great length, estimated at about 1800 or 2000 miles, it falls into the Yellow Sea by numerous channels, in about 33°north latitude. In the early part of its course it runs north­ward, and is carried beyond the limits of the Chinese em­pire, being turned aside by a lofty chain of mountains for 500 or 600 miles. It afterwards turns into an opposite di­rection, and reaching the original line of its course, again enters the Chinese empire, and by its winding progress dif­fuses more widely the benefit of its waters. Though broad and rapid, it is in many places so shallow as to be unfavour­able for navigation. It is also liable to overflow its banks, so that it has been necessary to raise dikes for the defence of the surrounding country.

Yellow Sea, a large gulf, about 120 miles in length and eighty in breadth, connected with the Gulf of Pe-tche-lee, and extending along the coast of the province of the same name in Chinese Tartary.

YELPOORA, a small town of Northern India, province of Canara, situated above the Ghaut Mountains, in the Soonda district. It is inhabited by Christians, Mahom­medans, and Hindus. Long. 74. 55. E. Lat. 14. 57. N.

YEMEN, a large province of Arabia, comprehending its finest and most fertile portion, situated partly on the Red Sea and partly on the Indian Ocean. It is surrounded by the provinces of Hadramaut, Nedjed, and Hedjaz. It was celebrated by the ancients under the title of Arabia Felix, but modern researches do not by any means justify this ap­pellation : some parts are no doubt fertile, but in general it is barren and unproductive. It is divided into two parts, differing greatly in soil and climate. The plain of the Te­hama, which forms a broad belt along the whole of the coast, consists almost entirely of a waste of dry and unpro­ductive sand. It is about two days’ journey in breadth, and is scorched by torrid heats. The Djcbal, or mountainous district, in the interior, presents in many parts a more agree­able aspect. The hills, though precipitous, are fertile in many spots, and enjoy a more temperate air. The lower declivities are covered with trees and aromatic shrubs, and the mountain chains are divided by fine valleys, which, being watered by numerous streams, can be advantageously culti­vated. The natives are industrious agriculturists, though their instruments are rude ; and in many districts the fields are cultivated like gardens. The grains chiefly raised are barley, millet, and dhourra : there is not an adequate supply of water for the cultivation of rice. The aromatic plants which grow upon the sides of the hills are the most valuable products of this region. The coffee produced in Yemen has always possessed a flavour which cannot be rivalled by that of any other country to which the shrub has been transplanted from this its native region ; and Mocha coffee is in request all over the world. The balm of Mecca, and the tree bearing incense, are also produced in Yemen, though they are found in greater perfection on the opposite coast of Africa.

Like the rest of Arabia, Yemen was formerly parcelled out among a number of different sovereigns in unequal portions ; but it has been formed into a considerable mo­narchical state, subject to a sovereign who assumes the modest title of Imam or doctor, but exercises over his sub­jects an authority nearly absolute. He is forced however to pay respect to the pride of the aristocracy, namely, the schiechs or hereditary chiefs, who here, as over all Arabia, possess a high influence, and, seated in their strong castles in the interior, often set his mandates at defiance. The sovereigns of Yemen were formerly reduced under the Sa­racen power, and afterwards under the soldans of Egypt. They were since menaced by the growing power of the Wahabees, who made themselves masters of all the sea­ports except Mocha ; but their power and kingdom being extinguished by Mehemet Ali, this country came under his dominion. In consequence of the late successful operations

of the British fleet against Syria, it will revert with that country to the rule of the sultan.

YEN, a river of China, which falls into the Hoangho, seventeen miles south-east of Yen-tchang.

YEN-KIANG, a city of China, of the second rank, in Pe-tche-lee. Long. 125. 30. E. Lat. 40. 30. N.

YEN-NGAN, a city of China, of the first rank, in Chan- si, situated in an agreeable plain surrounded by lofty moun­tains. The territory abounds in fens. Long. 108. 49. E. Lat. 36. 44. N.

YEN-PING, a city of China, of the first rank, in Fokien. It is situated on the river Min-ho. It is not large, but is considered a stirring commercial city. Long. 117. 54. E. Lat. 26. 40. N.

YEN-TCHEOU, a city of China, of the first rank, in Tchekiang, situated on a river near the sea, so that the tide approaches its walls. It contains beautiful buildings. In its vicinity are mines of copper, and trees which yield a var­nish that is much esteemed for lackered work. In Shan­tung there is another city of this name, of the first rank. Its territory is plentifully watered by many streams, being en­closed between the Hoangho and another great river. It has also numerous dependent cities, nearly as large as itself. The territory is celebrated as being the birth-place of Con­fucius. Long. 116. 36. E. Lat. 35. 44. N.

YEOMAN, the first or highest degree among the ple­beians of England, next in order to the gentry. The yeo­men are properly freeholders, who having land of their own, live on good husbandry.

Υεομαν is also a title of office in the king’s household, of a middle place or rank between an officer and a groom.

Υεομεν *of the Guard* were anciently 250 men of the best rank under gentry, and of larger stature than ordinary, each being required to be six feet high. At present there are but 100 yeomen in constant duty, and seventy more not in duty ; and as any of the 100 dies, his place is supplied out of the seventy. They are dressed after the manner of King Henry VIII.’s time. They formerly had diet as well as wages when in waiting, but this was withdrawn in the reign of Queen Anne.

YEOVIL, a borough-town of the county of Somerset, in the hundred of Stone, 121 miles from London. It stands on the river Yeo or Ivel, which joins the Parret, and runs to the Bristol Channel. It is a well-built town, and was once famed for its woollen manufactures; but these have been superseded by the making of gloves, which now forms the chief occupation, and has augmented the population. Besides the church, there are various places of worship for dissenters. There is a well-frequented market on Friday. The inhabitants amounted in 1821 to 4655, and in 1831 to 5921.

YEOWAH, a town of the Birman empire, on the west bank of the Irrawuddy river. Long. 94.30. E. Lat. 20. 55. N.

YERNAGOODUM, a town of Hindustan, province of the Northern Circars, in the vicinity of which are fine forests of timber, which might be conveyed to the sea down the streams of the Wurda and Godavery. Long. 81. 39. E. Lat. 16. 58. N.

YETHOLM, a parish on the confines of England, in the county of Roxburgh, containing two villages of the same name. One of these, Town Yetholm, is the place where the largest colony of Gipsys in Scotland is to be found. The strolling habits and vagabond life which they lead are too well known to require any description here ; but it may be stated, that in consequence of the operation of the new police act for Scotland and England, there is every probabi­lity of a change taking place in their erratic mode of life, by their being compelled to settle to steady occupations in a fix­ed place of abode, or otherwise being liable to be imprisoned as vagrants. Their number is at present about 100. The village is situate in a valley about one mile in length and