

EXHIBITION OF ENGLISH WATERCOLOURS

November 15th — December 24th 1976



No. 68 Benjamin West P. R. A.

H. R. H. Princess Mary and H. R. H. Princess Sophia, c.1778

THE LEGER GALLERIES LTD.

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ESTABLISHED 1892

SAMUEL HOWITT
'Oriental Field Sports'



No. 15.

Frontispiece



No. 16. Hunters going out in the Morning



No. 17. Beating Sugar Canes for a Hog



No. 18. The Chase after the Hog



No. 19. The Hog at Bay



No. 20. Hog Hunters coming by surprise on a Tigress



No. 21. The Dead Hog

Captain Thomas Williamson (1758/9-1817) retired from India in 1798, after publicly criticising the Government's Military Policy, and brought back with him sketches for the book of aquatints to be engraved from watercolours and published as 'Wild Sports of the East' or 'Oriental Field Sports'. Around 1800 Samuel Howitt, presumably in conjunction with Williamson, since the former ~~had never been to India~~, prepared a series of watercolours based upon Williamson's drawings.

When Howitt's watercolours were completed, Edward Orme had been chosen as the publisher, and the various plates were engraved by H. Merke, J. Hamble and Viveres and published as aquatints in 20 parts, 1805-7, together with Williamson's extensive text. (A further, smaller and cheaper edition was produced in 1808 in two volumes, and there was another edition in 1819).

It may be recalled that in 1971 we exhibited 15 watercolours (henceforth referred to as 15 (1971)) related to these aquatints which had formerly belonged to Mrs. H. E. Leigh of Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire, a member of the Egerton Family, and that in our catalogue we mentioned the fact that around 1949/50 the firm of Harold Hill of Newcastle also had some watercolours connected with the series. It is these watercolours, from the Collection of the Earls of Ducie, which we offer below.

The 15 (1971) drawings were each titled and numbered on the original mounts up to No. 44 (whose subject corresponded to Plate XXIX in the final book), thus suggesting that Howitt had originally drawn 44 subjects (and possibly 48 for two volumes) from which perhaps the publisher Orme, together with Williamson, then selected the 40 subjects and frontispiece which we now exhibit. (Plate XIII is in fact a hand-coloured etching).

The existence of two versions of some subjects may well have been the result of Orme and Williamson asking Howitt to make small alterations or simplifications for the engravers, and in all probability it is from the present series that the engravers worked, as these correspond more closely to the final aquatints than the 15 (1971). The fact that the numbering on the 15 (1971) does not conform with that on the finally-published plates would appear to confirm this. The present set were not numbered on the mounts.

With the exception of the etching, Plate XIII, there are 40 watercolours exhibited, of which 32 are on a paper identical to that of the 15 (1971). The further 8 including the frontispiece are on softer paper, one sheet of which is watermarked J. Ruse 1799 and in some cases these are not quite so fine as the others in the series, a fact which may be explained by the original drawing having been damaged by the engraver, after which Howitt was asked to re-draw to complete this set. Although none of the 15 (1971) were signed, and 16 of the present series are, where one subject is repeated it is not necessarily signed in the present version.

Before framing, the present drawings were bound in a crimson morocco album by Rodwell of Golden Square, and the interleaving sheets were watermarked 'W. Balston, 1811', thus suggesting a binding of about that date, after the first two editions had been published. The boards on which the drawings were originally mounted are white, with grey wash and border, and are watermarked: W. Elgar, J. Ruse, 1799, J. Russell, J. Whatman, W. Turner and Son. The date of 1799 indicates that all the drawings were made around 1800, and it is interesting to note that in the original edition the text was

SAMUEL HOWITT—*continued*

watermarked E and P (Edmeads and Pine) 1804, the Index, J. Ruse/1803, Parts 1-14, J. Whatman/1804 and Parts 15-20 E. and P. 1804. It is clearly speculation, but the similarity of the paper and their manufacturers does possibly indicate that all these drawings were handled by the publisher and were his own set, or possibly that of Capt. Thomas Williamson—such a view is also supported by the presence of an etching amongst them.

