

Persians, in 1658, it appears that the Mogul then had 216,000 Cavalry, and 864,000 Infantry, besides 50,000 that served in his Camp. The Great Mogul also has a Guard of 100 Tartarian Ladies armed with Bows, Scimiters and Darts, commanded by one of their own Sex. His Birth-day has been kept in a very extraordinary Manner for three Days, on which he is weighed, and receives Presents from his Nobles. He had seven Thrones, extremely rich; one was begun by Tamerlane, and finished 200 years after, which is valued at 60 Mill. of Crowns. But in what Condition that Treasure is, since the Conquest of that Country by *Kouli Kan*, in 1739, who made Spoil of the immense Treasure the Moguls had heaped up for many Years, Time must discover. The Mogul's Courtiers are most of them of mean Extraction, he who was a little while ago a Coachman, or a Porter, is now a great Minister of State. The Laws throughout the Land are very severe against Offenders, and the Execution of a Criminal is not performed by a Hang-man, but by Elephants, who have learned either to hasten or to slacken the Death of the Malefactor."

That the regal splendour of the Mogul was of the most magnificent description, no one who has ever dipped into the history of India during the period preceding the advent of "John Kumpance," as the natives called the chartered adventurers, can for a moment doubt, but to accept as facts the figures just quoted, demands a Cowleyan gullibility such as is rarely found to-day, many though there be who, eyes agog and mouth agape, go to and fro upon the earth, believing in "dreams and signs and lying wonders."

In describing the inhabitants of two kingdoms in the "*Peninsula on the other side of the River GANGES*," Mr. Cowley informs us that in one of these "the Men have large Crops on

their Throats," and that in another, "the Women have Crops on their Throats." One may be pardoned perhaps, for just a little doubt as to what the "crops" referred to were. Were they merely an abnormal development of what is commonly known as "Adam's apple," or was it endemic goitre? It is well known that in many of the Swiss cantons goitre or thick-neck is the rule, but we can hardly conceive of similar climatic causes existing in countries so widely different in almost every respect as are Siam and the Alpine region.

Reaching China, we can readily excuse the "Geographer to His Majesty," or any other geographer, for not being able to tell us a great deal in the year of grace 1742; but knowing how prone our author is to draw upon "his imagination for his facts," it is not a little surprising to find him simply stating that the inhabitants of the Great Central Flowery Kingdom "are pretty white, and have black Hair. The Women are small, but extremely beautiful. The People are in general very courteous and civil to Strangers, but they must either continue there for life or depart quickly. It is computed that the number of souls amounts to 70 millions. They are chiefly divided into three Sects: the First are the Followers of Confucius's Doctrine, who taught the Observation of the Law of Nature, as the greatest Felicity Man can enjoy. They worship one God, and believe that the World did exist from Eternity. The Second Sect hold a Plurality of Worlds, and the Pythagorean Principles of Transmigration. The Third Sect are Idolaters, and addicted to Necromancy."

This is a fair statement considering the time in which it was written, and one is particularly pleased to notice that no self-righteous vituperation is showered upon the head of the great