the proceeds of the sales of public lands, amounting in 1837 to about 800,000 dollars, in addition to a large quantity of land not then sold. The income of this fund is distributed, by the common-school commissioners of each county, among such school districts as have provided school-houses, in pro­portion to the number of white children between the ages of six and eighteen years in each. There are at present about 1000 free or common schools in the state, and efforts are making to render the system more complete and efficient. There are sixty-two academies in the state, one having been endowed in each county by grants of public land ; but many of these are not in actual operation. The collegiate institutions are, the university of Nashville, Greenville Col­lege at Greenville, Washington College in Washington county, East Tennessee College at Knoxville, and Jackson College at Columbia. There is also a Presbyterian theo­logical seminary at Maryville. In 1839, fifty newspapers were published in this state.

The constitution of Tennessee declares that all men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own conscience ; that no preference shall be given by law to any religious estab­lishments or modes of worship ; and that no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification for any office or pub­lic trust ; but it also provides that no person who denies the being of God, or a future state of rewards and punishments, shall hold any office in the civil department of the state. The Methodists and Baptists arc the most numerous sects, the former numbering about 30,000, and the latter about 20,000 communicants. The Presbyterians have 120 churches and 10,000 communicants, exclusive of the Cumberland Presbyterians, who are also numerous. The Episcopalians have one bishop and twelve ministers ; and there arc Ro­man Catholics, Lutherans, Friends, &c.

TENNIS, a play at. which a ball is driven by a racket.

TENSE, in *Grammar,* an inflection of verbs, by which they are made to signify or distinguish the circumstance of time in what they affirm.

TENT, in *War,* a pavilion or portable house. Tents are made of canvass, for officers and soldiers to lie under when in the field.

TENTERDEN, a town in the hundred of the same name, and the lathe of Scray, in the county of Kent, thirty-seven miles from London. It stands on a hill, and the lofty steeple of its church is distinguished from every part of the extensive district by which it is surrounded, and was for­merly used as a beacon. At the first introduction of the woollen manufacture, it was an industrious place ; but that occupation has long ceased. It is an ancient borough, and is governed by a mayor, four aldermen, and eleven coun­cillors. There is a market held on Friday. The inhabi­tants amounted in 1821 to 3259, and in 1831 to 3177.

TENURE, in *Law,* signifies the manner in which lands or tenements are held, or the service which the tenant owes to his lord. Of this kingdom almost all the real property is by the policy of our laws supposed to be granted by, de­pendent upon, and held of, some superior lord, by and in consideration of certain services to be rendered to the lord by the tenant or possessor of this property. The thing held is therefore styled a *tenement,* the possessors of it *ten­ants,* and the manner of their possession a *tenure.* Thus all the lands in the kingdom are supposed to be held, me­diately or immediately, of the king, who is styled the *lord paramount,* or above all. Such tennnts as held immediate­ly under the king, when they granted out portions of the lands to inferior persons, became also lords with respect to those inferior persons, as they were still tenants with re­spect to the king ; and thus partaking of a middle nature, were called *mesne* or *middle lords.*

TEOS, one of the twelve Ionian cities, was situated on the south side of the Ionian peninsula, and distinguished by being the place where the poet Anacreon and the historian Hecatams were born.

TERAMO, a city of Italy, the capital of the Neapolitan province Abruzzo Ulteriore I. It stands on the river Tordino, and is fortified. It is the seat of a bishop, and, be­sides the cathedral, has nine churches, with 9250 inhabi­tants, who have considerable trade in corn and in wine, and other products of the soil.

TERCERA, one of the largest of the Azores, or Western Islands, lying in the Atlantic Ocean. It is about forty miles in circumference, and is surrounded with craggy rocks, which render it almost inaccessible. The soil is fertile, abounding in corn, wine, and fruits ; and the inhabitants have plenty of cattle to supply the ships that touch there. Their prin­cipal trade is in wood. The inhabitants are lively, addicted to gallantry, and are said to be extremely revengeful. It is subject to Portugal, and Angra is the capital town. Long. 27. 1. W. Lat. 28. 45. N.

TEREK, a considerable river of Asiatic Russia, in the government of Caucasus, which has its rise in the deep re­cesses of the snow-covered mountains in the loftiest part of the Caucasian chain, on the frontier of Circassia and Georgia. It flows with a rapid course northward towards the plains, whence it turns eastward, and flows along the foot of the mountain range, till, after passing Kizlar, it divides into three branches, and falls into the Caspian. It forms the boundary between the Russian territory and the Caucasian tribes ; and, for the purpose of overawing them, a number of forts has been built along the river by Russia. It flows through a picturesque country ; and its banks are adorned with fine forests of oak, while the lower parts pro­duce vines, mulberries, and other fruit trees.

TERENCE, or Publius Terentius, acomic poet of great celebrity, was born at Carthage in the year 192 before the commencement of the Christian era. At an early age he became a captive, and was sold as a slave to Terentius Lucanus, a Roman senator, to whom he appears to have been indebted for a learned education. His manners and accomplishments recommended him not only to his master, but likewise to other men of rank, whose names have been recorded. Having been manumitted, he attained to great eminence as a writer of Latin comedies. He was honour­ed with the friendship of Lælius, and of Scipio the son of Paulus Æmilius ; and his dramas are even supposed to have derived some of their chief beauties from their patrician pens. Such insinuations have not been uncommon in va­rious eras of literary history ; but some doubt may reason­ably be entertained whether Scipio or Lælius could have produced even the second-rate scenes of Terence’s come­dies. They exhibit a uniform vein of elegant simplicity, in which we discover no reason to suspect a divided pro­perty. His plots are derived from Greek sources, chiefly from Menander ; but the terse Latinity and graceful dic­tion are peculiarly his own. Cæsar considered the want of pungent humour, the *vis comica,* as the chief defect of his dramas.

Lenibus atque utinam scriptis adjuncta forat via Comica, ut æquato virtus polleret honore Cum Græcis, neque iri hac despectus parte jaceres.

The comedies of Terence appear to have been very suc­cessful on the stage, but he did not long continue his pros­perous career. According to Eusebius, he died in Arca­dia ; and Suetonius refers his death to the consulship of Cn. Corn. Dolabella and M. Fulvius Nobilior, that is, to the year 159 before Christ. According to this chronology, he must only have attained the age of thirty-three ; but the latter writer states that he had not completed his thirty-fifth year. The circumstances of his death are variously related, and one account ascribes it to shipwreck. He left an only daughter, who became the wife of a Roman knight, and inherited a garden of twenty acres in the Via Appia.