had recourſe to the plans of Tonti, which, though long laid aſide, were not forgotten. By an edict in 1689 he created a Tontine royale of 1,400,000 livres annual rent, divided into 14 claſſes. The actions were 300 livres apiece, and the proprietors were to receive 10l. *percent.* with be­nefit of ſurvivorſhip in every claſs. This ſcheme was exe­cuted but very imperfectly ; for none of the classes roſe to above 25,000 livres, inſtead of 100,000, according to the original inſtitution ; though the annuities were very regu­larly paid. A few years after, the people ſeeming in better humour for projects of this kind, another tontine was erected upon nearly the ſame terms, but this was never above half full. They both ſubſiſted in the year 1726, when the French king united the 13th claſs of the first tontine with the 14th of the second ; all the actions of which were poſſessed by Charlotte Bonnemay, widow of Lewis Barbier, a ſurgeon of Paris, who died at the age of 96. This gentle­woman had ventured 300 livres in each tontine ; and in the laſt year of her life ſhe had for her annuity 73,500 livres, or about 3600l. a-year, for about 30l.

The nature of the tontine is this ; there is an annuity, after a certain rate of intereſt, granted to a number of people ; divided into claſſes, according to their reſpective ages ; ſo that annually the whole fund of each claſs is di­vided among the ſurvivors of that claſs ; till at laſt it falls to one, and upon the extinction of that life, reverts to the power by which the tontine was erected, and which becomes thereby ſecurity for the due payment of the annuities.

TOOL, among mechanics, denotes in general any ſmall inſtrument uſed as well for making other complex inſtruments and machines, as in moſt other operations in the mechanic arts.

TOOTH, for a deſcription of, see Anatomy, n⁰ 27.

TOOTHACH. See Medicine, n⁰ 210, Surgery, n⁰ 236, Teeth, and Electricity, p. 535.

Toothach*-Tree.* See Zanthoxylum. TOOTHWORT. See Plumbago.

TOP, a sort of platform, ſurrounding the lower mast-head, from which it projects on all sides like a ſcaffold.

The principal intention of the top is to extend the top. maſt ſhrouds, ſo as to form a greater angle with the maſt, and thereby give additional ſupport to the latter. It is suſtained by certain timbers fixed acroſs the hounds or ſhoulders of the maſt, and called the *trestle-trees* and *croſs-trees.*

Beſides the uſe above-mentioned, the top is otherwiſe extremely convenient to contain the materials neceſſary for extending the ſmall ſails, and for fixing or repairing the rigging and machinery with more facility and expedition. In ſhips of war it is uſed as a kind of redoubt, and is ac­cordingly fortified for attack or defence ; being furniſhed with ſwivels, muſketry, and other fire-arms, and guarded by a thick fence of corded hammocs. Finally, it is em­ployed as a place for looking out, either in the day or night.

*Top-Mast,* the ſecond diviſion of a maſt, or that part which stands between the upper and lower pieces. See the article Mast.

*Top-Sails,* certain large ſails extended acroſs the top- masts by the topſail-yard above, and by the yard attached to the lower maſt beneath ; being faſtened to the former by robands, and to the latter by means of two great blocks fixed on its extremities, through which the topſail-ſheets are inſerted, palling from thence to two other blocks fixed on the inner part of the yard cloſe by the maſt ; and from the ſe latter the ſheets lead downwards to the deck, where they may be ſlackened or extended at pleaſure. See the article Sail.

TOPAZ, in natural hiſtory, a gem called by the ancients *Chrysotit,* as being of a gold colour ; its texture foliaceous ; its form cubic, parallelopipedal, or priſmatic; its specific gravity from 3,46 to 4,56 ; it loſes its colour only in a very ſtrong heat, and of the uſual fluxes it yields only to borax and microcoſmic ſalt. According to Bergman, 100 parts of it contain 46 of argill, 39 of ſiliceous earth, 8 of mild calcareous, and 6 of iron. Its great ſpecific gravity ſhews theſe earths to be very perfectly united.

The fineſt topazes in the world are found in the Eaſt Indies ; but they are very rare there of any great size : the Great Mogul, however, at this time, poſſesses one which is ſaid to weigh 157 carats, and to be worth more than 20,000 pounds. The topazes of Peru come next after these in beauty and in value. The European are princi­pally found in Sileſia and Bohemia, and are generally full of cracks and flaws, and of a browniſh yellow.

TOPE, in ichthyology, a ſpecies of Squalus.

TOPHET. See Hinnom and Moloch.

TOPHUS, in medicine, denotes a chalky or ſtony con­cretion in any part of the body ; as the bladder, kidney, &c. but eſpecially in the joints.

TOPIC, a general head or ſubject of diſcourſe.

Topics, in oratory. See Oratory, n⁰ 10—13.

Topics, or *Topical Medicines,* are the ſame with exter­nal ones, or thoſe applied outwardly to ſome diſeaſed and painful part : ſuch are plaſters, cataplaſms, unguents, &c.

TOPOGRAPHY, a description or draught of ſome particular place, or ſmall track oſ land, as that of a city or town, manor or tenement, field, garden, houſe, caſtle, or the like ; ſuch as ſurveyors ſet out in their plots, or make draughts of, for the information and ſatisfaction of the pro­prietors.

TOPSHAM, a town in Devonſhire, in England, ſeated on the river Exmouth, five miles ſouth-eaſt of Exeter, to which place the river was formerly navigable ; but in time of war was choaked up deſignedly, ſo that ships are now obliged to load and unload at Topſham. W. Long. 3. 26. N. Lat. 50. 39.

TORBAY, a fine bay of the Engliſh channel, on the coaſt of Devonſhire, a little to the eaſt of Dartmouth, formed by two capes, called *Bury Points,* and *Bob’s Noſe.*

TORDA, or Rasor-bill. See Alca, n⁰ 4.

TORDYLIUM, Hart-wort, in botany : A genus of plants belonging to the claſs of *pentandria,* and order of *digynia* ; and in the natural ſyſtem arranged under the 45th order, *Umbellate.* The corollets are radiated, and all her­maphrodite ; the fruit is roundiſh, and crenated on the mar­gin ; the involucra long and undivided. There are ſeven ſpecies ; of which two are Britiſh, the *nodoſum* and *officinale.*

1. The *nodoſum,* or knotted parsley, has simple ſeſſile umbels, the exterior seeds being rough. It grows in the borders of corn-fields, and in dry ſtony places. 2. The *officinale,* officinal hart-wort, has partial involucra, as long as the flowers ; leafets oval and jagged: the ſeeds are large and flat, and their edges notched.

TORIES, a political faction in Britain, oppoſed to the Whigs.

The name of *Tories* was given to a sort of banditti in Ire­land, and was thence transferred to the adherents of Char­les I. by his enemies, under the pretence that he favoured the rebels in Ireland. His partiſans, to be even with the republicans, gave them the name of *Whigs,* from a word which lignifies *whey,* in deriſion of their poor fare. The Tories, or *cavaliers,* as they were alſo called, had then prin­cipally in view the political intereſts of the king, the crown, and the church of England; and the round-heads, or Whigs, propoſed chiefly the maintaining of the rights and intereſts of the people, and of Proteſtantiſm. This is the moſt po­pular account ; and yet it is certain the names *Whig* and