the commander-in-chief was created a peer, by the title of Earl of St Vincent. This victory was much more important in its consequences than might be supposed from the mere numerical loss which it caused to the enemy. It paralyzed the power of Spain, gave encouragement to our allies, and added fresh vigour to the efforts of the government in pro­secuting the war. The battle of Cape St Vincent was fol­lowed by the mutiny of the British fleet at Spithead ; and in the month of May and June following its effects were felt in the fleet which was cruizing before Cadiz under the command of Lord St Vincent. But the ringleaders were executed, and the mutiny speedily repressed by the resolute and determined conduct of the commander-in-chief, with a combination of humanity and ingenuity eminently charac­teristic of the man : he contrived to make one execution produce the effect of many, by ordering it on an unusual day, Sunday morning. It was the practice to dispatch mu­tinous vessels to serve under his orders ; and by his mas­terly operations of combined mercy and justice, he soon reduced them to order, restoring discipline by such ex­amples as should be most striking, without being more nu­merous than absolute necessity required. In June 1799 he resigned the command of the fleet, in consequence of ill health, and returned to England in the month of Au­gust following. On the resignation of Lord Bridport, and his final retirement from active service, he was appoint­ed to the command of the Channel fleet, and in the spring of 1800 hoisted his flag in the Ville de Paris. In the following year, on the formation of the Addington ministry, he was made first lord of the admiralty, and in that important office the great capacity for business with which he was endowed by nature shone forth in all its lustre. He instituted the celebrated Commission of Na­val Inquiry, which not only led to numberless discoveries of abuse and extravagance, but laid the foundation of a system of economical administration, which has since been extended from the navy to all the departments of the state. The extent of corruption brought to light by the Commissioners of Naval Inquiry almost exceeds belief. From the dockyard only the government was plundered at the rate of a million sterling annually, and the same nefa­rious practices prevailed in all the other departments. Lord St Vincent grappled boldly with these monstrous and deep-rooted abuses, and by his unsparing rigour, inflexible honesty, and resistless energy, succeeded in putting them down. “ It is impossible,” says Lord Brougham “ to cal­culate what would have been the saving effected to the re­venues of this country, had Lord St Vincent presided over any great department of national affairs from the beginning of the war, instead of coming to our assistance after its close.” The resignation of Mr Addington in 1804 put an end to the naval administration of St Vincent. as first lord of the admiralty; but the exigencies of the state caus­ed him in 1806 to be called from his well-earned retire­ment, and from the enjoyment of his domestic comforts, at the age of seventy-two, to take the command of the Chan­nel fleet. He was at the head of the expedition, and the commission sent to the court of Portugal in 1806; and his conduct in that delicate and important affair displayed great talents and address. In the spring of 1807, advanced age and impaired health compelled him finally to resign his command. The remainder of his life was spent in retire­ment at his beautiful seat of Rochetts, where he died on the 14th of March 1823, in the eighty-eighth year of his age. The character of Lord St Vincent presented an admirable union of the brightest qualities which can adorn both civil and military life. As a statesman, he was distinguished for his sagacity and foresight, and the profoundness of his views. He was a steady and consistent supporter of liberal principles, ever preferring the side of humanity and free­dom. He was not more distinguished for his great talents

than for his magnanimity and complete freedom from every feeling of jealousy or envy. And it has been justly said by one who knew him well, that “ all good officers, all men employed under him, whether in civil or military service, spoke of him as they felt, with admiration of his genius ap­proaching to enthusiasm.” (Captain Brenton’s Life of Earl St Vincent. Lord Brougham’s Statesmen of the Times of George III.) b. q.

VINCI, Leonardo da, an illustrious Italian painter, descended from a noble Tuscan family, was bom in the castle of Vinci near Florence, in 1445. He was placed under Andrea Verochia, a celebrated painter in that city; but soon surpassed him and all his predecessors so much, as to be reputed the master of the third or golden age of modern painting. But his studies were far from terminat­ing here : no man’s genius was more universal ; he applied himself to arts, to literature, and to the accomplishments of the body ; and he excelled in every thing which he at­tempted. Lewis Sforza, duke of Milan, prevailed on him to be director of the academy for architecture which he had just established, where Leonardo soon banished all the Gothic fashions, and reduced every thing to the happy simplicity of the Greek and Roman style. By the duke’s order he constructed the famous aqueduct that supplies the city of Milan with water : this canal goes by the name of *Mortesana,* being above 200 miles in length, and conducts the water of the river Adda to the walls of the city. In 1479, he was desired to construct some new device for the entertainment of Louis XII. of France, who was then to make his entrance into Milan. Leonardo accordingly made a very curious automaton in the form of a lion, which marched out to meet the king, reared up on its hinder legs before him, and opening its breast, displayed an escutcheon with fleurs-de-lis quartered on it. The disorders of Lom­bardy, with the misfortunes of his patrons the Sforzi, oblig­ing Leonardo to quit Milan, he retired to Florence, where he flourished under the Medici. Here he raised the envy of Michael Angelo, who was his contemporary ; and Ra­phael, from the study of his works, acquired his best man­ner of designing. At length, on the invitation of Francis L, he removed to France, when above seventy years of age, where the journey and change of climate threw him into his last sickness: he languished for some months at Fon- tainbleau, where the king came frequently to see him ; and one day rising up in his bed to acknowledge the honour done him, he fainted, and Francis supporting him, Leo­nardo died in his arms. His death happened in 1520. Some of his paintings are to be seen in England and other countries, but the greatest part of them are at Florence and in France. He composed a great number of discourses on curious subjects ; but with the exception of his treatise on the Art of Painting, none of them has been published.

VINCULUM, in algebra, a character in form of a line or stroke drawn over a factor, divisor, or dividend, when compounded of several letters or quantities, to connect them, and shews that they are to be multiplied or divided, &c. together by the other term.

Thus \*\*\* *d×a-∖-b—c* shows that *d* is to be multiplied into *a+b*—*c.*

VINDHYA MOUNTAINS, a chain of hills in Hin­dustan which passes through Bahar and Benares, and con­tinues through the provinces of Allahabad and Malwah, along the north side of the Nerbuddah. They are inha­bited by Bhecls, and other predatory tribes.

VINEGAR, Acetum, an agreeable acid, prepared from wine, cider, beer, and other liquors ; of considerable use, both as a medicine and a sauce. The word is French, *vinaigre;* formed from *vin,* wine, and *aigre,* sour.

VINGORLA, a town of Hindustan, belonging to the rajah of Colapoor, on the sea-coast of the province of Beja­poor. Long. 73. 22. E. Lat. 15. 54. N.