It is from the re-numbering of the 15 (1971), the fact that there is no connection between the numbers on these and the order in which Edward Orme published the aquatints (the plates came out in nothing like the final order, i.e. Part 1 contained pl. I and II, Part 2, pl. IV and XVI etc.) coupled with the fact that we believe that some of the 15 (1971) are of marginally finer quality and not so close to the aquatints, that we believe that where there is now another version, then this may be contemporary but a little later in execution, but all the works shown here (and those shown in 1971), are entirely by the artist's own hand.

In the collection which formerly belonged to C. F. G. R. Schwerdt were 13 sepia drawings related to some of the present plates.

COLLECTION: Possibly of Edward Orme, the publisher or, of Capt. Thomas Williamson. Henry John, 3rd Earl of Ducie, P.C., G.C.V.O. (1827-1921). Berkeley Basil, 4th Earl of Ducie, brother of above (1834-1924). Capel Henry Berkeley Reynolds, 5th Earl of Ducie, Sale, Tortworth House, 1949.

See also: Martin Hardie, 'Watercolour Painting in Britain', Vol. I, 1966, p. 225.

Country Life, 3rd April and 6th November, 1926, for a good description of some of the subject matter.

15. The Frontispiece for Oriental Field Sports.

A tiger lying upon a rock, on the front of which is a creeper, to either side are palm trees.

Size: $9\frac{1}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Signed.

Subject engraved for the frontispiece.

(See illustration plate vi)

16. 'Hunters going out in the Morning'.

A forest camp with sportsmen preparing to leave and several dooreahs with hunting dogs.

Size: $11\frac{3}{4} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Signed.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 4th June, 1805. Plate i.

Note: Another version of the subject, with considerable differences, was exhibited here in 1971 and numbered 1.

(See illustration plate vi)

17. 'Beating Sugar Canes for a Hog'.

Three hunters are seen in the foreground, with a hog fleeing from the canes. Beyond the beaters is a mounted elephant, and a bungalow.

Size: $11\frac{3}{4} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 4th June, 1805. Plate ii.

(See illustration plate vi)

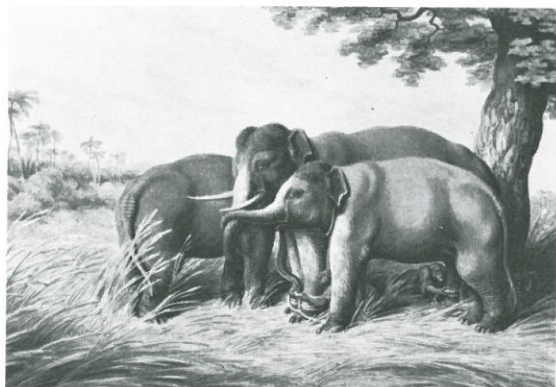
SAMUEL HOWITT
'Oriental Field Sports'



No. 22. The Return from Hog Hunting



No. 23. Driving Elephants into a Keddah



No. 24. Koomkies, or Decoy Elephants, catching a Male



No. 25. Decoy Elephants



No. 26. A Rhinoceros hunted



No. 29. Shooting a Tiger from a Platform

SAMUEL HOWITT
'Oriental Field Sports'



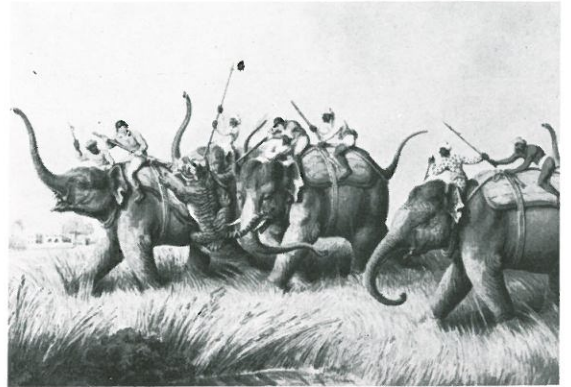
No. 30. Driving a Tiger out of the Jungle



No. 31. Chasing a Tiger across a River



No. 32. The Tiger at Bay



No. 33. A Tiger springing on an Elephant



No. 34. The Dead Tiger



No. 35. Shooters coming by surprise on a Tiger

SAMUEL HOWITT—continued

18. 'The Chase after the Hog'.

