

It is scarcely necessary to observe that common report swells the amount of his army to a much greater number, and that he encourages the error. He speaks as if he had the disposal of hundreds of thousands. He talked to me one day of sending a hundred thousand to the assistance of the Rajah of Bikaner.

I conceive that the following estimate exceeds, in some degree, the real amount of his whole force :

Regular infantry		15,000
Irregular ditto		5,000
Cavalry		6,000
Total		26,000
Guns		40
Camel swivels		100

This estimate cannot be quite accurate, but I believe it to be nearly so, and rather above than below. In the army now with him there are not, I imagine, more than 12,000 fighting men.

The resources by which the army is maintained are derived from contributions levied year after year upon those chiefs and places which the Rajah designs to subjugate. Since the rise of his power he has each successive year achieved some new conquest, which has, for that season, supported his army. To compare small things with great, his system is the same in this respect with that of the present ruler of France. His restless ambition, and the weakness and want of union prevailing around him, prompt him to invade the territories of his neighbours; the service requires an increase of force, and the increase of force renders necessary another invasion of some other territory, as the resources of his own are not equal to his expenses.

A country completely conquered ceases to be productive. Having levied heavy contributions, and supported his army on it for a period, he gives it to a favorite, or some chief, who, on