*SPICE-Islands,* in the Eaſt Indies. See Banda, *Mo­lucca- Islands* and Ceylon.

SPIDER, in zoology. See Aranea.

SPIDERWORT, in botany. See Phalangium.

SPIGNEL, in botany. See Athamanta.

SPIKE, or *Oil of Spike,* a name given to an eſſential oil diſtilled from lavender, and much uſed by the varniſh- makers and the painters in enamel.

SPIKENARD, in botany. See Nardus.

SPILANTHUS, in botany ; a genus of plants belonging to the claſs of *ſyngenesia,* and to the order of *polygamia aqualis.* The common calyx is erect; the leaf­lets numerous, ſub-equal, and oblong, the two exterior being longer than the rest. The compound corolla is uniform and tubular ; the florets are hermaphrodite and equal ; the proper corolla is funnel-ſhaped. The fila­ments are five in number, and ſhort. The antheræ cy­lindrical and tubular. The ſeeds are vertical, oblong, flat, and covered with chaff. The receptacle is palea­ceous and conical. There are ſeven ſpecies, the urens, pſeudo-acmella, acmella, ſalivaria, atriplicifolia, inſipida, and oleracea.

SPINA cervina, the ſame as the rhamnus catharticus. See Rhamnus.

*Spina Ventosa,* in ſurgery, that ſpecies of corruption of the bones which takes its rise in the internal parts, and by degrees enlarges the bone, and raiſes it into a tumor. See Surgery.

SPINACIA, spinage, in botany : A genus of plants belonging to the claſs of *diaecia,* and to the order of *pentandria ;* and in the natural ſyſtem arranged un­der the 12th order, *Hοlοracea.* The male calyx is quinquepartite ; there is no corolla : the female calyx is quadrifid ; no corolla ; there are four ſtyles, and one ſeed within the indurated calyx. There are only two ſpecies, the oleracea and fera. I. The *oleracea,* com­mon ſpinage, has ſeſſile fruits and ſagittated leaves. It has been cultivated in Britain ſince 1568, but it is not known from what country it was originally brought. When intended for winter uſe, it ſhould be ſown on an open ſpot of ground in the latter end of July ; obſerving to do it if poſſible when the weather is rainy. When the young plants are come up, the weeds muſt be deſtroyed, and the plants left at about five inches aſunder. The ground being kept clear of weeds, the ſpinage will be fit for uſe in October. The way of ga­thering it to advantage is only to take off the longeſt leaves, leaving thoſe in the centre to grow bigger; and at this rate a bed of ſpinage will furniſh the table for a whole winter, till the ſpinage ſown in spring is become fit for uſe, which is common in April. 2. The f*era,* wild ſpinage, produces its fruit on footſtalks.

SPIN GE, or Spinach. See Spinacia.

SP1NÆ, in botany, thorns, rigid prickles: a ſpecies of arma growing on various parts of certain plants for their defence ; spinae *ramorum arcent pecora.* On the branches we find examples in the pyrus, prunus, citrus, bippophaes, gmelina, rhamnus, lycium. &c. ; on the leaves in the aloe, agave, yucca, ilex, hippomane, theophraſta, carlina, &c. ; on the calyx, in the carduus, cnicus, centauria, moluccella, galeopſis, &c. ; on the fruit, in the trapa, tribulus, murex, ſpinacia, agremonia, datura, &c.

SPINAL MARROW. See Anatomy, PartV. n⁰ 132.

SPINALIS, in anatomy, the name of ſeveral muſcles, &c. of the ſpine.

SPINDLE-tree, in botany. See Euonymus. SPINE, spina dorsi. See Anatomy, n⁰ 30. Spine, in botany. See Spinæ.

SPINELLO, a Tuſcan painter, of great repute in his time. He painted a picture of the fallen angels, in which he drew ſo horrid a picture of Lucifer, that it frightened him ſo much as to affect his ſenſes ever after. He flouriſhed about the year 1 380.

SPINET, or Spinnet, a musical inſtrument ranked in the second or third place among harmonious inſtruments. It consists of a cheſt or belly made of the moſt porous and reſinous wood to be found, and a table of fir glued on flips of wood *called ſummers,* which bear on the sides. On the table is raised two little prominences or bridges, wherein are placed ſo many pins as there are chords or ſtrings to the inſtrument. It is played on by two ranges of continued keys, the former range being the order of the diatonic ſcale, and that behind the or­der of the artificial notes or ſemitones. The keys are ſo many flat pieces of wood, which, touched and presſed down at the end, make the other raiſe a jack which ſtrike and ſound the ſtrings by means of the end of a crow’s quill, wherewith it is armed. The 30 firſt stringsare of braſs, the other more delicate ones of ſteel or iron-wire ; they are all ſtretched over the two bridges already mentioned. The figure of the ſpinet is a long square or parallelogram ; ſome call it an *burp couched,* and the harp an *inverted spinet.* See the article Harp.

This inſtrument is generally tuned by the ear, which method of the practical musicians is founded on a ſupposition that the ear is a perfect judge of an octave and a fifth. The general rule is to begin at a certain note, as C, taken towards the middle of the inſtrument, and tuning all the octaves up and down, and alſo the fifths, reckoning ſeven ſemitones to each fifth, by which means the whole is tuned. Sometimes to the common or fun­damental play of the ſpinet is added another ſimilar one in uniſon, and a third in octave to the firſt, to make the harmony the fuller ; they are either played ſeparately or together by means of a ſtop : theſe are called *double* or *triple spinets ;* ſometimes a play of violins is added, by means of a bow, or a few wheels parallel to the keys, which press the ſtrings and make the found laſt as long as the muſician pleaſes, and heighten and ſoften them more or leſs, as they are more or leſs pressed. The harpsichord is a kind of spinet, only with another diſposition of the keys (see the article Harpsichord). The inſtrument takes its name from the ſmall quill ends which touch the ſtrings, resembling spinae or thorns.

SPINIFEX, in botany ; a genus of plants belong­ing to the glaſs of *polygamia* and order of *mοnaecia.* The hermaphrodite flowers have a calyx with bivalved biflorous glumes, the valvelets being parallel to the rachis; the corolla is bivalved and awnleſs ; there are three ſtamina and two ſtyles. In the male flowers the calyx is common with the hermaphrodite ; the corolla and stamina are ſimilar. There is only one ſpecies, the ſquarroſus.

SPINNING, in commerce, the act or art of reducing ſilk, flax, hemp, wool, hair, or other matters, into thread. Spinning is either performed on the wheel, or with a diſtaff and ſpindle, or with other machines