Mounted hunters chasing a hog into a field of sugar cane where natives are working.

Size: $11\frac{3}{4} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Signed.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st September, 1805. Plate iii.

Note: Another version of the subject, with considerable differences both in colour and composition, was exhibited here in 1971 and numbered 3.

(*See illustration plate vi*)

19. 'The Hog at Bay'.

Several hunters are attacking a hog, one horse and its rider on the ground in the foreground.

Size: $11\frac{5}{8} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st April, 1806. Plate iv.

Note: We believe this may be a slightly later version of the subject matter but the paper is watermarked 1799 J. Ruse and another version, with considerable differences, was exhibited here in 1971 and numbered 6.

(*See illustration plate vi*)

20. 'Hog Hunters coming by surprise on a Tigress'.

Beyond is an enormous row of native beaters and elephants.

Size: $11\frac{7}{8} \times 17\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 4th June, 1805. Plate v.

Note: We believe that this may be a slightly later version of the subject matter and another version, with considerable differences, was exhibited here in 1971 and numbered 4.

(*See illustration plate vi*)

21. 'The Dead Hog'.

Two hunters, native servants and their dogs examine the kill.

Size: $11\frac{1}{2} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Signed.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st November, 1805. Plate vi.

(*See illustration plate vi*)

22. 'The Return from Hog Hunting'.

To the left are mounted hunters, servants carrying their spears, others carry the dead hogs on bamboo poles, the cantonment seen to the right under trees.

Size: $11\frac{1}{2} \times 17$ inches.

Signed.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st November, 1805. Plate vii.

(*See illustration plate vii*)

23. 'Driving Elephants into a Keddah'.

In the foreground a gentleman and his lady watch the spectacle from the howdah of an elephant, as does an officer accompanied by his bearers.

Size: $11\frac{5}{8} \times 16\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 4th June, 1805. Plate viii

Note: We believe that this may be a slightly later version of the subject.

(*See illustration plate vii*)

SAMUEL HOWITT—*continued*

24. 'Koomkies, or Decoy Elephants, catching a Male'.
Whilst the decoys stand nearby, the front feet of the male are tied together, and one of its rear feet is attached to a tree.
Size: $11\frac{3}{4} \times 17$ inches.
Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st November, 1805. Plate ix.
(See illustration plate vii)
25. 'Decoy Elephants leaving the Male attached to a Tree'.
Size: $11\frac{5}{8} \times 17$ inches.
Signed.
Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st September, 1805. Plate x.
(See illustration plate vii)
26. 'A Rhinoceros hunted (or bayed) by Elephants'.
Five elephants surround the rhinoceros in a swamp, a wounded elephant to the right.
Size: $11\frac{5}{8} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.
Signed.
Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st January, 1806. Plate xi.
(See illustration plate vii)
27. 'A Tiger prowling through a Village'.
The tiger is sneaking into the village past palings, towards a pool where can be seen cattle and dogs.
Size: $11\frac{3}{4} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.
Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st April, 1806. Plate xii.
28. 'The Tiger seizing a Bullock in a Pass'.
Hand coloured watercolour over etched line.
Size: $12\frac{7}{8} \times 17\frac{3}{4}$ inches.
Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st January, 1806. Plate xiii.
Note: An original watercolour of this subject numbered 10, was exhibited here in 1971.
29. 'Shooting a Tiger from a Platform'.
A native, perched in a tower is shooting the tiger feeding on a dead bullock.
Size: $11\frac{5}{8} \times 16\frac{3}{4}$ inches.
Signed.
Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st September, 1805. Plate xiv.
Note: Another version of this subject with considerable differences, was exhibited here in 1971 and number 11.
(See illustration plate vii.)

SAMUEL HOWITT—*continued*

30. 'Driving a Tiger out of a Jungle'.

Elephants carrying hunters approach the tiger who is seen in undergrowth to the left.

Size: $11\frac{5}{8} \times 17$ inches.

Signed.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st January, 1806. Plate xv.

(*See illustration plate viii*)

31. 'Chasing a Tiger across a River'.

