Zuyder-Zee. Its greateſt length is about 32 miles, and breadth about 22. It enjoys a good air ; and in moſt pla­ces the soil is fruitful, but in ſome ſandy, or what is called *turf-ground,* and in others overrun with wood. It is wa­tered by the Leek, Rhine, Vecht, and other ſmaller rivers, beſides ſeveral canals ; of which that extending from the vil­lage of Vreeſwyk to Utrecht is one of the chief.

Utrecht, or, Latin, *Ultrajectum, Trajectum vetus* or *inferius,* or *Trajectum Rheni,* capital of a province of the ſame name, ſo called from its ancient ferry or partage here over the Rhine ; the word being compounded of *trecht,* which in Dutch signifies “ a ferry,” and *oud* or *olt,* i. e “ old.” It is a fair, large, and populous city, situated 19 miles from Amſterdam, 25 from Rotterdam, and 27 from Ley­den. Here is a ſtately town houſe, with a commandery of the Teutonic order, and a celebrated univerſity, which was founded in 1630, ſince which it hath flouriſhed greatly, though it has not all the privileges of moſt other universities ; being wholly ſubject to the magiſtrates of the city. The mall without the town, having five rows of lofty limes on each side, is very pleaſant ; and the phyſic-garden be­longing to the univerſity is extremely curious. There are five churches here that have chapters ; but the members of theſe purchaſe the places, of which ſome coſt 6000 or 7000 guilders. The ſtreams which run through ſeveral of the streets, contribute much to the beauty and cleanlineſs of the town ; and the canal that is cut from the Leck, and passes through it to Amſterdam, will carry ſhips of any burden. Pope Adrian VI. was a native of this city. Here, in 1579, the memorable union was formed between the ſeven pro­vinces ; and, in 1713, the celebrated peace concluded be­tween France on the one part, and the allies on the other. The Papiſts have a nominal archbiſhop of this city ; and there is a ſilk manuſactory carried on in it, which employs a number of hands. The inhabitants are ſuppoſed to amount to 30,000. E. Long. 5. 8. N. Lat. 52. 7.

UTRICULARIA, in botany : A genus of plants of the claſs of *diandria,* and order of *monogynia ;* and in the na­tural ſyſtem arranged under the 24th order, *Corydales.* The calyx is ringent, with a nectarium reſembling a ſpur ; the corolla diphyllous and equal ; the capsule unilocular. There are nine ſpecies ; two of which are natives of Britain. They have been applied to no particular uſe.

UVA ursi. See Arbutus.

VULCAN, in Pagan worship, the god of subterraneous fire and metals, was the ſon of Jupiter and Juno ; and was ſaid to be so remarkably deformed, that his father threw him down from heaven to the iſle of Lemnos, in which fall he broke his leg, and there he ſet up his forge, and taught men how to ſoften and poliſh braſs and iron. Thence he remo­ved to the Liparian isles, near Sicily, where, by the aſſiſtance of the Cyclops, he made Jupiter’s thunderbolts, and armour for the other gods. Notwithſtanding the deformi­ty of his perſon, he had a paſſion for Minerva, and by Jupi­ter’s conſent made his addresses to her, but without ſucceſs. He was, however, more fortunate in his suit to Venus ; who, after her marriage, choſe Mars for her gallant ; when Vul­can expoſed them to the ridicule of the other gods, by ta­king them in a net.

VULGATE, a very ancient Latin tranſlation of the Bible, and the only one acknowledged by the church of Rome to be authentic. See Bible.

VULNERARY, in medicine, an epithet formerly gi­ven to remedies ſuppoſed to posseſs virtues for the cure of wounds and ulcers.

VULTUR, a genus of birds belonging to the order of *Accipitres.* The beak is ſtraight and crooked at the point ; the head has no feathers ; on the forepart being only naled ſkin ; and the tongue is generally bifid. There are 21 ſpecies. The moſt remarkable are,

I. *Gryphus,* the condor, which is not only the largeſt of this genus, but perhaps of all others which are able to fly. The accounts of authors in regard to its extent of wing are various, viz. from 9 to 18 feet from the tip of one wing to that of the other. One gives it ſtrength ſufficient to carry off ſheep, and boys of 10 years old while another ventures to affirm, that it can lift an elephant from the ground high enough to kill it by the fall! Μ. de Salerne ſays, that one of this kind was ſhot in France in the year 1719, which weighed 18 lib. and whoſe extent of wing was 18 feet. But to come nearer the truth, perhaps it is better to abide by descriptions which bear a moderate proportion. In Hawkeſworth’s Voyages, mention is made of one of theſe birds ſhot at Port Desire, off Penguin Ifland, of which he gives the following deſcription : “ The head of this bird reſembled that of an eagle, except that it had a large comb upon it. Round the neck it had a white ruff, exactly reſembling a lady’s tippet ; the feathers on the back were as black as jet, and as bright as the fineſt poliſh could render that mineral ; the legs were remarkably ſtrong and large, and the talons like thoſe of an eagle, except that they were not ſo ſharp ; and the wings, when they were extended, meaſured, from point to point, no leſs than 12 feet.” This laſt account ſeems by no means to exceed the natural ſize, ſince we have an account in the Philoſophical Tranſactions of one of the quill-feathers of this bird, brought from Chili, which meaſured 12 feet 4 inches ; the diameter of the quill half an inch ; and the extent of wing 16 feet. This bird was met in latitude 33 ſouth, not far from the iſland Mocha, in the South Sea, in the year 1691. The ſeamen ſhot it on a cliff by the ſea-side ; and taking it for a kind of turkey, made a meal of it. In this account we are told that the colour was black and white, like a magpie, and the creſt or comb ſharp like a razor.

It ſeems now certain, that the account given by the edi­tor of Cook’s Voyage is very nearly, if not precisely, the truth, as two birds oſ this kind are now in the muſeum of Mr Parkinſon, and are probably male and female. The firſt of theſe has an extent of wing ſomewhat under 11 feet. The bill is ſtrong, moderately hooked, and blunt at the tip, which is white, the reſt of it being of a duſky colour. On the top of the head runs a kind of carunculated substance,ſtanding up like the comb of a cock. The head and neck are ſlightly covered with brown down, in ſome parts nearly bare, and here and there a carunculated part, as in the neck of a turkey. The lower part of the neck is ſurrounded with a ruff of a pure white and hairy kind of feathers. The upper parts of the body, wing, and garl, are black, ex­cept that the middle wing coverts have whitiſh ends, and the greater coverts half black half white. The nine or ten firſt quills are black, the reſt white, with the tips only black ; and when the wings are cloſed, producing the ap­pearance of the bird having the back white ; giving occaſion to Molrue, in his Hiſtory of Chili, to ſay, that the back was white. The under parts of the body are rather slightly cover­ed with feathers ; but thoſe of the thighs are pretty long. The legs are stout and brown ; claws black and blunt.

The second bird in Mr Parkinſon’s collection, chiefly dif­fers from the firſt, in having not the leaſt appearance of a comb or creſt, but ſmooth for the moſt part, except where the head and neck are covered with down. The ruff on the lower part of the neck is not ſo full and conſpicuous ; but as to the colour of the plumage, the difference is not worth noticing. It is not impossible but this laſt may prove to be