

leather thongs that fastened them to his ancles, were embossed with pearls. Around his neck he wore a gold collar containing pearls of an enormous size, and upon his head was a jewelled fillet, with an aigrette of white feathers.

Unicum was a man past the middle age, mild, calm, and reflective; and his character was written on his countenance which, though impressed with thought, had nothing of severity in its lines.

Like those over whom he ruled, his complexion was some shades lighter than that of the inhabitants of the prairies, and unlike the last, he wore a slight moustache and beard, which, with his flowing hair, were of a light grey, and gave him a venerable and majestic appearance.

On each side of the King were ranged a number of caciques, or nobles, in gallant array, with plumes, bracelets, and ear-ornaments flashing with jewelry: and several sallow-faced priests in long black robes covered with mystical devices, and with their dark hair hanging dishevelled over their shoulders, as if in marked indifference to the pomp of the courtiers.

As Tazinco entered with the strangers, some of the nobles in attendance swung golden