The Pouhon ſpring riſes from the hill to the north oſ Spa, which conſiſts of argillaceous ſchiſtus and serrugineous ſlate. The other fountains riſe from the ſurrounding hills to the ſouth-eaſt, ſouth, west, and north-west of the town; and this ridge of mountains is form­ed of calcareous earths mixed with ſiliceous ſubſtances. The ſurface of the mountains is covered with woods, interſperſed with large boggy ſwamps filled with mud and water. The Pouhon is conſidered as the principal ſpring at Spa, being impregnated with a greater quan­tity of iron than any of the reſt, and containing more fixed air than any except the Tonnelet. It is from this ſpring that the Spa water for exportation is bottled ; for which the demand is ſo great, that, according to the beſt information which Mr Thickneſſe could obtain, the quantity exported amounts to 200,000 or 250,000 bottles annually. This exported water is inferior in its virtue to that which is drunk on the ſpot ; for the veſ­ſels into which it is collected are injudiciouſly expoſed to the ſun, rain, wind, and duſt, for ſeveral hours before they are corked, by which means a considerable part of its volatile ingredients muſt be evaporated ; for it has been found by experiment, that by expoſing it to a gen­tle heat, air-bubbles aſcend in great numbers. It is in its greateſt perfection when collected in cold dry wea­ther ; it is then pellucid, colourleſs, and without ſmell, and almoſt as light as diſtilled water. It varies in its heat from 52⁰ or 53⁰ to 67⁰ of Fahrenheit’s thermome­ter.

The Geronſtere is a much weaker chalybeate water than the Pouhon ; and as it is exceedingly nauſeous, and taſtes and ſmells like rotten eggs, it certainly con­tains ſome hepatic gas. This is a circumſtance which Dr Aſh ſeems not to have attended to ſufficiently. The Sauveniere water alſo, when newly taken from the well, ſmells a little of ſulphur. The Groiſheck contains more alkali, and almoſt as much gas as the Pouhon, and has been celebrated for its good effects in the caſe of calcu­lous concretions. The Tonnelet contains more gas than any of the reſt. So ſmall is the quantity of any fossil body held in ſuſpenſion by the aerial acid in it, and ſo volatile is the gas, that it begins to paſs off very rapidly the moment it is taken out of the well, and in a ſhort time is entirely gone. Dr Aſh informs us, that in the neighbourhood of this well, the cellars, on any approaching change of weather, are found to contain much fixed air ; and the beſt prognoſtic which they have of rain is the aversion which cats ſhow to be car­ried into theſe cellars.

The Spa waters are diuretic, and ſometimes purga­tive. They exhilarate the ſpirits with an influence much more benign than wine or ſpirituous liquors, and they are more cooling, and allay thirſt more effectually than common water. They are found beneficial in caſes of weakneſs and relaxation, either partial or univerſal ; in nervous diſorders ; in obſtructions of the liver and ſpleen ; in caſes where the blood is too thin and putreſcent ; in caſes of exceſſive diſcharges proceeding from weakneſs ; in the gravel and ſtone ; and in moſt caſes where a ſtrengthening remedy is wanted. But they are hurtful in confirmed obſtructions attended with fe­ver, where there is no free outlet to the matter, as in ul­cerations of the lungs. They are alſo injurious to bi­lious and plethoric conſtitutions, when uſed before the body is cooled by proper evacuations.

SPACE. See **Metaphysics,** Part II. Chap. iv.

Space, in geometry, denotes the area of any figure, or that which fills the interval or diſtance between the lines that terminate it.

SPADIX, in botany, anciently ſignified the recep­tacle of the palms. It is now uſed to expreſs every flower-ſtalk that is protruded out of a ſpatha or ſheath.

The ſpadix of the palms is branched ; that of all other plants ſimple. This last caſe admits of ſome va­riety : in calla, dracontium, and pothos, the florets co­ver it on all ſides ; in arum, they are diſpoſed on the lower part only ; and in zoſtera on one ſide.

SPAGIRIC art, a name given by authors to that ſpecies of chemiſtry which works on metals, and is em­ployed in the ſearch of the philoſopher’s ſtone.

SPAHIS, horsemen in the Ottoman army, chiefly raiſed in Aſia. The great ſtrength of the grand ſeignior’s army conſiſts in the janiſaries, who are the foot ; and the ſpahis, who are the horſe.

SPAIN, a country of Europe, famous both in an­cient and modern hiſtory, ſituated in that large peninſula which forms the ſouth-weſtern part of Europe. It is bounded on the ſouth and eaſt by the Mediterranean ſea and ſtraits of Gibraltar, on the north and west by the Bay of Biſcay and Atlantic Ocean, on the ſouth- west by Portugal, and on the north-eaſt by the Pyre­nees.

The moſt ancient name of Spain was *Iberia,* ſuppoſed by ſome to be derived from the *Iberians,* a people inha­biting Mount Caucaſus, a colony of whom ſettled in this country. Others derive it from the Phenician word *Ebra* or *Ibra,* ſignifying a paſſage or limit. By the Romans it was called *Spania* or *Lliſpania,* from the Phe­nician name *Sphanija ;* and this again from *ſhaphan,* a Phenician word ſignifying a rabbit, becauſe the weſtern part of Spain abounded with thoſe animals.

Spain, as well as the reſt of Europe, was probably peopled by the Celtes ; but the Spaniſh hiſtorians de­rive the origin of their nation from Tubal the fifth ſon of Japhet, asserting that Spain had been a monarchy for 2226 years before the coming of the Celtes into it. Till the coming of the Carthaginians into Spain, how­ever, nothing certain can be affirmed of the Spaniards ; and this happened not long before the commencement of the firſt Punic war. Their ſucceſs in reducing the country, and their final expulſion by the Romans, has already been rclated under the articles Rome and Car­thage ; we have here therefore only to take notice of the ſtate oſ Spain under the Roman government, until the Romans were in their turn expelled by the northern barbarians.

At the time oſ the Roman conqueſt, Spain, though prodigious quantities of ſilver had been carried out of it by the Carthaginians and Tyrians, was yet a very rich country. In the most ancicnt times, indeed, its riches are ſaid to have exceeded what is related of the moſt wealthy country in America. Ariſtotle aſſures us, that when the Phenicians firſt arrived in Spain, they exchanged their naval commodities for ſuch immenſe quantities of ſilver, that their ſhips could neither con­tain nor ſuſtain its load, though they uſed it for ballaſt, and made their anchois and other implements oſ ſilver. When the Carthaginians firſt came to Spain, they found the quantity of ſilver nothing leſſened, ſince the inha­bitants at that time made all their utensils, and even

@@@[mu] Thicknesses Journey through the Pais Bas.