

is, justly famed for the richness and beauty of its precious stones, silks, perfumes and spices. Their religion, characterized by the belief in the transmigration of souls, their laws and customs, have ever made them an easy prey for the ambition of conquerors. Their sacred books, or *Vedas*, are written in a dead language called the *sanscrit*.

Q. At what date does the authentic history of the Chinese begin ?

A. About 800 years before Christ ; but their fabulous accounts extend through a period of 272,000 years before the creation !

Their founder was Yao, or, as some will have it, Noah himself. The Chinese kings are divided into 22 successive dynasties, comprising a duration of above 4000 years.—The most gigantic monument erected by them is the famous wall, 1500 miles in length, built (B. C. 215) along the northern frontier of China, to prevent the incursions of the Tartars. It failed of its object, as have ever done similar attempts to arrest by mere artificial boundaries the march of a conquering army.

The end.

THE END