

VOLUME III

Encaustic Tiles, ornamental paving tiles of baked pottery, much used during the middle ages in the pavements of churches and other ecclesiastical edifices. The encaustic tile, strictly so called, was decorated with patterns formed by different colored clays inlaid in the tile and fired with it. The art appears to have originated in the latter part of the twelfth century, to have attained its highest perfection during the thirteenth, and to have sunk into disuse in the fifteenth. During the whole of this period it was principally carried on in England and Normandy. After a long lapse the art was revived in England in 1830 by Wright, a Shelton potter. In modern manufacture two methods are employed, the 'plastic' and the 'semi-dry' or 'dust' method. The first is, in all essentials, that used in the middle ages, except, perhaps, in the perfection of modern molding appliances; the second consists in ramming pulverized clay with a minimum of moisture into metal dies, the subsequent firing of tiles thus consolidated being attended with less risk from shrinkage.

Enceinte (ân-sant), in fortification, the continuous line of works which forms the main enclosure of a town or fortress. The term is also applied to the area within this line.

Encenia (en-sé'ni-a), festivals anciently commemorative of the founding of a city or the dedication of a church; and in later times periodical ceremonies, as at Oxford, in commemoration of founders and benefactors.

Encephala (en-sef'a-la), that division of the Mollusca characterized by possession of a distinct head, and comprising the Gastropoda, Pteropoda and Cephalopoda.

Encephalitis (en-sef-a-lí'tis), inflammation of the brain.

Encephalon (en-sef'a-lon), a term for the brain and whole nervous mass included in the skull.

Echanter's Nightshade (e-n-chant'-ers), a name common to plants of the genus *Circa*, nat. order Onagraceae; *C. heteridna* is common in the United States

from Carolina to Illinois, and *C. alpina* farther north. The former is about a foot and a half high, and has delicate ovate leaves; small, white flowers tinged with pink, and small, roundish seed-vessels covered with hooked bristles. It abounds in shady woods. *C. alpina* is similar, but smaller and more delicate. Both species are common in parts of Europe.

Enchasing (en-chás'ing), the art of producing raised or indented ornamental figures and designs upon metallic surfaces. See *Chasing*.

Enchorial Writing (en-kó'ri-al), the form of writing used by the old Egyptians for the common purposes of life, as distinct from the hieroglyphic and hieratic (used by the priests). Called also *Demotic*.

Encke (en'ke), JOHANN FRANZ, a German astronomer, born at Hamburg, in 1791. He studied under the astronomer Gauss at Göttingen. During the war of liberation (1813-15) he served as an artilleryman in the German army, and after the peace became assistant in the observatory of Seeberg, near Gotha. Here he calculated the orbit of the comet observed by Mechain, Miss Herschel and Pons, predicted its return, and detected a gradual acceleration of movement, ascribed by him to the presence of a resisting medium. The comet is now known as Encke's comet. (See *Comets*.) The fame of his works, *Die Entfernung der Sonne* ('The Distance of the Sun') and *Der Venusdurchgang von 1769* ('Transit of Venus of 1769') led to his appointment as director of the Berlin Observatory (1825), a position which he held till his death in 1865.

Enclave (ân-kláv), a term used in German and French to denote a place or country which is entirely surrounded by the territories of another power. Thus, several petty duchies and principalities are enclaves of Prussia.

Encrinite (en'krin-it), a name often applied to all the marine animals of the order Crinoiden or stone-lilies, class Echinodermata, but more specifically restricted to the genera having rounded, smooth stems attached to the