

TAPURIANS

TAPURIANS, The.—"To the west of the Hyrcanians, between Elburz and the Caspian, lay the Tapurians, whose name has survived in the modern Taberistan, and further yet, on the sea coast, and at the mouth of the Mardus (now Sadrud), were the Mardians"—M. Duncker, *Hist. of Antiquity*, bk. 8, ch. 1 (r. 5).

TARA, The Hill, the Feis, and the Psalter of.—The Feis Teaviach, or Feis of Tara, in Irish history, was a triennial assembly on the royal hill of Tara, in Meath, which is claimed to have been instituted by a certain King Oilamh Follia, at so remote a period as 1,300 years before Christ. "All the chieftains or heads of septa, bards, historians, and military leaders throughout the country were regularly summoned, and were required to attend under the penalty of being treated as the king's enemies. The meeting was held in a large oblong hall, and the first three days were spent in enjoying the hospitality of the king, who entertained the entire assembly during its sittings. The bards gave long and glowing accounts of the magnificence displayed on these occasions, of the formalities employed, and of the business transacted. Tables were arranged along the centre of the hall, and on the walls at either side were suspended the banners or arms of the chiefs, so that each chief on entering might take his seat under his own escutcheon. Orders were issued by sound of trumpet, and all the forms were characterized by great solemnity. What may have been the authority of this assembly, or whether it had any power to enact laws, is not clear; but it would appear that one of its principal functions was the inspection of the national records, the writers of which were obliged to the strictest accuracy under the weightiest penalties."—M. Haverty, *Hist. of Ireland*, p. 24.—The result of the examination and correction of the historical records of the kingdom were "entered in the great national register called the Psalter of Tara, which is supposed to have been destroyed at the period of the Norman invasion. . . . It is supposed that part of the contents of the Psalter of Cashel, which contains much of the fabulous history of the Irish, was copied from it."—T. Wright, *Hist. of Ireland*, bk. 1, ch. 2 (r. 1).

TARANTEENS, OR TARENTINES, OR TARRATINES. See AMERICAN ABORIGINES: ABNAKIS, and ALGONQUIAN FAMILY; also, NEW ENGLAND: A. D. 1675 (JULY—SEPTEMBER).

TARAS. See TARENTUM.

TARASCANS, The. See AMERICAN ABORIGINES: TARASCANS.

TARIFF LEGISLATION

TARBELLI, The. See AQUITAINE. THE ANCIENT TRIBES.

TARENTINE WAR, The. See ROME: B. C. 282-275.

TARENTUM.—Tarentum (or Taras), the most important of the ancient Greek cities in Italy, "lay at the northern corner of the great gulf which still bears its name. It had an excellent harbour, almost landlocked. On its eastern horn stood the city. Its form was triangular, one side being washed by the open sea, the other by the waters of the harbour, while the base or land side was protected by a line of strong fortifications. Thus advantageously posted for commerce the city grew apace. She possessed an opulent middle class; and the poorer citizens found an easy subsistence in the abundant supply of fish which the gulf afforded. These native fishermen were always ready to man the navy of the state. But they made indifferent soldiers. Therefore when any peril of war threatened the state, it was the practice of the government to hire foreign captains, soldiers of fortune, who were often kings or princes, to bring an army for their defence. . . . The origin of Lacedæmonian Tarentum is veiled in fable. The warriors of Sparta (so runs the well-known legend) went forth to the second Messenian war under a vow not to see their homes till they had conquered the enemy. They were long absent, and their wives sought paramours among the slaves and others who had not gone out to war. When the warriors returned, they found a large body of youth grown up from this adulterous intercourse. These youths (the Partheni as they were called), disdaining subjection, quitted their native land under the command of Phalarus, one of their own body, and founded the colony of Tarentum."—H. G. Liddell, *Hist. of Rome*, bk. 3, ch. 25 (r. 1).—See, also, *Sims*.

B. C. 282-275.—Alliance with Pyrrhus and war with Rome. See ROME: B. C. 282-275.

B. C. 212.—Betrayed to Hannibal. See PUNIC WARS: THE SECOND.

TARENTUM, Treaty of.—The treaty in which Octavius and Antony extended their triumvirate to a second term of five years, negotiated at Tarentum, B. C. 37.—C. Merivale *Hist. of the Romans*, ch. 27.

TARGOWITZ, Confederates of. See POLAND: A. D. 1791-1792.

TARIFA: A. D. 1291.—Taken by the Christians from the Moors. See SPAIN: A. D. 1273-1490.

TARIFF LEGISLATION AND CONVENTIONS.

(The Netherlands): 15th Century.—Early Free Trade and Reciprocity.—In the Netherlands, at the close of a short war with the English, in 1437, "the import of raw wool was entirely relieved from the payment of even the ordinary customs. . . . And this was then their notion of protection,—to be allowed to buy what they liked where they liked, to live at peace with their neighbours, and to be let alone. Four hundred years have passed and gone since the Netherlands persuaded their rulers to take off all duty on raw wool, and to permit half-finished clothes to

be brought into their country in order that they might be dyed and taken out again duty free; yet we live in the midst of tariffs whose aim it is to hinder the importation of the raw material by prohibitory duties and to prevent competition in every kind of fabric by so-called protecting ones! And in England, also, at the period in question, the suicidal spirit of commercial envy had seized hold of the government, and in every parliament some fresh evidence was afforded of the jealousy with which foreign skill and competition were viewed. But the Dutch held on