ing inferior metals into gold or silver. This is also called the *grand operation* effected with the philosopher’s stone.

TRANSOMS, in a ship, certain beams or timbers ex­tended across the stern-post of a ship, to fortify her after- part, and give it the figure most suitable to the service for which she is calculated.

TRANSPARENCY, in *Physics,* a quality in certain bodies, by which they give passage to the rays of light : in contradistinction to opacity, or that quality of bodies which renders them impervious to the rays of light.

TRANSPOSITΙΟΝ, in *Grammar,* a disturbing or dis­locating the words of a discourse, or a changing their na­tural order of construction, to please the ear, by rendering the contexture more smooth, easy, and harmonious.

Transposition, in *Music,* the removal of a piece of music, either in writing or in performing it, into a key higher or lower than the original one. For the principle of this, see Music, p. 610.

TRANSUBSTANTIATION, in *Theology,* the conver­sion or change of the substance of the bread and wine in the eucharist, into the body and blood of Jesus Christ ; which the Romish church supposes to be wrought by the consecra­tion of the priest.

TRANSVERSE, something that goes across another from corner to corner. Thus bends and bars in heraldry are transverse pieces or bearings ; the diagonals of a parallelo­gram or a square are transverse lines.

TRANSYLVANIA, an extensive province of the Aus­trian empire, on the eastern side towards the Turkish domi­nions. In the German language it is called Siebenbürgen, from the seven towers or fortresses by which it was formerly protected against attacks from the Ottoman power. Its Latin name, Transylvania, was derived from its local position beyond the Carpathian Mountains, as part of the ancient Dacia. In the enumeration of the Austrian dominions it is usually de­nominated a principality. From the 5th century downwards, it was but thinly peopled, and was rιded by various chiefs of tribes. In the year 1004, it was subdued by Stephen the First, king of Hungary, who formed it into an Hunga­rian province, and divided and governed it by waiwodes or stadtholders. In 1536, the waiwode John Zapolya, after a war with one of his rivals for the dignity, obtained for him­self, by a treaty with the emperor Ferdinand the First, the rank and authority of an independent sovereign prince. At this period the Turkish government interfered much in the affairs of the principality, which encouraged the princes of the house of Zapolya, and afterwards the house of Batori, that succeeded. Among the princes of the latter family, Bethlem Gabor and George Rakotzy were mostly dis­tinguished by their animosity to the house of Austria, and the resolute resistance which they made to its authority. At length, in 1689, the emperor Leopold the First completely conquered Siebenbürgen, and concluded, ten years after, a peace at Carlowitz with the Turks, by which the sove­reignty of the emperor, in his character of king of Hungary, was guaranteed ; but the princely family were secured in their possession of subordinate authority. That house be­came extinct by the death of Prince Michael Aspasi in 1713, when the sole power fell into the hands of Austria. Maria Theresa raised the district to the more elevated rank of a grand principality in 1765.

This principality extends in latitude from 45° 33' 55'' to 47° 37' 3", and in longitude from 22° 40' 44” to 25° 57' 40'', and comprehends about 24,420 square English miles. It is bounded on the north by Hungary, on the north-east by Bukowina, on the east by Moldavia, on the south by Wal­lachia, and on the west by Hungary.

It is an elevated district, in which are to be found the sources of the great rivers that run to the Black Sea. The Carpathian range of mountains, in the form of a half- moon, almost encompasses the whole province, sending out spurs from it on both sides, which fill almost the whole sur­face. The valleys between these spurs vary in extent, but for the most part are highly productive when moderately cultivated. The highest points of the Carpathians within the principality are, the Butshetsch, 8160 feet, the Reticzat, 7800 feet, and the Szurul, 7126 feet, above the level of the Black Sea. The tops of these mountains are commonly clothed with snow till July. Their sides are well covered with woods to the height of about 5000 feet, when the power of vegetation begins to decline, and soon disappears, leaving the summits quite bare and naked. Among these elevations are some most extraordinary natural clefts and grottos, which invite and reward the attention and exami­nation of the traveller

The inhabitants of this province are of no less than thir­teen distinct tribes, according to their origin. The three most distinguished of these classes are called united *(uniti).* They are the Hungarians, the Szecklers, and the Saxons ; which last were brought from the parts of Germany then called Saxony, near to Liege, Luxembourg, and Treves, in 1143, by king Seysa the Second. The land is divided among these three nations thus. The Hungarians are in the western division, which extends over one half of the land, and contains rather more than half the population, and is divided into eleven gespanschafts or waiwodeships. The land of the Szeckler is the least ; it is thinly peopled, and is subdivided into five bailiwicks. The land of the Saxons is both on the north and the south side of the province, and is the best cιdtivated as well as the most densely inhabited, and comprises eleven bailiwicks. The remainder of the nation are denominated by their description *Tolerati,* consisting of Wallachians, Greeks, Armenians, Moravians, Poles, Russians, Bulgarians, Servians, Jews, and Gipsies. These last are called Pharohniens, as coming from Egypt, or supposed to have come from thence. Maria Theresa tried to accustom these people to the practices of civilized society ; but her efforts, as well as those of her successors, have had but little effect, as they continue averse to agricultural labour, and indeed to any fixed course of life. The Wallachians are the most numer­ous of these tolerated tribes. The richer part of them have acquired landed estates, but the lower classes are very ignorant, idle, and filthy. The Armenians and the Greeks devote themselves chiefly to traffick. Among all these tribes the Saxons are the most active and orderly. Their villages and dwellings are well built, and everywhere show prosperity and purity of morals. Their written lan­guage is the High German, but they speak, or at least have the pronunciation, of the *Platt Deurch.* In the districts in­habited by this race, corn, wine, and culinary vegetables are produced, as well as garden flowers. In the cities of Kron­stadt and Hermanstadt, they are the chief conductors of the manufacturing establishments. The religion of the princi­pality is various; and there is a degree of obscurity in the statistical account, which renders any estimate of their rela­tive numbers so very uncertain that only an approxima­tion can be obtained. There are four established *(privilegirte)* religious sects. The Roman Catholics, who amount to about 150,000, have a bishop and other dignitaries, and forty convents. With them are joined what are called the United Greeks, who to a settled point are Catholics; and with them may be classed most of the Armenians. These have also a bishop, several dignitaries, and convents, and the number of them is estimated at 210,000, thus making the whole of the Catholics 390,000. The Reformed or Calvi­nist Church consists of about 300,000 persons, under a su­perintendent and two archdeacons, with 587 pastors. The Lutheran Church is calculated to number 250,000 souls ; having a superintendent, fourteen deacons, and 286 pastors. The Unitarians or Socinians are mostly refugees from Po­land, who were received into this province when perse­cuted in their native country, where they were joined by