European merchandize ; when the Dutch appearing in the Indian ocean, had deprived the Portugueſe of all their conqueſts on that coaſt, and almoſt entirely ruined their trade. The Engliſh eſtabliſhed a factory here in 1609, the Dutch in 1616, and the French in 1665. In proceſs of time, the Indian ſeas being greatly infeſted by pirates, a naval officer was appointed by the Mogul to keep them in awe. This officer was named *Siddee @@(A) Muſſoot,* who had been chief of an Ethiopian colony settled at Rajapore. Here he had col­lected ſome veſſels of conſiderable force, and carried on some trade, till he was dispoſſeſſed by the Mahrattas ; upon which he repaired to Bombay, and afterwards to Surat, where he was appointed admiral on that ſtation to the Mogul, with a yearly revenue of about L. 36,000 Sterling. Though he had no power, independent of the marine, he ſeized on the caſtle, encroached on the town, and appropriated to himſelf a third part of its revenues, under pretence of ar­rears due in his appointed revenue. Another third was paid to the Mahrattas, to prevent their depredations upon trade in the open country ; but they, not ſatisfied with this ſtipulation, watched an opportunity to plunder the town, which was kept in ſubjection by Siddee Muſſoot till his death, which happened in 1756.

Siddee Muſſoot was ſucceeded by his ſon, who ſoon ren­dered himſelf very diſagreeable to the inhabitants. In 1758 the Engliſh factory was greatly oppreſſed by him, and the black merchants treated ſtill worſe ; on which the latter ap­plied to Mr Ellis the Engliſh chief at that time, desiring him to recommend it to the preſidency of Bombay to take the caſtle by force out of the hands of the uſurper. This propoſal proving agreeable, Admiral Pococke, who was then with his ſquadron at Bombay, readily concurred in ſupporting the expedition. The enterprize was conducted with the usual ſucceſs attending the Britiſh arms ; and Captain Mait­land the conductor took poſſeſſion of the caſtle with its re­venue in name of the Eaſt India company, who were con­firmed in the government by grants from the Mogul.

SURCHARGE OF the Forest, is when a commoner puts more beaſts in the foreſt than he has a right to. See Forest.

*SURCHARGE of Common,* is a diſturbance of common of paſture, by putting more cattle therein than the paſture and herbage will ſuſtain, or the party hath a right to do. This injury can only happen where the common is appendant or appurtenant, and of courſe limitable by law ; or where, when in groſs, it is expreſsly limited and certain; for where a man hath common in groſs, s*ans nombre,* or without stint, he cannot be a ſurcharge. In this caſe indeed there muſt be left ſufficient for the lord’s own beaſts.

The uſual remedies for ſurcharging the common are by the lord’s diſtraining the ſurplus number, or by his bring­ing an action of trespaſs, or by a ſpecial action on the caſe, in which any commoner may be plaintiff. The ancient and moſt effectual method of proceeding is by writ of admeaſurement of paſture.

*Writ of Second SURCHARGE, de ſecunda ſuperoneratione,* is given by the ſtatute of Weſtm. 2. 13 Edw. I. cap. 8. when, after the admeaſurement of paſture hath aſcertained the right, the ſame defendant ſurcharges the common again ; and thereby the sheriff is directed to inquire by a jury whe­ther the defendant has in fact again ſurcharged the common; and if he has, he ſhall then forfeit to the king the ſupernumerary cattle put in, and alſo ſhall pay damages to the plaintiff.

**SURCINGLE, a girdle wherewith the clergy of the** church of England uſually tie their cassocks. See Gir­dle.

SURCOAT, a coat of arms, to be worn over body ar­mour.

The ſurcoat is properly a looſe thin taffety coat, with arms embroidered or painted on it. Such as is worn by heralds, anciently alſo uſed by military men over their ar­mour to diſtinguiſh themſelves by.

SURD, in arithmetic and algebra, denotes any number or quantity that is incommenſurable to unity : otherwiſe called an *irrational number* or *quantity.* See Algebra, Part I. Chap. IV.

SURETY, in law, generally ſignifies the ſame with Bail.

SURF, is a term uſed by ſeamen to expreſs a peculiar swell and breaking of the ſea upon the shore. It ſometimes forms but a ſingle range along the ſhore, and at others three or four behind one another extending perhaps half a mile out to ſea. The ſurf begins to affirme its form at ſome distance ſrom the place where it breaks, gradually accumula­ting as it moves forward till it gain, not uncommonly, in places within the limits of the trade-winds, a height of 15 or 20 feet, when it overhangs at top, and falls like a caſcade with great force and a prodigious noiſe. Countries where ſurfs prevail require beats of a particular conſtruction very different from the greater part of thoſe which are built in­ Europe. In ſome places ſurfs are great at high, and in others at low water; but we believe they are uniformly moſt violent during the ſpring-tides.

It is not easy to aſſign the cauſe of ſurfs. That they are affected by the winds can hardly be queſtioned ; but that they do not proceed from the *immediate* operation of **the** wind in the places where they happen, is evident from this circumſtance, that the ſurf is often higheſt and moſt violent where there is leaſt wind, and *vice verſa.* On the coaſt of Sumatra the higheſt are experienced during the ſouth-eaſt monſoon, which is never attended with ſuch gales as the north-west. As they are most general in the tropical lati­tudes, Mr Marſden, who ſeems to have paid much attention to the ſubject, attributes them to the trade-winds which prevail at a distance from ſhore between the parallels of 30 degrees north and south, whoſe uniform and invariable ac­tion cauſes a long and constant swell, that exists even in the calmeſt weather, about the line, towards which its direction tends from either side. This swell, when a ſquall happens or the wind freſhens up, will for the time have other ſubſidiary waves on the extent of its ſurface, breaking often in **a** direction contrary to it, and which will again subſide as **a** calm returns, without having produced on it any perceptible effect. Sumatra, though not continually expoſed to the ſouth-eaſt trade-wind, is not ſo distant but that its influence may be preſumed to extend to it ; and accordingly at Poolo Peſang, near the ſouthern extremity of the iſland, a conſtant ſoutherly ſea is obſerved, even after a ſtrong north-west wind. This incessant and powerful ſwell rolling in from an ocean, open even to the pole, ſeems an agent adequate to the pro­digious effects produced on the coaſt ; whilſt its very size contributes to its being overlooked. It reconciles almoſt all the difficulties which the phenomena ſeem to preſent, and in particular it accounts for the decreaſe of the ſurf during the north-weſt monſoon, the local wind then counteracting the **operation of the general one ; and it is corroborated by an obſervation, that the ſurfs on the Sumatran coaſt ever begin**

@@@(a) When the Abyſſinian ſlaves are promoted to any office under the Mogul government, they are called *Siddees.*