TRIBE, in antiquity, a certain quantity or number of perſons, when a diviſion was made of a city or people into quarters or diſtricts.

TRIBRACHYS, in ancient poetry, a foot conſiſting of three syllables, and theſe all ſhort ; as, *melius.*

TRIBUNAL, in general, denotes the ſeat of a judge, called in our courts *bench.*

TRIBUNE, among the ancient Romans, a magiſtrate choſen out of the commons, to protect them againſt the oppressions of the great, and to defend the liberty of the people againſt the attempts of the ſenate and conſuls.

The tribunes of the people were first eſtabliſhed in the year of Rome 259. The first deſign of their creation was to ſhelter the people from the cruelty of uſurers, and to engage them to quit the Aventine mount, whither they had retired in diſpleasure.

Their number at first was but two ; but the next year, under the conſulate of A. Poſthumius Aruncius and Caſſius Viſcellinus, there were three more added; and this number or five was afterwards increaſed by L. Trebonius to ten.

*Military Tribune,* an officer in the Roman army, com­mander in chief over a body of forces, particularly the diviſion of a legion ; much the same with our colonel, or the French maitre-de camp.

TRIBUTARY, one who pays tribute to another, in or­der to live in peace with him or ſhare in his protection.

TRIBUTE, a tax or impoſt which one prince or ſtate is obliged to pay to another as a token of dependence, or in virtue of a treaty, and as a purchaſe of peace.

TRICEPS, in anatomy. See there, *Table of the Mus­cles.*

TRICHECUS, Walrus ; a genus of aquatic animals belonging to the claſs of *mammalia,* and order of *bruta.* This genus has no fore-teeth, when full grown : has two great tuſks in the upper jaw, which point downwards : has grin­ders on each side in both jaws, which are compoſed of fur­rowed bones. The body is oblong ; the lips are doubled ; and the hind legs are ſtretched backwards, and, as it were, bound together, forming a kind of tail fitted for ſwimming. There are three ſpecies; the roſmarus, dugon, and manatus.

I. The *roſmarus,* morſe, or ſea-horſe, has a round head ; ſmall mouth ; very thick lips, covered above and below with pellucid briſtles as thick as a ſtraw ; ſmall fiery eyes ; two ſmall orifices inſtead of ears ; ſhort neck ; body thick in the middle, tapering towards the tail ; ſkin thick, wrinkled, with ſhort browniſh hairs thinly diſperſed ; legs ſhort, five toes on each, all connected by webs, and ſmall nails on each : the hind feet are very broad ; each leg looſely articulated ; the hind legs generally extended on a line with the body : the tail is very ſhort ; penis long : length of the animal from noſe to tail ſometimes 18 feet, and 10 or 12 round in the thickeſt part : the teeth have been ſometimes found of the weight of 30 lb. each. Teeth of this ſize are only found on the coaſt of the Icy Sea, where the animals are ſeldom moleſted, and have time to attain their full growth. See Plate DX. fig. 1.

They inhabit the coaſt of Spitzbergen, Nova Zembla, Hudſon’s Bay, and the gulph of St Lawrence ; and the Icy Sea, as far as Cape Tſchuktſchi. They are gregarious ; in ſome places appearing in herds of hundreds. They are ſhy animals, and avoid places which are much haunted by man­kind ; but are very fierce. If wounded in the water, they attempt to sink the boat, either by rising under it, or by striking their great teeth into the ſides ; they roar very loud, and will follow the boat till it gets out of sight. Num­bers of them are often ſeen ſleeping on an iſland of ice ; if awaked, they fling themſelves with great impetuosity into the ſea ; at which time it is dangerous to approach the ice, lest they ſhould tumble into the boat and overſet it. They do not go upon the land till the coaſt is clear of ice. At particular times they land in amazing numbers : the moment the first gets on ſhore, ſo as to lie dry, it will not ſtir till another comes and forces it forward by beating it with its great teeth ; this is ſerved in the ſame manner by the next ; and ſo in ſucceſſion till the whole is landed ; continuing tum­bling over one another, and forcing the foremoſt, for the sake of quiet, to remove farther up.

They are killed for the ſake of their oil, one walrus pro­ducing about half a tun. The knowledge of this chace is of great antiquity ; Octher the Norwegian, about the year 890, made a report of it to king Alfred, having, as he ſays. made the voyage beyond Norway, for *the more commoditie of fishing of horse-whales, which have in their teeth bones of great price and excellency, whereof he brought ſome at his return unto the king@@.* In fact, it was in the northern world, in early times, the ſubſtitute to ivory, being very white and very hard. Their ſkins, Octher ſays, were good to cut into cables. Μ. de Buffon ſays, he has ſeen braces for coaches made of the ſkin, which were both ſtrong and elaſtic.

They bring one, or at moſt two, young at a time : they feed on ſea herbs and fiſh ; alſo on ſhells, which they dig out of the sand with their teeth : they are ſaid alſo to make uſe of their teeth to aſcend rocks or pieces of ice, fastening them to the cracks, and drawing their bodies up by that means. Beſides mankind, they ſeem to have no other enemy than the white bear, with whom they have terrible combats ; but generally come off victorious, by means of their great teeth.

In Captain Cook’s Voyages we have the following affecting account of their parental attachment to their young. “On the approach of the boats towards the ice, they took their young ones under their sins, and attempted to eſcape with them into the ſea. Some, whoſe cubs were killed or wounded, and left floating upon the ſurface of the water, roſe again, and car­ried them down, ſometimes juſt as our men were on the point of taking them into the boat ; and could be traced bearing them to a conſiderable diſtance through the water, which was ſtained with their blood. They were afterwards obſerved bringing them, at intervals, above the ſurface, as if for air, and again plunging under it, with a horrid bellow­ing. The female, in particular, whoſe young one had been killed, and taken into the boat, became ſo furious, that ſhe even ſtruck her two tuſks through the bottom of the cutter.”

2. The *dugοn,* or Indian walrus, is diſtinguiſhed by the tuſks which extend out of the mouth from the upper jaw being placed near each other. It inhabits the ſeas lying be­tween the Cape of Good Hope and the Philippine iſlands. This animal, ſo far as can be known, reſembles the morſe very much ; the head is, however, more lengthened and nar­rower ; the noſtrils are large, and placed higher ; like the for­mer ſpecies, there are no tuſks in the under jaw, but thoſe in the upper jaw, as has been already obſerved, are placed near each other, bent outwards, and reſemble cutting teeth, only that they are near six inches long ; there are four grin­ders on each side in the upper jaw, and three in the lower ; theſe laſt are distant from the tuſks, and are broader than thoſe of the morſe : the female has two teats on the breaſt : the chin has a briſtly beard ; the ears are ſhort ; the feet broad ; and the legs ſo ſhort that the belly trails on the ground. When full grown, the animal is six ells in length; the male being rather larger than the female, which has breaſts like a woman : It feeds on a green ſea moſs or weed, which grows near the ſhore. The figure, manners,

@@@[mu] Hakluit's Col. Voy. i. 5.