

and no further! and here shall thine empire be stayed?' Shall we limit the active benevolence of man, by setting bounds to the omnipresent goodness of God? 'He made man after his own image; in the likeness of God he created him.' The 'Æthiopian' may not 'change his skin,' nor may he change his nature; but it is a fearful libel on an all-wise and all-just Being, to stamp on any of his works a brand of undeserved infamy, and to deny an improvable nature to the negro, who prays to that common Father, in whose sight all distinctions of country or color are as dust in the balance. Let us rather proclaim glad tidings of great joy on the golden shores of Africa; and once again, over 'Egypt's dark sea,' let the 'loud timbrel' sound the glorious anthem,

'Jehovah has triumphed! his people are free!'

M.

ABYSSINIAN ZOOLOGY.

We make the following extracts from the last number of the *Harpers' Family Library*, the *History of Abyssinia and Nubia*, by the Rev. Michael Russell. They will be found interesting:

TRAITS OF THE HYENA.—Hyenas generally inhabit caverns, and other rocky places, from whence they issue under cover of the night to prowl for food. They are gregarious, not so much from any social principle, as from a greediness of disposition and a gluttonous instinct, which induce many to assemble over a scanty and insufficient prey. They are said to devour the bodies which they find in cemeteries, and to disinter such as are hastily or imperfectly inhumed. There seems, indeed, to be a peculiar gloominess and malignity of disposition in the aspect of the hyena, and its manners in a state of captivity are savage and untractable. Like every other animal however, it is perfectly capable of being tamed. A contradictory feature has been observed in its natural instincts. About Mount Libanus, Syria, the north of Asia, and the vicinity of Algiers, the hyenas, according to Bruce, live mostly upon large succulent bulbous roots, especially those of the *fritillaria*, &c.; and he informs us that he has known large patches of the fields turned up by them, in their search for onions and other plants. He adds that these were chosen with such care, that after having been peeled, if any small decayed spot became perceptible, they were left upon the ground.

In Abyssinia, however, and many other countries, their habits are certainly decidedly carnivorous; yet the same courage, or at least fierceness, which an animal diet usually produces, does not so

the favorite pools, and they had not remained long before a hippopotamus rose to the surface, at a distance of not more than twenty yards. He came up at first very confidently, raising his enormous head out of the water, and snorting violently. At the same instant their guns were discharged, the contents of which appeared to strike directly on its forehead; on which it turned its head with an angry scowl, and making a sudden plunge, sank to the bottom, with a peculiar noise, between a grunt and a roar. They for some minutes entertained a sanguine hope that he was killed, and momentarily expected to see his body ascend to the surface. But it soon appeared that a hippopotamus is not so easily slain; for he rose again, ere long, close to the same spot, and apparently not much concerned at what had happened, though somewhat more cautious than before. They again discharged their pieces, but with as little effect as formerly; and although some of the party continued firing at every one that made his appearance, they were no means certain that they produced the slightest impression upon any of them. This they attributed to their having used *leaden* balls, which are too soft to enter his almost impenetrable skull.

It appears from what they witnessed, that the hippopotamus cannot remain more than five or six minutes under water. One of the most interesting parts of the amusement was to witness the perfect ease with which these animals quietly dropped down to the bottom; for the water being exceedingly clear, they could distinctly see them so low as twenty feet below the surface.

RHINOCEROS HUNTING.—The eyes of a rhinoceros are extremely small; and as his neck is stiff, and his head cumbrous, he seldom turns round so as to see anything that is not directly before him. To this, according to Bruce, he owes his death, as he never escapes if there is as much plain ground as to enable the horse to get in advance. His pride and fury then induce him to lay aside all thoughts of escaping but by victory. He stands for a moment at bay, then starting forward he suddenly charges the horse, in great fury, after the manner of the wild boar, which animal he greatly resembles in his mode of action. But the horse easily avoids his ponderous onset, by turning short aside, and this is the fatal instant, for a naked man, armed with a sharp sword, drops from behind the principal hunter, and, unperceived by the rhinoceros, who is seeking to wreak his vengeance on his enemy, he inflicts a tremendous blow across the tendon of the heel, which renders him incapable of either flight or resistance.

In speaking of the large allowance of vegetable matter necessary to support this enormous living mass, we should likewise take into

Consideration the vast quantity of water which it consumes. No country, according to Bruce, but such as that of the Shangalla, deluged with six months' rain, full of large and deep basins, hewn out by nature in the living rock, which are shaded by dark woods from evaporation, or one watered by extensive rivers which never fall low or to a state of dryness, can supply the vast draughts of his enormous maw. As an article of food he is himself much esteemed by the Shangalla; and the soles of his feet, which are soft like those of a camel, and of a grisly substance, are peculiarly delicate. The rest of the body resembles that of a hog, but is coarser, and is pervaded by a smell of musk.

THE MOUNTAIN VULTURE.—On the highest summit of the mountain Lamalmon, while the traveller's servants were refreshing themselves, after the fatigue of a toilsome ascent, and enjoying the pleasures of a delightful climate, and a good dinner of boiled goat's flesh, a lammergeyer suddenly made his appearance among them. A great shout, or rather cry of distress, attracted Bruce's attention, who, while walking towards the bird, saw it deliberately put its foot into the pan, which contained a huge piece of meat prepared for boiling. Finding the temperature somewhat higher than it was accustomed to among the pure gushing springs of that romantic region, it suddenly withdrew its foot, but immediately afterwards settled upon two large pieces which lay upon a wooden platter, into which it thrust its claws and carried them off. It disappeared over the edge of a 'steep Tarpeian rock,' down which criminals were thrown, and whose remains had probably first induced the bird to select that spot as a place of sojourn. The traveller, in expectation of another visit, immediately loaded his rifle, and it was not long before the gigantic bird reappeared.

As when a vulture on Imaus bred,
Whose snowy ridge the roving Tartar bounds,
Dislodging from a region scarce of prey,
To gorge the flesh of lambs or yearling kids
On hills where flocks are fed, flies towards the springs
Of Ganges or Hydaspes, Indian streams,
But in his way lights on the barren plains
Of Sericana, where Chineses drive
With sails and wind their cany wagons light,

so landed the lammergeyer within ten yards of the `savory mess, but also within an equal distance of Bruce's practised rifle. He instantly sent his ball through his body, and the ponderous bird sank down upon the grass with scarcely a flutter of its outspread wings.

SERPENTS.—There are not many serpents in Upper Abyssinia, and few remarkable animals of that class even in the lower coun-

THE
COLONIZATIONIST

AND

JOURNAL OF FREEDOM.

BOSTON:
PUBLISHED BY GEO. W. LIGHT,
Lyceum Depository, 3 Cornhill.

1834.