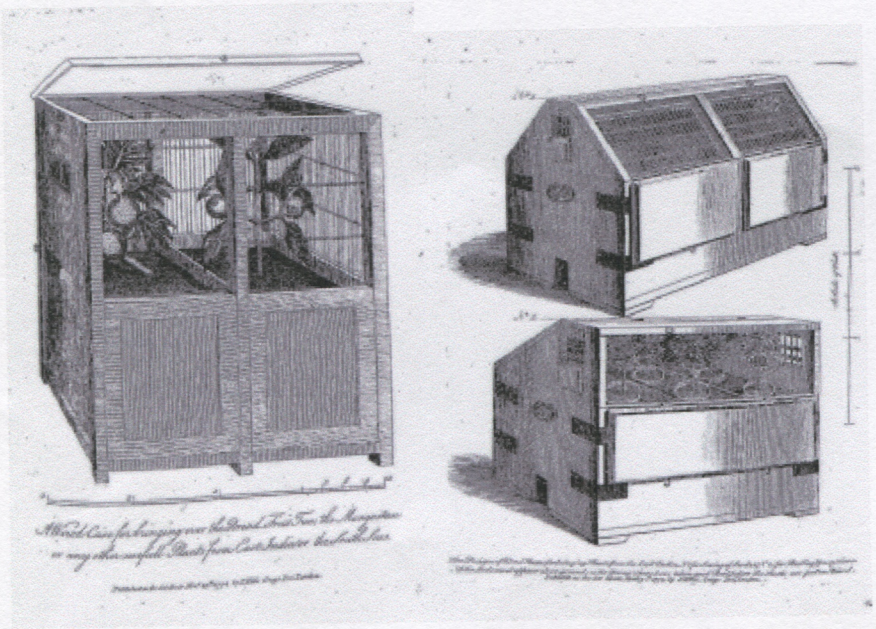



***From "Flore medicale des Antilles" 1821****

**With regard to the history of the mangosteen, it should be noted that it was the *other* plant under consideration in an 18th century publication (7) titled "A description of the mangostan and the bread-fruit" by John Ellis (mangostan was the word for the mangosteen in the Molucca Islands). The year was 1775 and John Ellis was utilizing his knowledge of the tropics as a fellow of the Royal Society Of London to expound upon the botanical treasures of far off Africa and the Malay Archipelago. The original intent of this work was to inform his Majesty "The Earl of Sandwich, First Lord of the Admiralty of GREAT BRITAIN" of a prospect that "seems conducive to the benefit of any part of the British Empire..." This publication also detailed with sketches of designs of several wooden plant cases with wire mesh that would house the plants on the deck of a ship for the journey home. There was also a stylized sketch of the breadfruit and the mangosteen in this publication. See below.**



***Cabinets designed by Ellis to hold plants on the upper decks of a ship.***