Numerous hunters mounted on elephants, one in the foreground shooting the tiger who is swimming across the river to the left.

Size: $11\frac{5}{8} \times 16\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 4th June, 1805. Plate xvi.

Note: We believe this may be a later version of the subject.

(*See illustration plate viii*)

32. 'The Tiger at Bay' or 'Shooting the Tiger'.

Several hunters mounted on elephants surrounding the tiger in marshy land.

Size: $11\frac{3}{4} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Signed.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st September, 1805. Plate xvii.

Note: Another version of this subject, with considerable differences, was exhibited here in 1971 and numbered 14.

(*See illustration plate viii*)

33. 'A Tiger springing on an Elephant'.

A group of five elephants with the tiger attacking the leading one, and other hunters coming to the rescue.

Size: $11\frac{1}{2} \times 17$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 4th June, 1806. Plate xviii.

(*See illustration plate viii*)

34. 'The Dead Tiger'.

The shooting party reassembles to inspect the kill. Plate xix.

Size: $11\frac{1}{2} \times 16\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 4th June, 1806.

(*See illustration plate viii*)

35. 'Shooters coming by surprise on a Tiger'.

The tiger is seen to the left holding a dog; two shooters, one on an elephant, another on foot, are in the centre and to the right is a bearer carrying game.

Size: $11\frac{5}{8} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Signed.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st January, 1807. Plate xx.

(*See illustration plate viii*)

SAMUEL HOWITT—*continued*

36. 'A Tiger Hunted by Wild Dogs'.

Size: $11\frac{5}{8} \times 17$ inches.

Signed.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 4th June, 1805. Plate xxi.

Note: Another version of this subject, with considerable differences, was exhibited here in 1971 and numbered 18.

(*See illustration opposite*)

37. 'A Tiger Killed by a Poisoned Arrow'.

Size: $11\frac{3}{4} \times 16\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Signed.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st January, 1807. Plate xxii.

38. 'Shooting a Leopard'.

A hunter shoots from an elephant the leopard which is in a tree to the left, with numerous dogs below.

Size: $11\frac{3}{4} \times 17$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 4th June, 1806. Plate xxiii.

(*See illustration opposite*)

39. 'Exhibition of a Battle between a Buffalo and a Tiger'.

A stadium constructed from bamboo poles, to the top of which cling numerous natives. To the right is a covered stand where sit Indian Nobility, Officers and their ladies.

Size: $11\frac{1}{2} \times 16\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st January, 1807. Plate xxiv.

Note: A related sketch for this watercolour is in the British Museum.

(*See illustration opposite*)

40. 'The Buffalo at Bay' or 'Hunting an old Buffalo'.

The animal is seen surrounded in marshy ground by hunters on elephants.

Size: $11\frac{5}{8} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st January, 1807. Plate xxv.

(*See illustration opposite*)

41. 'Peacock Shooting'.

A peacock is flighted from a pond, on which there are two storks: to the left are shooters with their servants.

Size: $11\frac{3}{4} \times 16\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 4th June, 1805. Plate xxvi.

Note: Another version of this subject, with considerable differences, was exhibited here in 1971, and numbered 27.

The pencil work in the background, which represents palm trees which are shown in the other version, confirms the view that this version may be a little later. The aquatint does not show these trees, thus suggesting that the engraver worked from this version.

(*See illustration opposite*)

SAMUEL HOWITT
'Oriental Field Sports'



No. 36. A Tiger hunted by Wild Dogs



No. 38. Shooting a Leopard



No. 39. Battle between a Buffalo and a Tiger



No. 40. Buffalo at Bay

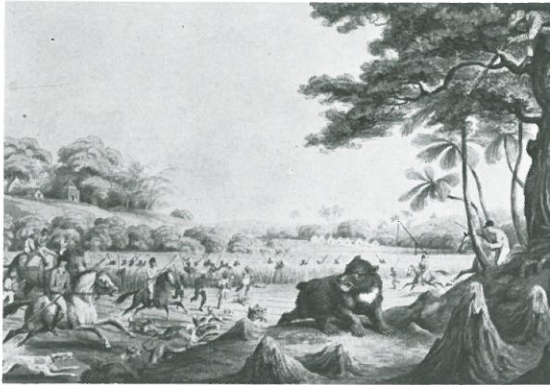


No. 41. Peacock Shooting



No. 42. Shooting at the Edge of a Jungle

SAMUEL HOWITT
'Oriental Field Sports'



