ving lain a week or two, it enters into a ſtate of fermenta­tion, and if put into hot-beds properly prepared, will re­tain a moderate heat for three or four months. When it becomes uſeleſs for the hot houſe, it is ſaid by Miller and others to be an excellent manure for ſome kinds of land.

The word *tan* is ſometimes, though improperly, uſed for the *bark* itſelf, which is the chief ingredient in the tanning of leather. Oak bark, on account of its great aſtringency and gummy-reſinous properties, is preferred to all other ſubſtances for the purpoſe of tanning, as it not only preſerves the leather from rotting, but alſo, by condenſing the pores, renders it impervious to water. See Tanning.

TANACETUM, tansy, in botany : A genus of plants belonging to the claſs of *ſyngenesia,* and order of *polygamies superflua ;* and in the natural ſyſtem ranging under the 49th order, *Compositae.* The receptacle is naked ; the pappus ſomewhat emarginated; the calyx imbricated and hemispherical ; the florets of the radius are trifid, and ſcarcely diſtinguiſhable. Gmelin has enumerated ſeven ſpecies ; of which one only is a native of Britain, the *vulgare.*

The *vulgare,* or common tanſy, grows three or four feet high ; the leaves are bipinnated and ſerrated ; the flowers yellow, and terminate the branches in flat umbels. It is found ſometimes on the borders of fields and dry banks : it abounds at Wark, and Ford-castle in the neighbourhood of Kelſo, on the borders of Scotland ; and on the side of Gare-loch on the weſtern coaſt of Roſs-ſhire : it has alſo been found in Breadalbane. It flowers generally in August. Of this ſpecies there is a variety with curled leaves, which is therefore called *curled tanſy.* The tanſy has a bitter taste, and an aromatic ſmell diſagreeable to many people.

*Uſes.* It is esteemed good for warming and strengthening the stomach ; for which reaſon the young leaves have obtained a place among the culinary herbs, their juice be­ing an ingredient in puddings, &c. It is rarely uſed in medicine, though extolled as a good emmenagogue. A drachm of the dried flowers has been found very beneficial in hyſteric diſorders ariſing from ſuppreſſion. The ſeeds and leaves were formerly in considerable eſteem for deſtroying worms in children, and are reckoned good in colics and flatulencies. In ſome parts of Sweden and Lapland, a bath with a decoction of this plant is made uſe of to aſſist partu­rition. See Pharmacy, n⁰ 193.

TANÆCIUM, in botany ; A genus of the *angiosperma* order, belonging to the *didynamia* claſs of plants ; and in the natural method ranking under the 25 th order, *Putamineae.* The calyx is monophyllous, tubulated, truncated, and entire; the corolla long, monopetalous, and white ; the tube cylin­drical ; the lymbi erect, ſpreading, and nearly equal ; the fruit a berry covered with a thick bark, large, oblong, internally divided into two parts ; in the pulp are contained a number of ſeeds. There are only two ſpecies of this ge­nus ; the *jarοba* and *parasiticum,* both natives of Jamaica. They grow by the ſides of rivers, and climb on trees and buſhes.

TANAGRA, tanager, in ornithology, a genus of birds belonging to the order of *paſſeres.* The beak is coni­cal, acuminated, emarginated, almost triangular at the baſe, and inclining a little towards the point. Dr Latham has deſcribed 44 ſpecies, all of which are of foreign extrac­tion.

TANAIS, or Don. See Doti.

TANGENT *of an* Arch, is a right line drawn perpen­dicularly from the end of a diameter, paſſing to one extre­mity of the arch, and terminated by a right line drawn from the centre through the other end of that arch, and called the *ſecant.* See Geometry.

TANGIER, a port-town of Africa, in the empire of Morocco and kingdom of Fez, ſituated at the entrance of the Straits of Gibraltar, in W. Long. 5. 50. N. Lat. 38. 49. In 1662, this place belonged to the Portugueſe, and war given to king Charles II. upon his marriage with the In­fanta of Portugal : but he, growing weary of the charge of keeping it, cauſed it to be blown up and destroyed in 1684 ; ever ſince which time it has been only a poor fiſhing town. Anciently it was called *Tingis,* and gave name to the province of Mauritania Tingitana.

TANK, in the language of Indostan, a place incloſed for receiving and retaining the rain. During the periodical rains the tanks are filled, and thus in the dry ſeaſon furniſh water for the rice fields and cattle. Some of them are of great extent, meaſuring 300 or 400 feet on the ſide ; they are of a quadrangular form, and lined with granite, deſcending in regular steps from the margin to the bottom.

TANNER, one who dreſſes hides by tanning them. See Tanning.

Tanner (Dr Thomas), an Engliſh prelate and celebrated antiquarian, born in 1674. He was admitted of Queens college Oxford, where a ſimilarity of taste for antiquities produced a cloſe friendship between him and Edmund Gitſon afterwards biſhop of London. In 1697, he was chosen fellow of his college ; and having already publiſhed ſome ſpecimens of his skill in the antiquarian way, ſoon after be­came known to Dr Moore biſhop of Norwich, who made him chancellor of his dioceſe. In 1722, he was made arch­deacon of Norwich, and in 1731 biſhop of St Aſaph. He died at Oxford in 1735 ; and after his death was publiſhed an elaborate work, ſaid to have employed him for 40 years, under this title, *Bibliotheca Britannica Hibernica, fιve de Scrip­toribus qui in Anglia, Scotia, et Hibernia, ad saeculi* XVII. ini*tium floruerunt,* &c.

TANNING, the art of manufacturing leather from raw hides and ſkins.

Before we detail the process, it may be proper to obſerve, that raw hides and ſkins being composed of minute fibres interſecting each other in every direction, the general ope­ration of tanning conſiſts chiefly in expanding the pores, and diſſolving a sort of greasy ſubſtance contained in them ; and then, by means of the aſtringency and gummy-reſinous pro­perties of oak bark, to fill and reunite them, ſo as to give firmneſs and durability to the whole texture. But this theo­ry has been controverted by ſome chemists, who ſuppoſe that the animal jelly contained in the skin is not diſſolved, but unites during the proceſs with the astringent principle of the bark, and forms a combination infallible in water.

The proceſs of tanning varies considerably, not only in different countries, but even in different parts of the same country. The following is the method most approved and practiſed in London and its vicinity, where the beſt leather is generally allowed to be manufactured.

The leather tanned in England conſiſts chiefly of three sorts, known by the name of *butts* or *backs, hides,* and *ſkins.*

*Butts* are generally made from the ſtouteſt and heaviest ox hides, and are managed as follows : After the horns are taken off, the hides are laid ſmooth in heaps for one or two days in the ſummer, and for five or six in the winter : they are then hung on poles, in a cloſe room called a s*mοke-house,* in which is kept a ſmouldering fire of wet tan ; this occaſions a ſmall degree of putrefaction, by which means the hair is eaſily got off, by ſpreading the hide on a sort of wooden horſe or beam, and ſcraping it with a crooked knife. The hair being taken off, the hide is thrown into a pit or pool of water to cleanſe it from the dirt, &c. which being done, the hide is again ſpread on the wooden beam, and the greaſe, looſe fleſh, extraneous filth, &c. carefully