burned in London. He moreover informed the States that if they did not dismiss Vorstius, none of his subjects would be permitted to visit Leyden ; and such was the odium raised against him from other quarters, that he was ulti­mately dismissed from his office, and banished, by the States of Holland, from their territory. After spending two years in concealment, frequently changing his abode for fear of his life, he received an asylum from the duke of Holstein, who had assigned to the dispersed followers of Arminius a piece of ground for building a town. He died shortly after at Toningen, on the 29th of September 1622, at the age of fifty-three.

VOSGES, a department in the north-east of France, formed out of the southern part of the ancient province of Lorraine, and extending in north latitude from 48° 31' to 49° 7', and in east longitude, from 5° 30' to 6° 12'. It is bounded on the north by the departments of the Meuse and the Meurthe, on the east by those of the Upper and of the Lower Rhine, on the south by that of the Upper Saone, and on the west by the Upper Marne. It contains 2288 square miles, and returns three members to the Cham­ber of Representatives. Vosges is divided into five arron­dissements, thirty cantons, and 547 communes, and in 1836 had a population of 411,034 souls. They all adhere to the Catholic church, are of German origin, and though active and careful, are for the most part excessively poor. The surface of the department is for the most part mountainous and woody. The Vosges mountains, which are a prolonga­tion of the Jura, stretch in a direction from east to west from Beford to Langres, and in the north join the Hundsruck. In these are vallies of greater or less extent, and capable of cultivation. The highest point of the mountains is the Bolch, whose summit rises to the height of 4320 feet. Con­siderably more than one-third of the land is covered with woods. The soil in the eastern part is a mixture of sand and stones, and is very unproductive. In the western parts it is calcareous, and covered with a heavy clay, and though difficult to work, is the most productive division ; but the whole does not grow sufficient corn for the consumption. As the mountains are covered with snow during the greater part of the year, the climate is raw and cold, but is not deemed unhealthy. The mountains are the sources of several streams. The chief of them is the Moselle, which takes a northerly direction, and soon enters Meurthe, and finally falls into the Rhine. The other rivers are the Meuse, the Meurthe, the Saone, the Breusch, and the Ma- bon ; and there is a great number of smaller streams.

The productions of the land are cattle, chiefly cows and swine, fruit, wax, honey, corn, wine, flax, and hemp ; but the most important are from the forests, which supply by means of numerous saw-mills a vast quantity of wood, both for building and for fuel. There are quarries of marble, and mines yielding silver, lead, and copper in small por­tions ; but the iron mines are the most important. Some small articles of manufacture are produced ; but the po­verty of the inhabitants is such, that they have little power of consuming luxuries of foreign growth, and have no other trade than that of selling the few low-priced commodities which their soil produces.

VOSSIUS, Gerard John, a writer of great and varie­gated erudition, was born near Heidelberg in the year 1577. His father, John Voss, and his mother, Cornelie de Bie, were both natives of Roermund, a town in the Nether­lands. Having embraced the doctrines of the Reformation, he emigrated to the Palatinate, where he studied divinity, and in 1575 became a minister in the vicinity of Heidelberg ; but on refusing to adopt the Lutheran creed on the subject of the eucharist, he found it advisable to revisit his own country. Here he successively discharged the duties of a pastor in different places. His wife died at Dordrecht in 1584. He afterwards married Anne de Witt, but scarcely survived for three months. His son, who was thus left an orphan, received his early education at Dordrecht, and at the age of eighteen, was sent to the university of Leyden, where he studied Greek under Vulcanius, mathematics under Snell, and other branches of learning under other able professors. At the age of twenty, he published a Latin panegyric on Maurice prince of Nassau. After having taken the degrees of master of arts, and doctor of philoso­phy, he applied himself to the study of divinity and the Hebrew language under Gomarus and Trelcatius. From his father he inherited a library well stored with books of divinity and ecclesiastical history ; and at an early period of his life, he acquired a very extensive knowledge in both departments.

At the age of twenty-two, he was appointed director of the College of Dordrecht. In 1602 he married Elizabeth Corput, the daughter of a minister. After bearing three children, she died on the 6th of February 1607 ; and on the 18th of August ensuing, he married Elizabeth du Jon, the daughter of an eminent theologian, better known by his Latinized name of Junius. By this second marriage, he had five sons and two daughters, but he had the mis­fortune to survive all his children except one son. In 1614 he was appointed director of the Theological College es­tablished at Leyden; but in 1618, he relinquished this office for the professorship of eloquence and of chronology. Vossius, whose sentiments were moderate and peaceful, was anxious to shun the theological suite which at that time agitated the Dutch republic. But his *Historia Pelagiana,* published in 1618, involved him in some trials and difficulties. In that elaborate work, he discussed the doctrine of predestination and grace in a strain which the Calvinists considered as much too favourable to the tenets of Arminius. In 1620 the synod of Tergou deprived him of his professorship ; but another synod, held at Rot­terdam in the following year, permitted him to be rein­stated, under the condition of his retracting the errors con­tained in his history, and promising neither to do nor say any thing in opposition to the decrees of the synod of Dordrecht. These he doubtless considered as very hard terras, and for some years he declined to comply with them. In the mean time he was prohibited from teaching cither in public or in private ; and in one of his letters, he esti­mates his pecuniary loss at six thousand livres a-year. In 1624 he made such concessions or explanations as led to his reinstatement.

What exposed him to persecution at home, recom­mended him to favour abroad. Archbishop Laud, a very zealous patron of Arminianism, was so highly satisfied with his work, that he procured him a prebend at Canterbury, which he was permitted to hold as a mere sinecure. He proceeded to England in 1629, and was installed. On paying a visit to Oxford, he was created LL. D. Here he discovered and encouraged the talents of Dr Pocock, who became so eminent as an orientalist. A college or Athenæum having been founded at Amsterdam, Vossius was appointed professor of history in the year 1633. Here he continued his learned labours till the time of his death, and produced a variety of works, distinguished by the extent and solidity of their erudition. He died on the 19th of March 1649, at the age of seventy-two.

He was highly esteemed by his contemporaries for his moral worth, as well as for his talents and learning. He was not only an able grammarian and critic, but was likewise skilled in history and theology. He has written treatises on history, poetry, rhetoric, logic, and the mathematical scien­ces. His work entitled “ Aristarchus, sive de Arte Gram­matica,” is not only very elaborate, but likewise very able and judicious. An edition of it is now printing at Halle under the superintendence of Förtsch. In this department, we must not overlook his “ Etymologicon Linguæ Latinæ,”