SYLLA, Lucius Cornelius, a Roman memorable for his vices and cruelties, and for relinquishing the dictator­ship two years after he had compelled the people to elect him. See Roman History.

SYLLABLE, in *Grammar,* one or more letters pro­nounced by a single impulse of the voice, forming a com­plete sound, and constituting a word or a part of a word. No single letter except a vowel can form a syllable. The longest syllable in the English language is the word *strength.* The most natural way of dividing words into syllables is, to separate all the simple sounds of which any word con­sists, so as not to divide those letters which are joined close together according to the most accurate pronunciation.

SYLLABUS, in matters of literature, denotes a table of contents, or an index of the chief heads of a book or dis­course.

SYLLOGISM, in *Logic,* an argument or term of rea­soning, consisting of three propositions, of which the first two are called *premises,* the last, the *conclusion.*

SYMBOL, a sign or representation of something moral, by the figures or properties of natural things. Hence sym­bols are of various kinds ; as hieroglyphics, types, enigmas, parables, fables, &c.

SYMMACHUS, Quintus Aurelius, a Latin writer of high reputation during his own time, was born at Rome, being the son of Lucius Avianus Symmachus, who became prefect of the city in the year 364. The son was carefully initiated in the learning of the age, and soon distinguish­ed himself by his talents and eloquence. He became pro­consul of Africa in 370, and prefect of the city in 384. He likewise appears to have filled the office of *pontifex.* While he held that of prefect, he addressed to Valentinian II, Theodosius, and Arcadius, an elaborate epistle, urging the restoration of the pagan rites and observances. This application produced no effect, but his zeal for the ancient superstition was still unabated ; and in 388 or 389, when congratulating Theodosius, he again, in the name of the senate, entreated him to restore the altar of Victory to the senate-house. But the emperor, who had a more personal reason for being dissatisfied with his conduct, on account of his favourable sentiments towards the usurper Maximus, sent him into exile at a great distance from Rome. His disgrace does not however appear to have been lasting ; for he was nominated consul in the year 391. He survived Theodosius, and was employed by his sons Arcadius and Honorius. „

Symmachus is chiefly known to posterity as the author of ten books of Epistles, which reflect some light on the history of that era. He seems to have chosen Pliny as his model ; but he belongs to a very' inferior age of Latinity, and has a due share of the quaintness and affectation by which it is generally characterized. His *relatio* in favour of pa­ganism (lib. X. epist. lxi.) produced a refutation from Am­brose bishop of Milan, who on that subject addressed two epistles to Valentinian. He was likewise assailed by Pru­dentius, who composed a poem in two b∞ks “ Contra Sym­machum Praefectum Urbis.” Of the literary merit of his adversary, the Christian poet has expressed the highest ad­miration :

O linguam miro verborum fonte fluentem, Romani decus eloquii, cui cedat et ipse Tullius, bas fundit dives facundia gemmas. Os dignum ætemo tinctum quod fulgeat auro, Si mallet laudare Deum, cui sordida monstra Prætulit, et liquidam temeravit crimine vocem.

The *Epistolœ* of Symmachus are said to have been print­ed before the close of the fifteenth century, and other very early editions are mentioned. Only 317 epistles appear in

the edition printed by J. Schott, Argent. 1510, 4to. The subsequent impressions include 965, divided into ten books. The next edition was printed by Froben, Basil. 1549, 8vo. An edition, illustrated with notes, was afterwards prepared by Juretus, Paris. 1580, 1604, 4to. To the annotations of this editor, Lectius added his own, Genev. 1587, 1599, 8vo. The text of Lectius is preferable to that of Juretus. An­other edition, accompanied with notes, was published by Scioppius, Mogunt. 1608, 4to. These notes he was ac­cused of having pilfered from the papers of Giphanius.@@1 The next editions of Symmachus were those of Pareus, Neapoli Nemetum, 1617, 1628, Francof. 1642, 8vo. He added a “ Lexicon Symmachianum,” and “ Electa Symmachiana.” We have only to mention another edition, Lugd. Bat. 1653, 12mo. Of the orations of Symmachus some fragments were discovered in the Ambrosian Library at Milan by the indefatigable Angelo Mai, and by him have been communicated to the public, under the title of “ Q. Aurelii Summachi, V. C. octo Orationum ineditarum partes. Invenit notisque declaravit Angelus Maius, Bibliothecae Ambrosianæ a Linguis Orientalibus. Accedunt addita­menta quædam.” Mediolani, 1815, 8vo. (x.)

SYMPATHY, an agreement of affections and inclina­tions, or a conformity of natural qualities, humours, and temperaments. Sympathy also denotes the quality of be­ing affected by the affection of another, and may subsist either between different persons or bodies, or between dif­ferent parts of the same body. It is either similar or dis­similar ; similar when the affection or action in the sym­pathiser is similar to the affection or action in the sympathant, and dissimilar when these are different. Sympathy, too, is often an imitative faculty, sometimes involuntarily, frequently without consciousness. Thus we yawn when we see others yawn, and are made to laugh by the laugh­ing of another.

SYMPHEROPOLE, the capital city of the Russian province of Krimea. It stands on the southern part of the peninsula, about twenty miles from the sea, in a fine valley at the base of the Tauridan Mountains, on the small river Salghir. It was the residence of the khans or chiefs of the peninsula till it was seized by the Russians. It now consists of two parts; the European part, built since 1783 by the Europeans, and the Tartar or Asiatic part, which, till very lately, consisted of structures in thc peculiar fashion of the natives. The new town displays wide streets ; and, besides the crown buildings, the houses of the governor and vice-governor, the police, the hospital, and the banracks, there is a considerable number of handsome edifices. The cathedral is yet unfinished, though a large sum has been ex­pended on it. It is on the spot where Suwarof gained a great victory over the Turks. The city is now said to con­tain about 10,000 inhabitants, its prosperity having in­creased within the last twenty years.

SYMPHONY (Ital. *Sinfοnia).* Anciently this word had various musical meanings. It now usually signifies a piece of instrumental music for an orchestra, consisting of several movements, and generally performed in a concert­room. The overture differs from the symphony chiefly in the smaller number of its movements, seldom containing more than a short, slow, introductory movement, arid an allegro, and being used at the beginning of an opera or a ballet. The word symphony is also used to signify an in­strumental passage which usually introduces a piece of vo­cal music, or is brought in at its close, or occurs during some pause of the voice. Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven have produced the finest models of the orchestral sym­phony in point of originality, beauty, ingenious construc­tion, and skilful instrumentation. For clearness of design

222• Fabricii Bibliotheca Latina, tom. iii. p. 208. edit. Ernesti.