gloves and silk hoes, and trade extensively in wine. Lat. 44. 55. 59. Long. 4. 47. 20. W.

VALENCIA, a province, or, as it is called from its an­cient title, a kingdom of Spain. It extends over 643 square leagues, and its population amounts to 825,059 souls, being the most densely peopled part of the peninsula. It appears by authentic data taken in the year 1808, that in the course of forty years prior to that date, the population had been doubled. Valencia is bounded on the north by Catalonia and part of Aragon, on the west by New Castile, on the south by Murcia, and on the east by the Mediterranean sea. Al­though, like the rest of Spain, Valencia is a mountainous country, so that two-thirds of it may be considered as deso­late elevations, yet the rest of the province consists of level and beautiful valleys, covered with exquisite fruits, and other productions of a most valuable kind, as silk, rice, hemp, flax, and grain. It does not, however, raise wheat sufficient for its own consumption. Alicant is the most considerable trading port in Valencia. It is in the form of a half-moon on the shores of the sea. From this port the principal productions of the province are shipped for the different foreign markets. Notwithstanding the ferti­lity of the soil, and the assiduous care exercised on the cultivation of it, the peasantry are in a state of poverty. Most of the lands are either the property of the corpora­tions, or of nobles who hold them under the strict entail denominated mayorazo. These let them to tenants, and they again to sub-tenants ; by which process the rent is raised to a rate that impoverishes the actual cultivators. The climate of this province on the sea-shore is by no means healthy, but at a little distance from the coast, where it is gently elevated. It is very favourable to longe­vity; and even on the coast they have been less severely visited by epidemic fevers than in the provinces of An­dalusia and Murcia.

Valencia, a city of Spain, the capital of the province or kingdom of the same name. It is situated on the river Turia, which is not navigable, but is principally beneficial by its being adapted to the purposes of irrigation. It has how­ever six spacious bridges over it, though at some seasons it is fordable. The city is about two miles from the sea, where the fortress of Graco is built to protect the landing, and a mole is projected, which, when accomplished, will be of vast advantage. The city is large, and nearly forms a cir­cle. It has lofty walls of ancient construction, with some of the towers of the same date still standing. The streets are narrow and crooked, and almost destitute of pavement, and the whole place is very filthy.

Valencia is the seat of an archbishop ; and the cathedral is endowed with an enormous revenue, great part of which is expended in the erection of religious edifices. The ca­thedral is a very large Gothic pile of building, but with a mixture of more modem taste, and has not much to re­commend it ; but the entrance is adorned in a most pro­fuse manner, and contains some very good pictures. The other churches and convents are very numerous, and no city, even in Spain, has a greater proportion of ecclesiastics. The lorza or exchange is the best of the secular buildings. It is of the date of the fifteenth century, when architectural taste in Spain was at its zenith.

The city abounds with Roman antiquities; but the Moors, from having been early dispossessed of this province, have left behind them much fewer of their best remains than in those provinces which they held to a later period, when their man­ners had become more refined, and their means of erecting durable edifices more extensive.

The principal manufacture of this city is that of silk in all its various branches. It employs about 25,000 persons, and the silk annually used amounts to about 900,000 pounds. Sometimes the produce of silk is insufficient for the supply of all the looms, in which case many of the poor are unem­ployed, and to remedy this, a decree is in force, preventing the exportation of raw silk. The inhabitants of Valencia amount to about 160,000, of whom 100,000 are within the walls, and the rest in the extensive suburbs, where the working people employed in the silk manufactory reside.

Valencia contains a university, two public libraries, a seminary for youths of noble families, and several printing- offices. Lat. 39. 29. Long. 0. 24. W.

VALENCIENNES, a strongly fortified city of France, in the department of the North, and the arrondissement of Douay. It stands on the river Scheldt, where the Rhonelle falls into that stream. It has a powerful citadel and deep trenches. After a brave defence. It was captured by the duke of York in 1793. It is a place of great manufacturing in­dustry. The city is ill built, with narrow and crooked streets, and in 1836 contained 18,953 inhabitants. Lat. 50. 21. Long. 3. 25. E.

VALENTINIANS, a sect of Christian heretics, who sprung up in the second century, and were so called from their leader Valentinus. The Valentinians were only a branch of the Gnostics, who realised or personified the Platonic ideas concerning the Deity, whom they called *Pleroma* or *Plenitude.*

VALERIUS FLACCUS, Caius. See Flaccus.

VALERIUS MAXIMUS, a Latin writer of the age of Tiberius. His *praenomen* is by some supposed to have been Publius, by others Marcus. We learn from different pas­sages of his own work, that he served in Asia with Sextus Pompeius, and returned to Rome after the death of Seja­nus, or towards the end of the reign of Tiberius. This S. Pompeius was consul during the year when Augustus died. The work of Valerius, “ Dictorum Factorumque memorabilium libri novem,” he inscribed to the successor of that emperor. It is valuable, not from any peculiar ele­gance of diction, but for its copious and variegated collec­tion of ancient anecdotes of public and private life. Ac­cording to the opinion of some critics, his composition has not descended to our times in its original form, but as it was reduced to an epitome, either by Julius Paris, or by Janua­rius Nepotianus. It is however far from being certain that his work was remodelled. See Vossius de Historicis Lati­nis, p. 123, and Fabricii Bibliotheca Latina, tom. ii. p. 50. edit. Ernesti.

The earliest edition of Valerius Maximus is supposed to have been printed at Strasburg by Mentelin. It is a folio volume without date, but conjectured to be at least as early as the year 1470. An edition which appeared soon after this period, has very frequently been described as the first. It was printed by P. Schoeffer de Gernshem, Mogunt. 1471, fol. And the same year produced an edition by V. de Spira, Venet. 1471, fol. After some intermediate editions, other two proceeded from the press of Aldus, Venet. 1502,1514, 8vo. Many editions afterwards appeared, several with an­notations by Pighius, and a few with brief notes by Lipsius. Among the early impressions, we may specify that which contains the annotations of Pighius and Colerus, Francof. 1627, 8vo. A very elaborate and valuable edition, accom­panied with a great body of notes, was at length published by Torrenius, Leidae, 1726, 4to. Several other editions have more recently appeared ; and among these we may venture to recommend that of Kapp. Lipsiæ, 1782, 8vo.

VALERY, St, a sea-port of France, in the department of the Lower Seine, and the arrondissement of Yvetot. On the English channel it has a good tide-harbour, from which the herring and other fisheries are extensively carried on, and where many ships are built. Lat. 49. 52. 12. Long. 4. 35. 20. The inhabitants in 1836 amounted to 5328.

VALET, a French term, used as a common name for domestic men-servants.

VALETTA, La, the capital of the island of Malta, is situated on the east side of the island, in 14° 30' E. long.,