sequently converted into an arsenal and manufactory of arms, which was visited by Morier, and in which he saw stores of guns, artillery, and the other materiel of war, and numerous carpenters, wheelwrights, and others, with Euro­pean tools, and a blacksmith’s forge at work. To the south-east of the city, at the foot of a sloping hill, is a powder-mill, worked by water, and erected entirely by a Persian. It is, says Morier, by far the best structure at Tabriz, being built of brick, stone, and marble. The remains of this structure that still exist, after repeated shocks of earthquakes, prove the original solidity and excellence of the workmanship. About two miles to the south-west of the new walls of the town, but far within the remnants of the old boundaries, stand the magnificent remains of the sepulchre of Sultan Kazan. The intervening ground is marked with shapeless ruins, even stretching beyond the sepulchre to a great ex­tent. The tomb itself has the appearance of a huge mound of mingled lime, dust, tiles, and bricks, surrounded, how­ever, with spacious arches of stone, the remains of its for­mer grandeur. Beyond the eastern gate of the town, the ruins of the ancient city reach for more than three miles over the valley, and on the adjoining heights which skirt the base of the hills. On one of the most commanding of these subordinate acclivities stands the vast and venerable struc­ture of an ancient fortress, which from its position and strength must have commanded the whole valley. At what period this vast structure was first built, is entirely un­known ; but the thickness of the walls, the massy towers, and the splendid materials of its interior parts, plainly show the great labour and cost at which it must have been rear­ed. No sun-dried bricks have been employed in this build­ing, which consists of huge masses of loose stones and mor­tar thrown together, and afterwards closely faced with large stones. A very large tower, looking towards the town and the valley, flanks the south-west front of the castle, which seems in a less impaired state than any of the other quar­ters. In the interior of these ruins are found several vaulted and spacious underground apartments, and near them the remains of a magnificent mosque. The shattered walls are filled up with heaps of tiles, dust, and furnace-made bricks, interspersed with the pieces of white transparent marble called Tabriz marble, which is dug up in immense blocks from the mountains on the banks of Lake Ooroomia. Sir R. K. Porter also marked the foundations of other consi­derable buildings, and the site where baths had been con­structed. He ascribes the destruction of these edifices on the heights more to the devastations of war than to earth­quakes, as the ruins that still remain mark out very clearly the plan and architectural dispositions of the edifice. The plain in which Tabriz is situated is bounded to the north-east, the east, and south-east, by a chain of barren mountains, conspicuous for their red and ochreous appearance. These mountains rise immediately behind Tabriz, and recede into a deep vale, which, being watered by a plentiful stream, is perhaps more highly cultivated than any tract of its size in Persia, and is remarkable for beautiful and picturesque scenery.

It is generally understood that the ancient name of Ta­briz was Ganzaca ; and no notice is found of it as the capi­tal of Azerbijan until the fourth century of the Christian era. From that period, under the names of Ganzaca, Tauris, Tabriz or Tabreez, it has been esteemed the capital of the province. But it must have subsequently declined in con­sequence, as the houses of the city only amounted to 3000 when Heraclius took possession of it 300 years after. It was not till after the accession of the Sefi race of kings that Tabriz regained its former importance. It must have been a great city when it was visited by Chardin in 1686, who rates its population at 550,000. But in 1727 it was nearly destroyed by an earthquake, in which 70,000 people are said to have perished ; and in a succeeding shock, which took place in 1787, only 40,000 remained to be engulphed ; a proof that the population had in the mean time greatly declined. Longitude, according to the observations of the unfortunate traveller Brown, 47. 17. 46. E. Latitude, ac­cording to Major Monteith, 38. 4. N.

TACHYGRAPHY, from *ταχυs*, *swift,* and *γϑαφω*, *I write,* or the art of writing short-hand. See Stenography.

TACITUS, Caius Cornelius, a celebrated Roman historian, and one of the greatest men of his time, appears to have been born about the fifty-seventh year of the Chris­tian era. He early applied himself to the labours of the bar, in which he gained very considerable reputation. He was a man of equestrian rank, and was promoted to various offices. Having married the daughter of Agricola, the road to public honours was opened to him in the reign of Ves­pasian ; but during the sanguinary and capricious tyranny of Domitian, he, as well as his friend Pliny, appears to have retired from the theatre of public affairs. The reign of Nerva restored these luminaries of Roman literature to the metropolis ; and, in the year 97, we find Tacitus engaged to pronounce the funeral oration of the venerable Virginius Rufus, the colleague of the emperor in the consulship, and afterwards succeeding him as consul for the remainder of the year. In the year of the city 853, Pliny and Tacitus were appointed by the senate to plead the cause of the oppressed Africans against Marius Priscus, a corrupt proconsul, who was convicted before the fathers ; and the patriot orators were honoured with a declaration that they had executed their trust to the entire satisfaction of the house. The time of the historian’s death is not mentioned by any ancient author, but it is probable that he died in the reign of Trajan.

His works which still remain are, 1. The Life of Agricola, his father-in-law ; 2. On the Manners of the Germans; 3. Five books of his History ; 4. His Annals. There is also attributed to him a dialogue “ De Causis corrupt® Eloquentiae,” which others have ascribed to Quintilian. The treatise on the manners of the Germans was published in 851. The exact time when Tacitus published his history is uncertain, but it was in some period of Trajan’s reign, who died suddenly, a. u. c. 870, a. D. 117. The history comprises a period of twenty-seven years, from the acces­sion of Galba, 822, to the death of Domitian, 849. The history being finished, he did not think he had completed the tablature of slavery : he reverted to the time of Tibe­rius ; and the second work, which, however, comes first in the order of chronology, includes a period of fifty-four years, from the accession of Tiberius, 767, to the death of Nero, 821 : this work is his Annals.

No author has obtained a more splendid reputation than Tacitus. It is impossible not to admire and recommend his intimate knowledge of the human heart, the spirit of liberty which he breathes, and the force and vivacity with which he perpetually expresses himself. He has been censured as obscure ; and indeed nothing can be more certain than that he did not write for the common mass of men. But to those who are judges of his compositions, it is no matter of re­gret that his manner is his own, and peculiar. Never were description and sentiment so wonderfully and so beauti­fully blended ; and never were the actions and characters of men delineated with so much strength and precision.

Of the works of Tacitus, the first edition was printed by V. Spira at Venice in 1468 or 1469. It is in folio, and without a date. After some intervening impressions, a more complete edition was superintended by Beroaldus, Romæ, 1515, fol. Here the earlier books of the Annals were printed for the first time. The subsequent editions are so numerous, that we can only specify a very small pro­portion. Tacitus was greatly indebted to the learned la­bours of Lipsius, who published several editions. His first was printed at Antwerp, 1574, 8vo. His annotations were gradually augmented, and underwent different revisals and