No. 43. Driving a Bear out of Sugar Canes



No. 44. The Death of the Bear



No. 45. Hunting a Kuttauss



No. 46. Hunting Jackals



No. 47. Chase after the Wolf



No. 49. Smoking Wolves from their Earths

SAMUEL HOWITT—*continued*

42. 'Shooting at the Edge of a Jungle'.

A pool to the left, and a native holding two dogs which have sighted a hare.

Size: $11\frac{3}{4} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Subject engraved by J. Hamble and published 1st September, 1806. Plate xxvii.

Note: Another version of this subject, with considerable differences, was exhibited here in 1971 and numbered 30.

(*See illustration plate ix*)

43. 'Driving a Bear out of Sugar Canes'.

To the left are hunters, the bear in the centre under a tree from which a native is about to shoot.

Size: $11\frac{5}{8} \times 17$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st April, 1806. Plate xxviii.

(*See illustration opposite*)

44. 'The Death of the Bear'.

The bear surrounded by hunters, some with guns, others with spears an elephant with howdah beyond.

Size: $11\frac{5}{8} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 4th June, 1806. Plate xxix.

(*See illustration opposite*)

45. 'Hunting a Kuttauss or Civet Cat'.

A hunter on an elephant, with numerous natives and dogs by a water-garden.

Size: $11\frac{5}{8} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st April, 1806. Plate xxx.

(*See illustration opposite*)

46. 'Jackals rescuing a Hunted Brother' or 'Hunting Jackals'.

Dogs and jackals fighting to the right, huntsmen approaching through water from the left.

Size: $11\frac{1}{2} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Subject engraved by Viveres and published 1st January, 1806. Plate xxxi.

(*See illustration opposite*)

47. 'Chase after the Wolf when carrying off a Lamb.'

Natives with their dogs are pursuing the wolf, paddy fields and a river beyond.

Size: $11\frac{3}{4} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st January, 1807. Plate xxxii.

(*See illustration opposite*)

48. 'The Common Wolf Trap'.

At the edge of a village a kid, suspended in a basket over a pit, to entice the wolves to climb in.

Size: $11\frac{5}{8} \times 16\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st January, 1806. Plate xxxiii.

Note: Another version of this subject, with considerable differences, was exhibited here in 1971 and numbered 36.

SAMUEL HOWITT—*continued*

49. 'Smoking Wolves from their Earths'.
Soldiers and natives, from a camp seen in the distance, are attacking wolves in a ravine.
Size: $11\frac{7}{8} \times 17$ inches.
Subject engraved by J. Hamble and published 1st January, 1806. Plate xxxiv.
(*See illustration plate x*)
50. 'The Ganges breaking its Bank, with Fishing etc'
Flamingoes to the left, and natives fishing in the right foreground.
Size: $11\frac{5}{8} \times 17$ inches.
Signed.
Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st September, 1805. Plate xxxv.
Note: Another version of this subject, with considerable differences, was exhibited here in 1971 and numbered 39.
(*See illustration opposite*)
51. 'Killing Game in Boats' or 'Killing Game at the Inundation of an Island'. In the foreground are natives attacking a tiger, and to the right are buffalo in a swamp.
Size: $11\frac{3}{4} \times 17$ inches.
Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st September, 1806. Plate xxxvi.
(*See illustration opposite*)
52. 'Dooreahs, or Dog-Keepers, leading out Dogs'.
A Scene in a cantonment with numerous dogs and two horses in a stable to the left.
Size: $11\frac{3}{4} \times 16\frac{3}{4}$ inches.
Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 4th June, 1805. Plate xxxvii.
Note: Another version of this subject, with considerable differences, was exhibited here in 1971 and numbered 41.
There is also a related sketch in The British Museum.
(*See illustration opposite*)
53. 'Sices, or Grooms, leading out Horses'.
There are stables beyond in which there is a horse and an elephant, and further away are two camels.
Size: $11\frac{3}{4} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.
Signed.
Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st November, 1805. Plate xxxviii.
Note: Another version of this subject, with considerable differences, was exhibited here in 1971 and numbered 42.
(*See illustration opposite*)
54. 'Hunting a Hog-Deer' or 'Running a Hog-Deer'.
Huntsmen mounted on horses and an elephant pursuing the deer across a small stream.
Size: $11\frac{5}{8} \times 17$ inches.
Signed.
Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st April, 1806. Plate xxxix.
(*See illustration opposite*)

