fillers, procurers, buyers, and receivers); feloniouſly driving away, or otherwiſe ſtealing one or more ſheep or other cattle ſpecified in the acts, or killing them with incent to ſteal the whole or any part of the carcaſe, or aiding or aſſiſting there­in ; thefts on navigable rivers above the value of forty ſhillings, or being preſent, aiding and assiſting thereat ; plunder­ing veſſels in diſtress, or that have ſuffered ſhipwreck; ſteal­ing letters ſent by the poſt ; and alſo ſtealing deer, hares, and conies, under the peculiar circumſtances mentioned in the Waltham black act. Which additional ſeverity is owing to the great malice and miſchief of the theft in ſome of theſe inſtances ; and, in others, to the difficulties men would otherwiſe he under to preſerve thoſe goods, which are ſo easily carried off. Upon which laſt principle the Roman law puniſhed more ſeverely than other thieves the *Abigei* or ſtealers of cattle, and the *Balnearii* or ſuch as ſtole the clothes of perſons who were waſhing in the public baths ; both which conſtitutions ſeem to be borrowed from the laws of Athens. And, ſo too, the ancient Goths puniſhed with unrelenting ſeverity thefts of cattle, or of corn that was reaped and left in the field : ſuch kind of property (which no human induſtry can ſufficiently guard) being eſteemed under the peculiar cuſtody of heaven.

Theft*-Bote* (from the Saxon *theof,* i. e. *fur,* and *bote, compenſatis)*, is the receiving of a man’s goods again from a thief, after ſtolen, or other amends not to proſecute the fe­lon, and to the intent the thief may eſcape; which is an of­fence puniſhable with fine and impriſonment, &c.

THELIGONUM, in botany : A genus of plants be- longirg to the claſs of *moncecia,* and order of *polyandria ;* and in the natural ſyſtem ranging under the 53d order, *Scabridae.* The male calyx is bifid ; there is no corolla ; the ſtamina are generally 12. The female calyx is alſo bifid; there is no corolla ; only one piſtil ; the capſule is coriaceous, unilo­cular, and monoſpermous. There is only one ſpecies, the *Cynocrambe,* which is indigenous in the ſouth of Europe.

THEME, denotes the ſubject of an exerciſe for young students to write or compoſe on.

THEMISON, a phyſician of Laodicea, a diſciple of Aſclepiades. He founded the methodic ſect, with a view to the more easily teaching and practising the art of medicine. (See Medicine, n⁰ 37). Themiſon gave the ſirſt ac­count of diacodium, which was prepared of the juice and decoction of poppy-heads and honey. He invented a pur­ging medicine called *heira.*

THEMISTIUS, an ancient Greek orator and philoſopher, a native of Paphlagonia, who flouriſhed in the 4th century. He had great intereſt and favour with the empe­rors in his time, and though a heathen, was of a very tole­rating spirit. He taught for many years at Conſtantinople, of which city he was made præfect by Julian and Theodosius ; and lived to be exceeding old. More than 30 of his orations are ſtill extant, beſide commentaries on ſeveral parts of Ariſtotle’s works.

THEMISTOCLES, the renowned Athenian admiral, general, and patriot, who gained the battle of Salamis againſt the Perſians. Being baniſhed his country by his un­grateful fellow-citizens, he fled to Artaxerxes king of Per­sia : but, in order to avoid taking up arms againſt his coun­try, he flew himſelf, 464 B. C. See Attica, n⁰ 76, *et seq.*

THEOBALD (Lewis), the ſon of an attorney at Sit­tingbourn in Kent, was a well-known writer and critic in the early part of the preſent century. He engaged in a paper called the *Cenſor,* publiſhed in Miſt’s Journal, where­in, by delivering his opinions with too little reserve con­cerning ſome eminent wits, he expoſed himſelf to their reſentment. Upon the publication of Pope’s Homer, he praiſed it in terms of extravagant admiration, yet afterwards thought proper to abuſe it as earneſtly ; for which Pope at firſt made him the hero of his Dunciad, though he after­ward laid him aside for another. Mr Theobald not only ex­poſed himſelf to the laſhes of Pope, but waged war with Mr Dennis, who treated him more roughly, though with leſs ſatire. He nevertheleſs publiſhed an edition of Shakeſpeare, in which he corrected, with great pains and ingenuity, many faults that had crept into that poet’s writings. This edi­tion is Hill in great eſteem ; being in general preferred to thoſe publiſhed by Pope, Warburton, and Hanmer. He alſo wrote ſome plays, and translated others from the ancients.

THEOBROMA, in botany : A genus of plants belong­ing to the claſs of *polyadelphia,* and order of *pentandria;* and in the natural ſyſtem ranging under the 37th order, *Colum- rifera.* The calyx is triphyllous ; the petals, which are five in number, are vaulted and two-horned ; the nectarium is pentaphyllous and regular ; the ſtamina grow from the nectarium, each having five antherae. There are three ſpe­cies ; the *cacao, guαvuma,* and *angusta.*

The *cacao,* or chocolate tree, we ſhall deſcribe in the words of Dr Wright@@: “In all the French and Spaniſh iſlands and ſettlements in the warmer parts of America, the choco­late tree is carefully cultivated. This was formerly the caſe alſo in Jamaica ; but at preſent we have only a few ſtraggling trees left as monuments of our indolence and bad po­licy.

“ This tree delights in ſhady places and deep valleys. It is ſeldom above 20 feet high. The leaves are oblong, large, and pointed. The flowers ſpring from the trunk and large branches ; they are ſmall, and pale red. The pods are oval and pointed. The ſeeds or nuts are numerous, and curiouſ- ly flowed in a white pithy ſubſtance.

“ The cocoa-nuts being gently parched in an iron pot over the fire, the external covering ſeparates easily. The kernel is levigated on a ſmooth ſtone ; a little arnotto is added, and with a few drops of water is reduced to a maſs, and formed into rolls of one pound each. This ſimple pre­paration is the moſt natural, and the beſt. It is in daily uſe in moſt families in Jamaica, and ſeems well adapted for rearing oſ children.” See Chocolate.

THEOCRACY, in matters oſ government, a ſtate go­verned by the immediate direction of God alone : ſuch was the ancient government of the Jews before the time of Saul.

THEOCRITUS, the father of paſtoral poetry, was born at Syracuſe in Sicily. Two of his poems aſcertain his age ; one addreſſed to Hiero king of Syracuſe, who began his reign about 275 years before Chriſt ; and the other to Ptolemy Philadelphus king of Egypt. Hiero, though a prince diſtinguiſhed in arms and political wisdom, does not ſeem to have been a patron of learning. This is ſuppoſed to have given birth to the 16th Idyllium. From Syracuſe Theocritus went to Alexandria, where he ſeems to have ſound a munificent patron in Ptolemy Philadelphus, if we may judge from the panegyric which he compoſed on that prince (the 17th Idyllium). It has been ſaid that Theocri­tus was ſtrangled by Hiero, but we have not found evidence of this.

The compoſitions of this poet are diſtinguiſhed, among the ancients,by the name of *Idylliums,* in order to express the ſmallneſs and variety of their natures : they would now be called *Miſcellanies,* or *Poems on ſeveral Occasions.* The firſt nine and the eleventh are confessed to be true paſtorals, and hence Theocritus has uſually paſſed for nothing more than a paſtoral poet ; yet he is manifeſtly robbed of a great part of his fame, if his other poems have not their proper laurels. For though the greater part of his Idylliums can­not be called the ſongs of ſhepherds, yet they have certainly

@@@[mu] London Medical Journal, vol. viii.