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## ANOTHER AFRICAN HUNTER.\*

AS long as game exists upon our planet there will be men whose special mission is to make war upon it, and as long as great hunters exist nobody will tire of reading their exploits and adventures. Gordon Cumming was the first to make known to the world that Southern Africa

was the Paradise of Nimrod. Every where else the hunter is limited to one or two species of prey. On our western prairies he is confined to bison; in India he must satisfy himself with tigers and wild hogs; in Ceylon he can, or rather could, bag tuskers elephants, and half-wild buffaloes; in Siberia he has only bears and wolves. But in South Africa he finds big-nosed elephants, toothed lions, mighty rhinoceroses and hippopotami, savage buffaloes, long-necked giraffes, large alligators, fat sea-cows, swift ostriches, snarling hyenas, wild zebras and quaggas, and an almost innumerable variety of the deer tribe, such as oryxes, koodoos, inyalas, gnus, elands, springbucks, gemsbucks, leches, pallahs, and others whose very names are strange to naturalists.

Mr. Baldwin is the son, we believe, of a Scotch gentleman, born with a love of dogs and horses. When six years old he owned a pony, and had regularly two days a week with the barriers. After leaving school he was placed in a merchant's counting-room, but it was soon intimated to him that his attendance could be dispensed with. Then he was sent to Wiltshire to learn farming, with the same result. Then he was placed on a Highland farm, consisting of a couple of acres of noble ground, thirteen miles square of mountain, moor, and lake. Here with deer stalking, otter drawing, and the like, he got along comfortably for a while. But Gordon Cumming's book having come out, young Baldwin made up his mind that South Africa was the place for him; so investing his means in guns, saddles, and dogs, he sailed for that favored land, and at once joined a hunting party from Natal, setting out within three weeks after landing. From that time for eight years he made regular hunting excursions, growing gradually larger and longer until the last, in 1859, in which he traversed 2000 miles of almost unexplored country, and reached the famous

\* *African Hunting, from Natal to the Zambesi, including Lake Ngurel, the Kalahari Desert, etc., from 1852 to 1861.* By WILLIAM CHURCH BARDWELL, F.R.G.S. With numerous illustrations. Harper and Brothers.



WILLIAM CHARLES BARWELL.

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A TREE BY A GAZELLE ELEPHANT.

in such large numbers as they had hoped. At best, elephant-hunting is hard work, and Mr. Baldwin found it especially so. Under date of July 22 he writes: "The elephants stand so far from the water that it is impossible to get back the same day. I have therefore come on with one wagon ten miles nearer to the standing-places, and all our water has to be drawn that distance on a sledge which I have made. It is now the depth of winter, and the grass is as dry as old tinder, without the slightest nourishment in it; as a natural consequence, the oxen are as

dry as rakes. I grieve much for the poor willing horses, thirteen or fourteen hours under the saddle, at a foot-pace in a boiling sun three-fourths of the time, then tied up to the wagon without food, and scoured in their allowance of water, which we have to draw ten miles at least, half the way through bark-thorns over a stony ground. These are among the hardships which we must undergo to get elephants. They are dearly paid for."

One day messengers came from Lechulato, the Kafir chief, whose lot had seemed to the

hunter only a year before the ideal of happiness. He had seen hard times since; his town had been burned down, all his stores destroyed, and no traders had come near him for a long time. He wanted tea, coffee, sugar, powder, lead, and a horse. Baldwin sent what was asked, and told his people to get as much in return as they could. In exchange for a wagon-load of miscellaneous stores, he got a wagon-load of ivory. He also received a rather unprofitable present in the shape of a couple of half-starved Masari



KINDNESS AND DOGS.



ZEBRA HUNT.

self-seventeen, chiefly rhinoceros and buffalo, and two elephants. Every vestige of the meat vanished like smoke, but we have left the poor fellows a large lot of dried flesh to go on with. The chief was very grateful, and sent me a present of four tusks, which paid well for powder and lead."

"Oct. 8. I take up my pen to kill time. I am out of sorts, both body and mind. There is neither grass, wood, nor water; the sun is intensely hot, and there is no shade of any sort. We have been laboring to get a supply of fresh water for our oxen, and have dug large holes in

several places; but the water, though drinkable at first, after an hour's exposure to the sun is salt as brine. My oxen are dying daily. I make a post-mortem examination, but am no wiser. They swell up to an enormous size, drink gallons of this brackish stuff, and when opened are full of a rusty yellowish matter. The Masaras say there is not a drop of water ahead, and what is to be done I do not myself know. The Masaras showed me a white man's grave.

I can learn no particulars as to the person buried there; but a more desolate spot to lay one's bones in can hardly be conceived; I can only hope such a fate may not be mine. I was very near losing two of my horses. They went back in search of water at night, and at daylight we started on the spoor. Boenas was first; he saw two lions in waiting, fired at one, and jumped into a tree; fired again, wounding one, when they made off, and five minutes after the lost horses came trotting down to the water. The lions were as thin as planks; they had not killed any thing, and would have pounced on



LIONED BY DOFFALOER.