law on stones, is absurd ; for what is there said by no means implies that other materials might not be used on common occasions. The laws penal, civil, and ceremonial, among ’ the Greeks, were engraven on tables of brass, which were called *cgrbes.*

We find that wood was also used for writing on in dif­ferent countries. The Chinese, before the invention of pa­per, wrote or engraved with an iron tool upon thin boards or on bamboo. Pliny says that table-books of wood were in use before the time of Homer. These table-books were called by the Romans *pugillares.* The wood was cut into thin slices, and finely plained and polished. The writing was at first upon the bare wood, with an iron instrument called a *style.* In latter times these tables were usually waxed over, and written upon with that instrument. The matter written upon the tables which were thus waxed over was easily effaced, and by smoothing the wax new matter might be substituted in the place of what had been written before. The Greeks and Romans continued the use of waxed table-books long after the use of papyrus, leaves, and skins became common, because they were so convenient for correcting extemporary compositions.

Table-books of ivory are still used for memorandums, but they are commonly written upon with black-lead pencils. The practice of writing on table-books covered with wax was not. entirely laid aside till the commencement of the fourteenth century.

The bark of trees was also used for writing by the an­cients, and is so still in several parts of Asia. The same thing may be said of the leaves of trees. It is needless to observe the use of parchment and vellum, papyrus and paper, for writing ; it is too well known. The method of fabricating these substances has been already described as they occurred in the order of the alphabet.

It is obvious, that when men wrote, or rather engraved, on hard substances, instruments of metal were necessary, such as the chisel and the stylus ; but the latter was chiefly used for writing upon boards, waxed tablets, or on bark.

When the ancients wrote on softer materials than wood or metal, other instruments were used for writing with, of which reeds and canes seem to have been the first. Reeds and canes are still used as instruments for writing with by the Tartars, the Indians, the Persians, the Turks, and the Greeks. Pencils made of hair are used by the Chinese for their writing : they first liquefy their ink, and dip their pen­cils into it. Hair-pencils have likewise been used for writ­ing in Europe. Large capital letters were made with them from the time of the Roman emperors till the sixteenth century. After the invention of printing they were drawn by the illuminators. Quills of geese, swans, peacocks, crows, and other birds, have been used in these western parts for writing with, but how long is not easy to ascer­tain. Isidorus Hispalensis, or Isidore of Seville, who lived about the middle of the seventh century, describes a pen made of a quill as used in his time. See Bibliography, Hieroglyphics, and Languages.

WUDWAN, a town of Hindustan, province of Gujerat, district of Chalawara. It is of considerable extent and po­pulation, and possesses a fort of considerable strength, al­most new. It belongs to a rajpoot family noted for their skill and bravery in predatory wars. In 1805 it was be­sieged for two months without success by the Guicowar’s army. It carries on, by means of caravans, an extensive trade with the Gulf of Cambay. These caravans require an escort of twenty to thirty matchlock-men, to guard against the freebooters that infest the country.

WURDA, a river of Hindustan, province of Berar. It has its source in the Injardy Hills, two miles north of the Barooly Pass, in the province of Berar, whence it flows in a south-east direction, and after a course of about 200 miles falls into the Godavery.

WÜRTEMBERG, a kingdom in the interior of Ger­many, formed, within the last few years, out of the ancient duchy of the same name, with the addition of several smaller territories progressively combined with it, in the reigns of the last two sovereigns, by an accommodating policy, and a sedulous regard to their own interest during the progress and conclusion of the French revolution. By an armistice made with France in 1796, all the territories on the left bank of the Rhine were ceded to that power ; but by the opportune peace of Luneville in 1801, and a separate treaty which followed as a consequence of it, Würtemberg was raised to the dignity of a grand duchy, and obtained several districts which had either been portions of small indepen­dent states or ecclesiastical dominions. Among these were the cities of Heilbron, Gmünd, Hall, Rothweil, and some others, with the districts around them. The whole of these acquisitions extended over 633 square miles, and contained 115,000 inhabitants. In December 1805, in consequence of the part taken in the war between France and Austria, the kingly dignity was assumed, and the possession of se­veral other portions was guaranteed by the former power. These acquisitions comprehended several districts on the Danube, whose inhabitants were estimated to be 158,000. In 1806, when the confederation of the Rhine was formed, Würtemberg joined it, and stipulated to contribute to its support 12,000 men; in consequence of which, other con­siderable additions to its territory were made. Several ex­changes of dominion took place with Baden and Bavaria, but rather for the sake of rendering the limits more distinct than to increase possessions. The part taken by Würtem­berg in the wars declared by France against Prussia in 1806, and against Austria in 1809, led to a further augmen­tation ; and by choosing the precise moment for deserting the cause of Bonaparte in 1813, the king was enabled, at the subsequent congress of Vienna, to obtain the sanction of all the great European powers to the title which he had assumed, and to the territory which had been acquired. The kingdom of Würtemberg was thus fixed in the condition described in the following pages.

The whole is nearly enclosed between Baden and Bava­ria ; the former bounding it on the western and northern sides, and the latter on the eastern and southern, except that on one part of its southern frontier the Lake of Con­stance separates it from Switzerland. It is of an irregular form, extending from 47° 35' to 49° 35' north latitude. On a very small portion of its northern boundary it comes in contact with the grand duchy of Hesse-Darmstadt. Its whole extent is 7573 square miles, or 4,846,720 English statute acres.

The ancient divisions of the duchy of Würtemberg were various, according to their position and feudal claims ; and the additional territories that had been recently acquired were in very irregular and unequal allotments. Of late, a new division has taken place into circles, which are again sub­divided into *Oberamts* or bailiwicks. Besides these circles, the capital, the city of Stuttgart, forms by itself a separate division, though its inhabitants are included in the popula­tion returns of the Neckar circle.

The circles, with their extent and population, are,

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Extent in**  **Statute Acres.** | **Population in 1834.** |
| Circle of the Neckar | . 904,320 | .... 442,447 |
| Circle of the Jaxt. | .1,318,400 | ....349,779 |
| Circle of the Black Forest (Schwarzwald) | 1,204,480 | ....414,489 |
| Circle of the Danube | 1,468,160 | ....362,999 |
|  | 4,895,360 | 1,569,714 |

By a subsequent enumeration taken at the end of the year 1835, the result, no account of each circle being given, appears to shew that the males of the kingdom were