houses lofty. It is the see of an archbishop; but the ca­thedral, though large, is by no means handsome. It is a place of considerable trade, especially in brandies, great quantities of which, made in the plain near it, are shipped from its port. It has considerable manufactories of silk goods of various kinds ; and the whole population displays a degree of industrious activity by no means usual in Spain. The best-tasted brandies are those from the hills belonging to the Carthusian convent, on the borders of the Campo ; but those of the Campo are stronger. When first made, they are all as white and transparent as water ; but by keep­ing in casks, and by artificial means, they become darker coloured before they arrive at the markets for sale. The city of Tarragona, as well as the country around it, abounds with Roman antiquities, whose investigation has always been a favourite pursuit with the more studious of the inhabit­ants. The city within the walls contains a population of only ten thousand ; but the far greater number of inhabit­ants reside in the suburbs. Long. 1.46. 37. E. Lat. 4L 7. 6. N.

TARSUS, a large city of Asia Minor, the ancient ca­pital of Cilicia, situated on a fertile plain on the right bank of the Cydnus, about six miles from its mouth. The town is partly surrounded by a wall, supposed to be the remains of that erected by Haroun al Raschid. The houses, which seldom exceed one story in height, are flat-roofed, and mostly constructed of hewn stone derived from the ruins of the ancient edifices. The city contains two pub­lic baths, a number of mosques, several handsome caravan­serais, and a small ancient church. There is a castle, said to be built by Bajazet. On an eminence to the south-west are the ruins of a spacious edifice, which may pro­bably have been the gymnasium ; and about 200 yards far­ther to the west, an ancient gateway stands almost entire. The city contains about 30,000 inhabitants during the winter, among whom are 200 Armenian and 100 Greek fa­milies; while a considerable proportion consists of Toorkomans, who migrate with their families to the mountains. A considerable trade is carried on. The land in the neigh­bourhood is exceedingly fertile, and yields abundance of wheat, barley, sesame, and cotton, which are exported to Malta, and thence to Spain and Portugal. Copper from Maden, and gall-nuts, are also exported in large quantities. The imports consist chiefly of rice, sugar, and coffee. Tar­sus is a city of high antiquity. It is said by Arrian and Strabo to have been built by Sardanapalus, though others consider it to have been a Grecian colony. It was much favoured by the Roman emperors Augustus and Adrian ; and, in wealth and grandeur, as well as in literature and science, rivalled the more celebrated cities of antiquity. It was adorned with many magnificent edifices, the monu­ments of ancient taste ; but has been subject to so many vicissitudes, that scarcely any relics of its former splendour are to be seen.

TARTARY, a tract of territory in central Asia, of which the limits have never been exactly defined. It is gene­rally understood to embrace that wide space which inter­venes between the dominions of Russia and China on the west and east, and wrhich on the south is bounded by the kingdom of Persia and the lofty central mountains of Asia. This vast space was formerly occupied by pastoral tribes, who, united under one great chief, assailed and finally overthrew the Roman empire ; and who afterwards, under their great leader Ghenghis Khan, carried their devastations both into Europe and Asia. Central Asia is one vast mea­dow, extended on a dead level to an almost boundless ex­tent, covered with flocks and herds, and necessarily the ha­bitation of a pastoral people. Such has accordingly been the character of the Tartars from time immemorial ; their sole employment being to tend their flocks and herds, and occasionally to hunt the wild animals of the forest ; living in tents in the open fields, without towns or villages ; de­lighting in horsemanship, and in all manly and warlike ex­ercises; and having a breed of the finest horses in the world. “ The fancy of the poet,” says the Roman historian, “ has clothed the pastoral life in the fairest attributes of inno­cence and peace ; but it is the province of history to ex­hibit a different picture, and to exhibit these shepherds as they truly are, fierce, bloody, savage, anil vindictive.” The Tartars were accordingly known in ancient history under the appellation of Scythians, and were admired for their warlike virtues and for the simplicity of their manners, for their hospitality, and their ignorance of money and luxury, by the Greek legislators of Athens and Sparta, whose policy it was to form a community on the same warlike model, where nothing was to be seen but

Man and steel, the soldier and his sword.

They were at all times the most formidable enemies of ci­vilized life, and the various inroads into their dominions by the greatest conquerors only ended in disaster and defeat. As light troops, they were most formidable in the ancient wars ; and the Persian monarchs, with their well-trained bands, and even Alexander of Macedon, were forced to re­treat before their formidable though desultory attacks.

While Rome retained the vigour and simplicity of her republican institutions, and the iron discipline of her armies, the rude assaults of these barbarians were invariably repel­led ; but when the warlike habits of the Romans began to be corrupted by the progress of luxury, their attacks were re­newed with increased fierceness, and with greater chances of success. Numbers of the first invaders perished in the in­roads into tl>e Roman provinces. But these being still re­inforced with increasing multitudes, while the vigour of the defence was relaxed, they at length effected permanent con­quests ; and, under the appellation of Huns, finally extended their ravages over all Italy. The intelligence of their success, and of the riches and beauty of the conquered countries, at­tracted multitudes from the remote extremities of Asia, and under their repeated assaults the empire of the west was subverted. This event was hastened by the dreadful inva­sion of Attila, who was characterized as “ the sword of God and the destroyer of nations.” On the east the Tartar tribes, under the appellation of Toorks or Turks, from Chinese or Independent Tartary, poured their innumerable hordes on the Persian empire, where they established a dynasty celebrated under the name of the Seljnkian. About the end of the tenth century, they crossed the Euphrates in four divisions under different leaders, and invaded Asia Minor and Syria, of which they conquered and retained pos­session of the finest provinces. They endured various vi­cissitudes, and were at one time reduced very low. But being directed by able leaders, they recovered the ascend­ant ; and, their numbers being swelled by the warlike and migratory population which, in the course of long wars, was scattered over those countries, they finally succeed­ed in overturning the eastern empire, and Constantino­ple became, and still continues, the seat of their em­pire. In the twelfth century the Tartar tribes were still more formidable. Their whole power being consolidat­ed under Zingis or Ghenghis Khan, they successively conquered China, Persia, and all central Asia from the Black Sea to eastern Asia. His successors pursued the career of conquest, and added Russia and Poland, with part of Germany. A general panic was now diffused over the whole civilized world by the intelligence of these conquests, and of the ravages committed by these barba­rians in the fairest portions of the earth. The great em­pire of Ghenghis Khan was broken into divisions ; but the different chiefs who now reigned were still eager for con­quest ; and Timur the Tartar, or Tamerlane, having esta­blished his dominions over a large and fertile portion of