About 40 years ago it ſent out in one year 75 veſſels for the port of London ; and the trade is much increa­ſed ſince.

STOEBE, bastard æthiopian, in botany: A genus of plants belonging to the claſs of *ſyngenesia,* and order of *polygamia ſegregata ;* and in the natural ſyſtem ran­ging under the 49th order, *compositae.* The calycle is uniflorous ; the corollets are tubular and hermaphro­dite ; the receptacle is naked, and the pappus is fea­thery. There are nine ſpecies, the æthiopica, ericoides, proſtrata, gnaphaloides, gomphrenoides, ſcabra, reflexa, rhinocerotis, and diſticha ; all plants of foreign growth.

STOICS, the name given to a ſect of Grecian philoſophers, from Στοα, “ the porch in Athens,” which the founder of the ſect choſe for his ſchool. For the peculiar tenets of this ſect, ſee Metaphysics, Chap. IV. Fart 3. MOral Philosophy, n⁰ 8. and ZENo.

STOLBERG, a ſmall town of Germany, in the circle of Upper Saxony, and territory of Thuringia, of which it is the capital place. It is ſeated between two mountains, 58 miles north-west of Leipſic. E. Long, II. 8. N. Lat. 51. 42.

STOLE, a ſacerdotal ornament worn by the Romiſh pariſh-prieſts above their ſurplice, as a mark of ſuperiority in their reſpective churches ; and by other priests over the alb, at celebrating of maſs, in which caſe it goes acroſs the ſtomach ; and by deacons, over the left ſhoulder, ſcarf-wiſe : when the prieſt reads the goſpel for any one, he lays the bottom of his ſtole on his head. The ſtole is a broad ſwath, or slip of stuff, hanging from the neck to the feet, with three crosses thereon.

*Groom of the Stole,* the eldeſt gentleman of his Majesty's bed-chamber, whoſe office it is to preſent and put on his majeſty’s firſt garment, or ſhirt, every morning, and to order the things in the cham­ber.

STOMACH, in anatomy. See Anatomy, n⁰ 91.

STOMACHIC, medicines that ſtrengthen the stomach and promote digeſtion, &c.

Stomachic corroboratives are ſuch as ſtrengthen the tone of the ſtomach and inteſtines ; among which are carminatives, as the roots of galangals, red gentian, zedoary, pimpinella, calamus aromaticus, and arum. Of barks and rinds, thoſe of canella alba, ſaſſafras, citrons, Seville and China oranges, &c. Of ſpices, pepper, ginger, cloves, cinnamon, cardamums, and mace.

STONE (Edmund), a diſtinguiſhed ſelf-taught ma­thematician, was born in Scotland ; but neither the place nor time of his birth are well known ; nor have we any memoirs of his life, except a letter from the Che­valier de Ramſay, author of the Travels of Cyrus, in a letter to father Caftel, a Jeſuit at Paris, and published in the Memoirs de Trevoux, p. 109, as follows: “ True genius overcomes all the diſadvantages of birth, fortune, and education ; of which Mr Stone is a rare example. Born a ſon of a gardener of the duke of Argyle, he ar­rived at eight years of age before he learnt to read.— By chance a servant having taught young Stone the letters of the alphabet, there needed nothing more to diſcover and expand his genius. He applied himſelf to ſtudy, and he arrived at the knowledge of the moſt sublime geometry and analyſis, without a maſter, with­out a conductor; without any other guide but pure genius.

“ At 18 years of age he had made theſe considerable advances without being known, and without know­ing himſelf the prodigies of his acquiſitions. The duke of Argyle, who joined to his military talents a general knowledge of every ſcience that adorns the mind of a man of his rank, walking one day in his garden, ſaw lying on the graſs a Latin copy of Sir Iſaac Newton’s celebrated *Pricipia.* He called ſome one to him to take and carry it back to his library. Our young gar­dener told him that the book belonged to him. ‘ To you ?’ replied the Duke. ‘ Do you underſtand geo­metry, Latin, Newton ?’ I know a little of them, re­plied the young man with an air of ſimplicity ariſing from a profound ignorance of his own knowledge and talents. The Duke was ſurpriſed ; and having a taste for the ſciences, he entered into converſation with the young mathematician : he aſked him ſeveral queſtions, and was aſtoniſhed at the force, the accuracy, and the candour of his anſwers. ‘ But how, ſaid the Duke, came you by the knowledge of all theſe things ?’ Stone replied, ‘A servant taught me, ten years ſince, to read: does one need to know any thing more than the 24 letters in order to learn every thing elle that one wishes?’ The Duke’s curioſity redoubled—he ſat down upon a bank, and requeſted a detail of all his proceedings in becoming ſo learned.

“ I firſt learned to read, ſaid Stone : the masons were then at work upon your houſe : I went near them one day, and I ſaw that the architect uſed a rule, compasses, and that he made calculations. I inquired what might be the meaning and uſe of theſe things ; and I was informed that there was a ſcience called Arithmetic : I purchaſed a book of arithmetic, and I learned it. — I was told there was another ſcience called Geometry : I bought the books, and I learnt geometry. By reading I found that there were good books in theſe two ſciences in Latin : I bought a dictionary, and I learned Latin. I understood alſo that there were good books of the ſame kind in French : I bought a dictionary, and I learned French. And this, my lord, is what I have done : it ſeems to me that we may learn every thing when we know the 24 letters of the alphabet.”

This account charmed the Duke. He drew this wonderful genius out of his obſcurity ; and he provided him with an employment which left him plenty of time to apply himſelf to the ſciences. He diſeovered in him alſo the ſame genius for muſic, for painting, for architecture, for all the ſciences which depend on cal­culations and proportions.”

“ I have ſeen Mr Stone. He is a man of great simplicity. He is at preſent ſenſible of his own know­ledge ; but he is not puffed up with it. He is poſſeſſed with a pure and diſtinterested love for the mathe­matics, though he is not ſolicitous to pats for a ma­thematician ; vanity having no part in the great labour he ſuſtains to excel in that ſcience. He deſpiſes for­tune alſo ; and he has ſolicited me twenty times to requeſt the duke to give him leſs employment, which may not be worth the half of that he now has, in order to be more retired, and leſs taken off from his favourite studies. He diſcovers ſometimes, by methods of his