SCALENUS, in anatomy. See there, *Table oſ the Muſcles.*

SCALIGER (Julius Caeſar), a learned critic, poet, phyſician, and philoſopher; was born at the caſtle oſ Ripa, in the territories of Verona, in 1484; and is ſaid to have been deſcended from the ancient princes of Ve­rona, though this is not mentioned in the letters of naturalization he obtained in France in 1528. He learned the firſt rudiments of the Latin tongue in his own country; and in his 12th year was preſented to the Emperor Maximilian, who made him one of his pages. He ſerved that emperor 17 years, and gave ſignal proofs of his valour and conduct in ſeveral expe­ditions. He was preſent at the battle of Ravenna in April 151*2,* in which he had the misfortune to loſe his father Benedict Scaliger, and his brother Titus; on which his mother died with grief: when being reduced to neceſſitous circumſtances, he entered into the order of the Franciſcans, and applied himſelf to ſtudy at Bologna; but ſoon after changing his mind with reſpect to his becoming a monk, he took arms again, and ſerved in Piedmont. At which time a phyſician perſuaded him to ſtudy phyſic, which he did at his leiſure-hours, and alſo learned Greek; and at laſt the gout determined him, at 40 years of age, to abandon a military life. He ſoon after ſettled at Agen, where he married, and began to apply himſelf ſeriouſly to his ſtudies. He learned firſt the French tongue, which he ſpoke per­fectly in three months; and then made himſelf mailer of the Gaſcon, Italian, Spaniſh, German, Hungarian, and Sclavonian: but the chief object of his ſtudies was polite literature. Meanwhile, he ſupported his family by the practice of phyſic. He did not publiſh any of his works till he was 47 years of age; when he ſoon gained a great name in the republic of letters. He had a graceful perſon, and ſo ſtrong a memory, even in his old age, that he dictated to his ſon 200 verſes which he had compoſed the day before, and retained without writing them down. He was ſo charitable, that his houſe was as it were an hoſpital for the poor and ſick; and he had ſuch an averſion to lying, that he would have no correſpondence with thoſe who were given to that vice; but, on the other hand, he had much vanity, and a ſatirical ſpirit, which created him many enemies. He died of a retention of urine in 1558. He wrote in Latin, 1. A Treatiſe on the Art of Poetry. 2. Exercitations againſt Carden: which works are much eſteemed. 3. Commentaries on Ariſtotle’s Hiſtory of Animals, and on Theophraſtus on Plants. 4. Some Treatiſes on Phyſic. 5. Letters, Orations, Poems, and other works, in Latin.

Scaliger, (Joſeph Juſtus), one of the moſt learned critics and writers of his time; he was the ſon of the former, and was born at Agen in France in 1540. He ſtudied in the college oſ Bourdeaux; after which his father took him under his own care, and employed him in tranſcribing his poems; by which means he ob­tained ſuch a taſte for poetry, that before he was 17 years old he wrote a tragedy upon the ſubject of Oedipus, in which he introduced all the poetical orna­ments of ſtyle and ſentiment. His father dying in 1558, he went to Paris the year following, with a deſign to apply himſelf to the Greek tongue. For this purpoſe he for two months attended the lectures of Turnebus; but finding that in the uſual courſe he ſhould be a long

time in gaining his point, he ſhut himſelf up in his cloſet, and by conſtant application for two years gained a perfect knowledge of that language. After which he applied to the Hebrew, which he learned by himſelf with great facility. He made no leſs progreſs in the ſciences; and his writings procured him the reputation of one of the greateſt men of that or any other age. He embraced the reformed religion at 22 years of age. In 1563, he attached himſelf to Lewis Caſteignier de la Roch Ροzay, whom he attended in ſeveral journeys; and in 1593, was invited to accept of the place of honorary profeſſor of the univerſity of Leyden, which he com­plied with. He died of a dropſy in that city in 1609. He was a man of great temperance; was never marri­ed; and was ſo cloſe a ſtudent, that he often ſpent whole days in his ſtudy without eating; and though his circumſtances were always very narrow, he conſtantly refuſed the presents that were offered him. He publiſhed many works; the principal of which are,

I. Notes on Seneca’s Tragedies, on Varro, Auſonius, Pompeius Feſtus, &c. 2. His Latin Poems. 3. A Treatiſe *de Emendatione Temporum.* 4. Euſebius’s Chronicle with Notes. 5. *Canones Iſagogici;* and many other works. The collections intitled *Scaligeriana,* were collected from his conversations by one of his friends; and being ranged into alphabetical order, were publiſhed by Iſaac Voſſius.

SCALLOP, in ichthyology. See Pecten.

In the Highlands of Scotland, the great ſcallop ſhell is made uſe of for the ſkimming' of milk. In old times, it had a more honourable place; being admitted into the halls of heroes, and was the cup of their feſtivity when the tribe aſſembled in the hall of their chieftain.

SCALPEL, in forgery, a kind of knife uſed in ana­tomical diſſections and operations in ſurgery.

SCALPER, or Scalping-Iron, a ſurgeon’s inſtrument uſed for ſcraping foul carious bones.

SCALPING, in military hiſtory, a barbarous cuftom, in practice among the Indian warriors, of taking off the tops of the ſcalps of the enemies ſkulls with their hair on. They preſerve them as trophies of their victo­ries, and are rewarded by their chiefs according to the number of ſcalps they bring in.

SCALPRA Dentalia, inſtruments uſed by the forgeons to take off thoſe black, livid, or yellow cruſts which infeſt the teeth, and not only looſe and deſtroy them, but taint the breath.

SCAMMONY, a concreted vegetable juice of a ſpecies of convolvulus, partly of the reſin, and partly of the gum kind. See Convolvulus

The beſt ſcammony comes from AIeppo, in light ſpongy maffes, eaſily friable, of a ſhining aſh-colour verging to black; when powdered, of a light grey or whitiſh colour: an inferior ſort is brought from Smyr­na, in more compact ponderous pieces, of a darker colour, and full of fand and other impurities. This juice is chiefly of the reſinous kind; rectified ſpirit diſſolves five ounces out of fix, the remainder is a muci­laginous ſubſtance mixed with droſs; proof-ſpirit to­tally diffolves it, the impurities only being left. It has a faint unpleaſant ſmell, and a bitteriſh, ſomewhat acrimonious, taſte.

Scammony is an efficacious and ſtrong purgative. Some have condemned it as unſafe, and laid ſundry ill qualities to its charge; the principal of which is, that