TAMARIX, the tamarisk, in botany : A genus of plants belonging to the claſs of *pentandria,* and order of trigyn*ia ;* and in the natural ſyſtem ranging under the 13th order, *Succulente.* The calyx is quinquepartite ; the petals are five ; the capſule is unilocular and trivalvular, and the seeds pappous. There are only two ſpecies known ; the gallica or French tamariſk, and the *germanica* or German tamariſk.

TAMBAC, in the materia medica. See Excæcana.

TAMBOUR, in architecture, a term applied to the Corinthian and Compoſite capitals, as bearing ſome reſemblance to a drum which the French call *tambour.* Some chooſe to call it the *vaſe,* and others cam*pana* or the bell.

Tambour is alſo uſed for a little box of timber work, covered with a ceiling, withinſide the porch of certain churches ; both to prevent the view of perſons paſſing by, and to keep off the wind, &c. by means of folding-doors, &c.

Tambour, alſo denotes a round courſe of ſtone, ſeveral whereof form the ſhaft of a column, not ſo high as a dia­meter.

Tambour, in the arts, is a ſpecies of embroidery. The tambour is an instrument of a ſpherical form, upon which is stretched, by means of a firing and buckle, or other ſuitable appendage, a piece of linen or thin ſilken stuff; which is wrought with a needle of a particular form, and by means of ſilken or gold and ſilver threads, into leaves, flowers, or other figures.

TAMBOURIN, is the name of a dance performed on the French stage. The air is lively, and the movements are quick.

TAMERLANE, or Timur Bek, a celebrated prince and conqueror. At the age of 25 he attained the higheſt dignities, with ſurpriſing courage, and an ambition aſtoniſhing to all the world. Endeavouring to perfect the great talents which he had received from nature, he ſpent nine years in different countries ; where his great ſenſe and ele­vated genius appeared in councils and aſſemblies, while his intrepidity and valour, whether in personal combats or pitch­ed battles, drew upon him the admiration of all mankind. He made himſelf master of the three empires of Jagatay Khân, Tuſhi Khân, and Hûlàkû Khân; ſo that his power, riches, and magnificence, were immenſe. There remain vaſt monuments of his grandeur in the cities, towns, caſtles, and walls, which he built ; in the rivers and canals which he dug, as well as the bridges, gardens, palaces, hoſpitals, moſques, and monasteries, which he erected in divers parts of Aſia in ſo great a number, that a king might be accounted very powerful and magnificent, who ſhould have employed 36 years only in building the great edifices which Timur caused to be founded.

Timur, according to the hiſtorian Arabſhah, was in his perſon very corpulent and tall. He had a large forehead and big head. His countenance was agreeable, and his complexion fair. He wore a large beard, was very ſtrong, and well-limbed ; had broad ſhoulders, thick fingers, and long legs. His conſtitution was amazingly vigorous ; but he was maimed in one hand and lame of the right side. His eyes appeared full of fire ; his voice was loud and piercing ; he feared nothing ; and when far advanced in years, his understanding was sound and perfect, his body vigorous and robuſt, his mind constant and unſhaken like a rock.

He did not like raillery, and could not bear a lie. There was no joking or fooling before him ; for he loved the naked truth, even although it was to his own diſadvantage. He neither grieved if he miſcarrſed in any attempt, nor appeared overjoyed on any great success. The device of his ſeal was, “ I am ſincere and plain.” He had a clear and solid understanding, was ſurpriſingly happy in his conjec­tures ; vigilant, active, and unſhaken in his reſelutions. He took great delight in reading history, and was well verſed in the ſtate of countries, provinces, and cities. He was pe­netrating, ſubtle, cloſe, and dissembling; just by inclination, liberal from dispoſition ; but ambition had in a great meaſure extinguiſhed his humanity ; war had familiarized him to blood ; and his religious zeal had inſpired him with the most cruel, implacable, and pernicious fanaticiſm.

He died on the 1st of April 1405, in the 71st year of his age and 36th of his reign. When he found death approach­ing, he ſent for his principal officers, declared his grandſon his heir, and made them ſwear to execute his will. Having recommended brotherly love and concord to the princes his children, he ordered one of the doctors to read the Koran at his bed’s head, and often repeat the unity of God. At night he ſeveral times made profeſſion of his belief, “ That there is no other God than God,” and then expired. See Moguls, n⁰ 15, &c.

TAMTAM, a flat drum uſed by the Hindoos, reſembling a tabor, but it is larger, and ſounds louder.

TAMUS, black briony, in botany: A genus of plants belonging to the claſs of *diaecia,* and order of hex*andria ;* and in the natural ſyſtem ranging under the 11th order, *Sarmentacae.* The male and female flowers are both ſexpartite ; there is no corolla ; the ſtyle is trifid ; the berry is trilocular and inferior, and contains two seeds. There are only two ſpecies known ; the elephantipes, which is a native of the Cape of Good Hope, and we believe was firſt deſcribed by L’Herſtier ; and the communis.

The *communis,* or common black briony, is a native of England, but has not been obſerved growing wild in Scot­land. It has a large root, which sends forth ſeveral long ſlender stems : the leaves are large, heart-ſhaped, dark green, and grow on long footstalks : the flowers are greeniſh, and the berry red. It flowers from May to Auguſt, and is fre­quent in hedges.

TAN, the bark of the oak after it has been ground and uſed by the tanner. The ſmaller sort is generally made up in little ſquare cakes called *turf,* and sold for firing. The coarſer sort is sometimes dried in the ſun, and uſed by ba­kers for heating their ovens, &c. but its chief uſe is for ma­king of hot-beds to raiſe pine-apples and other plants.— William III. introduced the uſe of it from Holland, for the purpoſe of raising orange trees ; after which it was diſcontinued for many years : but about 1719, when *ananas* were first brought into England, it came into general uſe, and has ever ſince been in great estimation with gardeners for all the purpoſes of forcing, &c. on account of its strong and lasting fermentation. The ſmaller the tan the quicker it heats ; but the larger sort acquires heat more gradually and retains it longer : the ſkilful gardener therefore uſes the one or the other, or a mixture of both, according to the time and purpoſe for which it is wanted. It is ſome time after the tan comes out of the tanner’s pit before it begins to heat, and therefore it is not fit for immediate uſe ; but ha­-

rinds with whites of eggs, then filtering it, and evaporating it to a proper consistence, and setting it to cool: the salt shoots into crystals of a brown colour and very acid taste; but in dissolving and crystallizing them again, or barely washing them with water, they lose almost all of their acidity, the acid principle of the tamarinds seeming not to be truly crystallizable." Vide Lewis's Mat. Med. p. 633.