

ANECDOTES  
*IN*  
TRAVELS,  
*FROM THE*  
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE  
*INTO THE INTERIOR PARTS OF*  
AFRICA.

*FROM THE FRENCH*  
of  
M. VAILLANT.  

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L O N D O N

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with great fidelity to the end of these travels.

We continued in our way, till overtaken by a storm, which obliged us to halt at *Galgebos*; when it subsided, we travelled about two leagues further, passed the river *Van Slaade*, and encamped on the banks of a lake, which afforded us an ample supply of fine water. The second day from our arrival, a violent storm prevented our departure; the hail-stones were of a wonderful size, and greatly annoyed our cattle. At length, the weather changing, we left the Lake, and, after crossing two rivers, the little and the great *Swaar Kops*, fixed our camp on the banks of the latter. Here I perceived the signs of a foot of an animal unknown to me; my people said, it was that of a rhinoceros. I followed the tract; but night coming on,

on, I returned without making any further discovery. Near this place there was a hoord, whose kraal consisted of nine or ten huts, containing about fifty or sixty people. The Hottentots advised me not to pass the river *Boshies-Man*, as I should by that means avoid a large troop of Caffrees, who carried destruction wherever they came. I assembled my people, in order to advise on the best methods to be taken; the result accorded with my intention, which was to keep strict watch day and night, for fear of surprize, to keep our cattle within the camp, and our pieces always at hand. I now mounted my horse, and followed by some of my Hottentots, scoured the environs, and saw nothing that would give us any uneasiness. We raised our camp, and quitted *Swaar Kops*; the hoord of Hottentots begged permission to follow us, and

When we reached *Platte river*, we found it dry: sinking with drought, we walked up the banks for three quarters of an hour, when we found some holes of muddy water that the sun had not yet exhaled. Here was no majestic forest to charm the eye! no delightful pastures! but rocks topping each other, and parched sands. Winter was seated on the summit of mount *Snewberg*, as if disputing with the sun the empire of this miserable climate.

My intention was to climb and explore this famous mountain; but as I knew it to be the resort of the *Boshis-men*, as well as lions, I determined to shelter myself from the surprise of either. I then placed my tent openly, fortifying it in the best manner I could.

Here I found marks of the feet of a *rhinoceros*; we looked out  
strictly

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strictly for those animals, but was not fortunate enough to meet with any. Some of my men informed me, that while searching for the *rhinoceros*, they had met with a *Hoord* of savages, whose *Kraal* was situated at the foot of the mountain.

I resolved to visit them; and set out very early next morning attended by three of my best marksmen, for the *Kraal*. They received me with kindness; and were not surprised to see me; having been informed the preceding evening, that I should certainly visit them. They were poor and miserable, and had taken refuge in this dreary spot, to avoid the cruelty of the Colonists; unconscious of having run in the way of the *Boshis-men*.

I exchanged several articles they stood in need of, for four sheep, which