are massive, and guarded by cannon. The southern face of the fort is washed during the rainy season by the waters of the lake ; and the houses of the city and suburbs ex­tend along the bank as far as the extreme point of the land. The town is but meanly built. There are few houses of brick and mortar, and these belong to the mem­bers of the royal family. The houses of the chief persons are surrounded by a wooden enclosure; and all houses whatever are covered with tiles, and have on the ridge of the roof earthen pots filled with water, as a precaution against fires, which are here very frequent. When a fire takes place, they are immediately broken. In the centre of the town stands the royal palace, which consists of a number of wooden buildings of various forms, the domes of which, being covered with gilt copper, make a splendid appearance. The whole is surrounded with an enclosure of teak plants, having four gates, and may be half a mile in circumference. The splendour of the religious buildings is very striking, owing to their being entirely covered with gilding, the in­side of the roofs as well as the outside. The gold leaf that is used, being exceedingly pure, bears exposure to the air for a long time without suffering injury. The royal library is situated at the north-west angle of the fort, in the centre of a court paved with broad flags. The books are kept in wooden chests curiously ornamented. The chests are about 100 in number, and well filled. The contents of each chest are inscribed in gold letters on the lid. The city is divided into four distinct quarters, each of which is governed by its own officer ; and no town in Europe can boast of a bet­ter police. Ummerapoor was founded by the Birman mo­narch Minderajee Praw, so recently as 1783, about four miles east from old Ava, the ancient capital. Buildings in this part of India being mostly composed of wood, and the river presenting a convenient water-carriage, the present capital rose most rapidly, and became in a short time one of the most flourishing and well-built cities in the east. The population was estimated by Captain Cox at 175,000 persons, and the number of houses from 20,000 to 25,000. Long. 96. 7. E. Lat. 21. 55. N.

UMNABAD, a town of Hindustan, in the province of Bejapoor, thirty miles north-east from Poonah. Long. 74. 27. E. Lat. 18. 51. N.

UMRUT, a town of Hindustan, in the province of Au­rungabad, forty miles south by east from Surat. Long. 73. 18. E. Lat. 20. 40. N.

UNBIAK, one of the Fox Islands, in the North Pacific Ocean, about seventy-two miles in circumference.

UNCIA, a Latin term, denoting the twelfth part of any thing, particularly the twelfth part of a pound, called in Eng­lish an *ounce,* or the twelfth part of a foot, called an *inch,*

UNCTION, the act of anointing or rubbing with oil or other fatty matter.

UNCTION, in matters of religion, is used for the charac­ter conferred on sacred things by anointing them with oil. Unctions are very frequent among the Hebrews. They anointed both their kings and high priests at the ceremony of their inauguration. They also anointed the sacred ves­sels of the tabernacle and temple, to sanctify and consecrate them to the service of God. The unction of kings is sup­posed to be a ceremony introduced very late among the Christian princes. It is said that none of the emperors was ever anointed before Justinian or Justin. The em­perors of Germany borrowed the practice from those of tl>e eastern empire. King Pepin of France was the first who received the unction. In the ancient Christian church, unction always accompanied the ceremonies of baptism and confirmation. Extreme unction, or the anointing persons in the article of death, was also practised by the ancient Christians, in compliance with the precept of St James, v. 14, 15; and this extreme unction the Romish church has advanced to the dignity of a sacrament. It is administered

to none but such as are affected with some mortal disease, or in a decrepit age. It is refused to impenitent persons, aβ also to criminals. The parts to be anointed are the eyes, the ears, the nostrils, the mouth, the hands, the feet, and the reins. The laity are anointed in the palms of the hands, but priests on the back of them ; because the palms of their hands have been already consecrated by ordination. The oil with which the sick person is anointed represents the grace of God, which is poured down into the soul, and the prayer used at the time of anointing expresses tire remission of sins thereby granted to the sick person ; for the prayer is this: “ By this holy unction, and his own most pious mercy, may the Al­mighty God forgive thee whatever sins thou hast committed *by the sight,"* when the eyes are anointed ; *by* *the hearing,* when the ears are anointed ; and so of the other senses.

UNDECAGON is a regular polygon of eleven sides.

UNDECEMVIR, a magistrate among the ancient Athe­nians, who had ten colleagues or associates joined with him in the same commission. The functions of the un­decemviri at Athens were much the same with those of the late *prevôts de maréchaussée* in France. They took care of the apprehending of criminals ; secured them in the hands of justice ; and when they were condemned, took them again into custody, that the sentence might be executed on them. They were chosen by the tribes, each tribe naming its own ; and as the number of the tribes after Callisthenes was but ten, which made ten members, a scribe or notary was added, which made the number eleven.

U NDES, an extensive district of Northern Hindustan, bordering on Little Tibet, intersected by the river Sut- telege. The mountains of the country are composed of granite, and are said to be rich in gold. It is subject to the lama of Tibet.

UNDULATION, in *Physics,* a kind of tremulous mo­tion or vibration observable in a liquid, by which it alter­nately rises and falls like the waves of the sea.

UNICORN, an animal famous among the ancients, and thought to be the same with the rhinoceros. Sparmann informs us that the figure of the unicorn described by the ancients has been found delineated by the Snese Hotten­tots on the plain surface of a rock in Caftraria, and there­fore conjectures that such an animal either does exist at present in the interior parts of Africa, or at least once did so. Father Lobo affirms that he has seen it. Sir John Bar- row, in his Travels in Southern Africa, affords additional reason to believe in the existence of this curious animal.

UNIEH, a seaport of Asia Minor, on the coast of the Black Sea, situated on a bay, with a range of finely wood­ed mountains behind. It is mostly built of wood, and, like all eastern towns, is extremely filthy; forming a striking con­trast with the beauty of the environs. The inhabitants consist of Turks, Greeks, and Armenians, who carry on a con­siderable trade with Constantinople and the Crimea. Its ex­ports are cotton stuffs from Tocat and Diarbekir, fruits, and wine ; the imports corn and oil from the Crimea, coffee, sugar, and European manufactures from Constantinople. A num­ber of vessels belongs to the port, though none of them ex­ceeds 200 tons burden. Unieh is forty miles east of Samsoon.

UNION, a junction, coalition, or assemblage of two or more different things in one.

Union, or *The Union,* by way of eminence, is more par­ticularly used to express the act by which the two separate kingdoms of Scotland and England were incorporated into one, under the title of the kingdom of Great Britain. This union, in vain attempted by James L, was at length effect­ed in the year 1707, 6 Ann. when twenty-five articles were agreed to by the parliaments of both nations ; the purport of the most considerable being as follows :

1. That on the first of May 1707, and for ever after, the kingdoms of England and Scotland shall be united into one kingdom, by the name of *Great Britain.* 2. The succes-