In two or three of the joints a ſmall round hole was found at top and bottom, which ſeemed to have been perforated by some inſect.

Garzius informs us, that it is not found in all bamboos, nor in all the branches indiſcriminately, but only in thoſe growing about Biſnagur, Batecala, and one part of the Ma­labar coast. Dr Russel was informed by a letter from a medical gentleman attending the embassy to the Nizam, that though tabaſheer bears a high price at Hydrabad, it is never brought thither from Biſnagur ; and that ſome of what is sold in the markets comes from the paſs of Atcour in Canoul ; and ſome from Emnabad, at the distance of about 80 miles to the north west ; but that the moſt part comes from Maſulipatam. That sold in the markets is of two kinds ; one the rate of a rupee *per* dram, but the other only half that price ; the latter, however, is ſuppoſed to be factitious, and made up mostly of burnt teeth and bones. Dr Russel himself also, is perſuaded that the tabaſheer met with in commerce is greatly adulterated. The above- mentioned gentleman likewiſe informed the doctor that ta­baſheer was produced in great quantities at Sylhat, where it is sold by the pound, from one rupee to one and an half; forming a considerable article of trade from Bengal to Persia and Arabia. There is, however, a third kind, much ſuperior to either of the two above deſcribed ; differing not only in its ſuperior whiteness, but likewiſe in being much less mixed with heterogeneous particles ; being likewiſe much harder, heavier, and ſcarcely in any degree friable by the finger.

From the experiments of Dr Russel, it appears that the tabaſheer is the juice of the bamboo thickened and hardened to a certain degree. Its chemical qualities, as far as we have heard, have not yet been minutely examined. The follow­ing oblervations on its medical effects were taken from a Persian work, intitled the “ Tofut ul Monein of Mahommed Monein Hoſeiny,” by Mr Williams, a ſurgeon in the ſervice of the East India company. The tabaſheer puts a stop to bilious vomitings and to the bloody flux. It is alſo of ſer­vice in cases of palpitation of the heart, in faintings, and for strengthening thoſe members of the body that are weak­ened by heat. It is uſeful alſo for the piles, and for acute or burning fevers, and for pustules in the mouth (thrush) ; and, given with oxymel, is of ſervice against restlessness, melancholy, and hypochondriacal affections. The habitual internal uſe of it is prejudicial to the virile powers. It is alſo said to be prejudicial to the lungs. Its correctives are the gum of the pine and honey. The doſe of it is to the weight of two d’herems, or ſeven mashas.

TABBY, in commerce, a kind of rich silk which has un­dergone the operation of tabbying.

TABBYING, the palling a silk or stuff under a calendar, the rolls of which are made of iron or copper variously en­graven, which bearing unequally on the stuff renders the surface thereof unequal, ſo as to reflect the rays of light differently, making the reprefentation of waves thereon.

TABELLIO, in the Roman law, an officer or ſcrivener, much the same with our notaries-public, who are often called *tabelliones.*

TABERNACLE, among the Hebrews, a kind of building, in the form of a tent, ſet up, by expreſs command of God, for the performance of religious worship, ſacrifices, &c. during the journeying of the Iſraelites in the wilderneſs: and, after their ſettlement in the land, of Canaan, made uſe of for the same purpoſe till the building of the temple of Jeruſalem. It was divided into two parts ; the one covered, and properly called the *tabernacle* ; and the other open, called the *court.* The curtains which covered the tabernacle were made of linen, of ſeveral colours, embroidered. There were ten curtains, twenty eight cubits long and four in breadth. Five curtains fastened together made up two coverings, which covered up all the tabernacle. Over theſe there were two other coverings ; the one of goat’s hair, the other of ſheep’s skins. The holy of holies was parted from the rest of the tabernacle by a curtain made fast to four pillars, standing ten cubits from the end. The length of the whole taber­nacle was 32 cubits, that is, about 50 feet ; and the breadth 12 cubits, or 19 feet. The court was a ſpot of ground 100 cubits long, and 50 in breadth, encloſed by 20 columns, each 20 cubits high and 10 in breadth, covered with silver, and standing on copper baſes, five cubits distant from one another ; between which there were curtains drawn, and fastened with hooks. At the east end was an entrance, 20 cubits wide, coveted with a curtain hanging looſe.

*Feast of Tabernacles,* a ſolemn festival of the Hebrews, obſerved after harvest, on the 15th day of the month Tiſri, instituted to commemorate the goodness of God, who protested the Iſraelites in the wilderneſs, and made them dwell in booths, when they came out of Egypt. On the first day of the feast, they began to erect booths of the boughs of trees, and in theſe they were obliged to continue ſeven days. The booths were placed in the open air, and were not to be covered with cloths, nor made too cloſe by the thickneſs of the boughs; but ſo looſe that the sun and the stars might be ſeen, and the rain descend through them. For further particulars of the celebration of this festival, see LEVIT. ch. xxiii.

TABERNÆ (anc. geog.) See *Tres Tabernœ.*

TABERNÆMONTANA, in botany: A genus of plants belonging to the claſs of *pentandria,* and order of *monogynia ;* and in the natural ſystem arranged under the 30th order, *Contortae.* There are two horizontal follioles, and the seeds are immerſed in pulp. There are eight ſpecies all of foreign growth.

TABLE, a moveable piece of furniture, uſually made of wood or stone, and ſupported on pillars or the like, for the commodious reception of things placed thereon. Table is alſo tiled for the fare or entertainment ſerved up.

Table, in mathematics, ſystems of numbers calculated to be ready at hand for the expediting astronomical, geometrical, and other operations.

*Table-BooL* See Writing.

*Table-Mountain,* a mountain of Africa, being the most westerly cape or promontory in that part of the world, and near the Cape of Good Hope. The bay which is formed thereby is called the *Table-bay.*

*Laws of the Twelve Tables,* were the first ſet of laws of the Romans ; thus called either becauſe the Romans then wrote with a style on thin wooden tablets covered with wax; or rather, becauſe they were engraved on tables or plates of copper, to be exposed in the most noted part of the public forum. After the expulsion of the kings, as the Romans were then without any fixed or certain ſystem of law, at least had none ample enough to take in the various cases that might fall between particular persons, it was reſolved to adopt the best and wiſest laws of the Greeks. One Hermodorus was first appointed to translate them, and the de­cemviri afterwards compiled and reduced them into ten tables. After a world of care and application, they were at length enacted and confirmed by the senate and an assembly of the people, in the year of Rome 303. The follow­ing year they found ſomething wanting therein, which they supplied from the laws of the former kings of Rome, and from certain customs which long uſe had authoriſed : all theſe being engraven on two other tables, made the law of the twelve tables, ſo famous in the Roman juriſprudence, the source and foundation of the civil or Roman law.