under the subsequent title : “ The Characters of Theophras­tus, translated from the Greek, and illustrated by physiog­nomical sketches. To which are subjoined the Greek text, with notes, and hints on the individual varieties of human nature. By Francis Howell.” Lond. 1824, 8vo.

THEOPOMPUS, a celebrated Greek orator and histo­rian, was bom in the island Chios, and flourished in the reign of Alexander the Great. He was one of the most famous of all the disciples of Isocrates, and won the prize from all the panegyrists whom Artemisia invited to praise Mausolus. He wrote several works, which are lost.

THEORBO (Ital. *Tiorho),* a large kind of lute, long disused.

THEOREM, a proposition which terminates in theory, and which considers the properties of things already made or done ; or it is a speculative proposition deduced from comparing together several definitions. A theorem is some­thing to be proved, and a problem something to be done.

THEORY, in general, denotes any doctrine which ter­minates in speculation, without considering the practical uses or application thereof.

THEOSOPHISTS, a sect of men who pretend to de­rive all their knowledge from divine illumination. They boast that, by means of this celestial light, they are not only admitted to the intimate knowledge of God, and of all divine truth, but have access to the most sublime secrets of nature. They ascribe it to the singular manifestation of divine benevolence, that they are able to make such a use of the element of fire, in the chemical art, as enables them to discover the essential principles of bodies, and to disclose stupendous mysteries in the physical world. They even pretend to an acquaintance with those celestial beings which form the medium of intercourse between God and man, and to a power of obtaining from them, by the aid of magic, as­trology, and other similar arts, various kinds of information and assistance. To this class belonged Paracelsus, Robert Fludd, Jacob Böhm or Boehmen, Van Helmont, Peter Poi- ret, and the Rosicrucians.

THERAPEUTÆ, a term applied to those that are wholly in the service of religion. This general term has been applied to particular sects of men, concerning whom there have been great disputes among the learned.

THERAPEUTICS, that part of medicine which ac­quaints us with the rules that are to be observed, and the medicines to be employed, in the cure of diseases.

THERMÆ, hot baths or bagnios. Luxury and extra­vagance were in nothing carried to such heights as in the thermæ of the Roman emperors. Ammianus Marcellinus complains that they were built to such an extent as to equal whole provinces; from which description Valesius would make an abatement, by reading *piscina* instead of *provincia.* And yet after all, the remains of some still standing are sufficient testimonies for the historian’s cen­sure ; and the accounts transmitted of their ornaments and furniture, such as being laid with precious stones (Seneca), set round with scats of solid silver (Pliny), with pipes and cisterns of the same metal (Statius), rather confirm than in­validate the censure. The most remarkable bagnios were those of Diocletian and Caracalla at Rome, great part of which remains at this day. The lofty arches, stately pil­lars, variety of foreign marble, curious vaulting of the roofs, great number of spacious apartments, all attract the curiosity of the traveller. They had also their summer and winter baths.

THERMIA, an island of Greece, in the southern part of the Archipelago. It is about fifty-five square miles in extent, is flat on the coast, but increases in height towards the centre. The soil is generally fertile, and produces good wheat, wine, figs, and cotton wool The raising of silk is an important object of pursuit; and much honey and wax are collected. It contains 6000 inhabitants, all Greeks.

It formerly had natural warm baths, but they are not now in use. The chief town is of the same name, and stands on the north-east side of the island. It is the seat of a Greek bishop, who has sixteen churches under his jurisdiction. Near to it there is a very secure harbour, called Porto S. Grini, where one half of the population reside. Long. 24. 15. E. Lat. 37. 20. N.

THERMOMETER, from *θεgμὸς*, *warm,* and *μετgέω, I measure ;* an instrument for indicating the temperature of bodies, or the intensity of their heat or cold, in terms of the expansion of one or more of them. But such an in­strument is seldom adapted to afford any direct measure of absolute heat; for the expansion of every substance which has yet been properly tried, proceeds in some higher ratio than the corresponding increase of absolute heat. Of this, air affords a remarkable example, as will be seen in the sequel. Thermometers seem to have been invented about the end of the sixteenth or beginning of the seventeenth century, though, like many other useful inventions, it is not agreed to whom the honour of the first of them belongs. Boer­haave ascribes it to Cornelius Drebel, Fulgenzio to Paolo Sarpi, and Sanctorio claims this honour for himself, being supported by Borelli and Malpighi. But Μ. Libri, after bestowing a great deal of labour and research on the sub­ject *(Annales de chimie* for December 1830), maintains, principally on the authority of Castelli and Viviani, that Galileo had invented the thermometer prior to 1597, and that Sagredo perfected it. There is nothing improbable however in thermometers having been really invented by several different persons, independently of each other, and much about the same time.

The first form of an instrument for indicating the tem­perature, seems to have been a very imperfect air-thermo­meter. It had been long known that air expands consi­derably with heat, and contracts again with cold, and that this expansion or contraction is greater or less according as the heat or cold applied is so. The principle, then, on which this air-thermometer was constructed is very simple. It consists of a glass tube, BE, fig. 1, Plate CCCCXCIV,, connected at one end with a large glass ball A, and having its other end immersed in an open vessel, or terminating in a ball DE, with a narrow orifice at D ; which vessel or ball contains some coloured liquor that will not easily freeze. But the ball A must be first warmed, to expel a portion of the air through the orifice D ; and then, while cooling again, the liquor, pressed by the atmosphere, will enter the hall DE. The quantity of included air is to be so adjust­ed that, at a mean temperature of the weather, the liquor may stand near the middle of the tube, as at C, when the weight of the liquor, and the elasticity of the included air, counterbalance the pressure of the atmosphere. As the temperature increases, the included air, expanding there­by, will drive the liquor into the lower ball, and conse­quently its surface will descend in the tube. On the con­trary, as the temperature falls, the air in the ball contracts, and the liquor pressed by the atmosphere will ascend; and such ascent or descent will be more or less, according to the change of temperature. To the tube is affixed a gra­duated scale, by means of which the motions of the liquor in the tube, and consequently the variations in the tempe­rature, may be observed.

This instrument having been found extremely defective, owing to the air in the tube being affected by every va­riation in the pressure of the atmosphere, the Florentine Academy, about the middle of the seventeenth century, instead of air, employed alcohol, which, being coloured, was enclosed in a fine glass tube, having a hollow ball at one end A, fig. 2, and closed at the other end D. The ball and tube were filled with alcohol, so as to stand at a convenient height, as at C, when the weather is of a mean temperature. This may be effected by immersing the open