many, and procured him the patronage of all the princes who had any regard for polite literature. He was made pro­fessor of the belles lettres at Frankfort on the Oder, rector of the new academy of Königsberg, and counsellor to the elector of Brandenburg. He married two wives, the first of whom was the eldest daughter of Melancthon, and died in 1560. His poems are well known, and have often been printed.

SABIONETTA, a city of the province of Mantua, in Austrian Lombardy, with a citadel, four churches, and 6320 inhabitants. Long. 10. 24. 45. E. Lat. 44. 59. 47. N.

SABLE, or *Sable Animal,* in *Zoology,* a creature of the weasel-kind, called by authors *mustela zihellina.* See Mam- **MALIA.**

Sable, *Cape,* the most southerly province of Nova Scotia, in North America. Long. 65. 34. W. Lat. 43. 24. N.

Sable, in *Heraldry,* signifies black, and is borrowed from the French, as are most terms in this science. In engrav­ing it is expressed by both horizontal and perpendicular lines crossing each other. Sable of itself signifies constancy, learning, and grief ; and ancient heralds will have it, that when it is compounded with

Or, Honour.

Arg. Fame.

Gul. Respect.

Azu. Application.

Ver. Comfort.

Pur. Austerity.

SABLES D’OLONNE, Les, an arrondissement of the department of Vendée, in France. It extends over seven hundred and thirty-two and a half square miles, and com­prehends eleven cantons, divided into seventy-nine com­munes, with 98,508 inhabitants in 1836. The capital is the city of the same name, situated at the termination of a sandy plain on the sea-shore, and only connected by a strip of land with the continent. It has a small harbour fit for vessels of not more than a hundred and fifty tons. It consists of four long parallel streets, with 4778 inhabitants, who carry on the fisheries, and deal in corn, cattle, and salt, which last is made by the sun on the marshes. Long. 1. 53.3. W. Lat. 46. 29. 50. N.

SABON, an island in the Eastern Seas, at the southern entrance of the Straits of Malacca, of a triangular form. It is separated from Sumatra by a navigable channel, the Straits of Sabon, and is twenty-four miles in circumference. Long. 103. 21. E. Lat. 0. 24. N.

SABOU, or Saivu, probably the same island as Savo, near Timor, to which the reader is referred.

SABRAO, an island in the Eastern Seas, separated from the island of Flores by the Straits of Flores. It is forty miles in length by eighteen in average breadth.

SABRE, a kind of sword or scimitar, with a very broad and heavy blade, thick at the back, and a little falcated or crooked towards the point. It is the ordinary weapon worn by the Turks, who are very expert in the: use of it.

SA BULAGH, a town and district of Persia, in Azer- bijan, situated on the lake Urumea, thirty miles from Ma- raga.

SACÆA, a feast which the ancient Babylonians and other orientals held annually in honour of the deity Anaitis. The Sacæa were in the East what the Saturnalia were at Rome, namely, a feast for the slaves. One of the ceremo­nies was to choose a prisoner condemned to death, and to allow him all the pleasures and gratifications he could wish, before he was carried to execution.

SACCHARUM, Sugar, or the *Sugar-cane.* This plant is a native of Africa, the East Indies, and Brazil ; whence it was introduced into our West India islands soon after they were settled. The sugar-cane is the glory and the pride of those islands. It amply rewards the industrious planter, en­riches the British merchant, gives bread to thousands of ma­

nufacturers and seamen, and brings an immense revenue to the crown. See Sugar.

SACCHAROMETER, an instrument for ascertaining the value of worts, and the strength of different kinds of malt liquor. The name signifies a measure of sweetness.

SACHEVEREL, Dr Henry, a famous Tory clergyman in the reign of Queen Anne, who distinguished himself by indecent and scurrilous sermons and writings against the dissenters and revolution principles. He owed his conse­quence, however, to being indiscreetly prosecuted by the House of Lords for his assize-sermon at Derby, and his fifth of November sermon at St Paul’s in 1709, in which he as­serted the doctrine of non-resistance to government in its utmost extent, and reflected severely on the act of tolera­tion. The high and low church parties were very violent at that time ; and the trial of Sacheverel inflamed the high- church party to dangerous riots and excesses. He was, however, suspended for three years, and his sermons were burned by the common hangman. The Tories being in administration when Sacheverel’s suspension expired, he was freed with every circumstance of honour and public re­joicing ; was ordered to preach before the Commons on the 29th of May ; had the thanks of the house for his discourse; and obtained the valuable rectory of St Andrews, Holbom. He died in 1724.

SACK, a wine used by our ancestors, which some have taken to be Rhenish and some Canary wine. Venner, in his *Via Recta ad Vitam Longam,* printed in 1628, says that sack is “ completely not in the third degree, and that some affect to drink sack with sugar and some without ; and upon no other ground, as I think, but as it is best pleasing to their palate.” He goes on to say, “ that sack, taken by itself, is very hot and very penetrative ; being taken with sugar, the heat is both somewhat allayed, and the penetra­tive quality thereof also retarded.” He adds further, that Rhenish declines after a twelvemonth, but sack and the other stronger wines are best after they are two or three years old. It appears to be highly probable that sack was not a sweet wine, from its being taken with sugar ; and that it did not receive its name from having a saccharine fla­vour, but from its being originally stored in sacks or bo- rachios. It does not appear to have been a French wine, but a strong wine, the production of a hot climate. Pro­bably it was what is called dry mountain, or some Spanish wine of that kind. This conjecture is the more plausible, as Howell, in his French and English Dictionary, printed in the year 1650, translates sack by the words “ vin d’Es­pagne, vin sec.”

SACKBUT, a musical instrument of the wind kind, being a sort of trumpet, though different from the common trumpet both in form and size. It is fit to play a bass, and is contrived to be drawn out or shortened, according to the tone required, whether grave or acute. The Italians call it *trombone,* and the Latins *tuba ductilis.*

SACKVILLE, **THOMAS,** Lord Buckhurst and Earl of Dorset, a statesman and poet, the son of Richard Sackville of Buckhurst, in the parish of Withian, in Sussex, was born in the year 1536. He was sent to Hart Hall, in Oxford, in the latter end of the reign of Edward VI. whence he re­moved to Cambridge, where he took a degree of master of arts, and thence to the Inner Temple. He now applied himself to the study of the law, and was called to the bar. We are told that he commenced poet whilst at the univer­sities, and that these his juvenile productions were much admired, though none of them have been preserved. In the fourth and fifth years of Queen Mary we find him a member of the House of Commons, about which time, in 1557, he wrote a poetical piece, entitled the Induction, or the Mirror of Magistrates. This last was meant to com­prehend all the unfortunate great from the beginning of our history ; but the design being dropped, it was inserted in