SAMUEL HOWITT
'Oriental Field Sports'



No. 50.

The Ganges



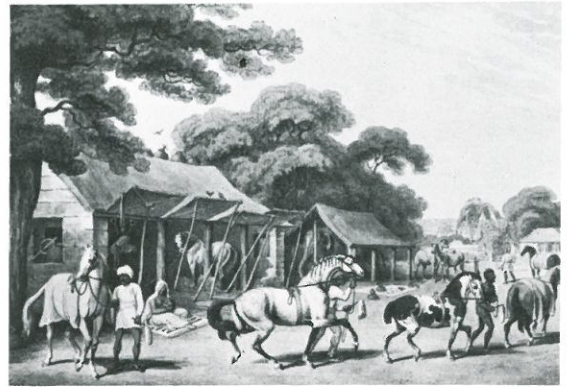
No. 51.

Killing Game in Boats



No. 52.

Dooreahs



No. 53.

Sices



No. 54.

Hunting a Hog-Deer



No. 55.

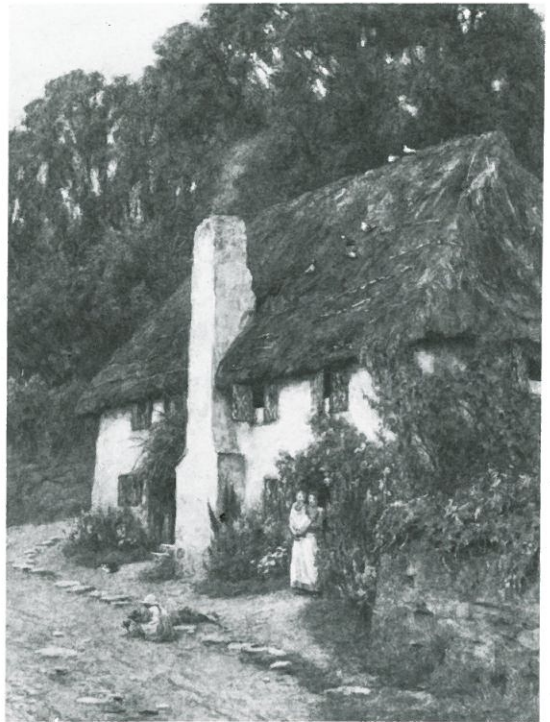
The Hog-Deer at Bay

HELEN ALLINGHAM, R.W.S.



No. 56.

By the Lilac Tree



No. 57.

A Cottage in South Devon



No. 58.

A Wiltshire Cottage



No. 59.

Resting

SAMUEL HOWITT—*continued*

55. 'The Hog-Deer at Bay'.

Two mounted hunters killing the deer, others on an elephant beyond.

Size: $11\frac{3}{4} \times 16\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

Subject engraved by H. Merke and published 1st January, 1807. Plate xl.

Note: We believe this to be a later version of the subject. Another version of the subject, with considerable differences, was exhibited here in 1971 and numbered 44.

(*See illustration plate xi*)

HELEN ALLINGHAM, R.W.S.

1848-1926

56. By the Lilac Tree.

A young girl, holding a doll, stands on a path beside a herbaceous border with a box hedge.

Size: $8 \times 6\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Signed.

(*See illustration opposite*)

57. A Cottage in South Devon

A woman stands holding a child outside the doorway, another child in the foreground. There are roses, lupins and delphiniums surrounding the door.

Size: $9 \times 6\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Signed.

(*See illustration opposite*)

58. A Wiltshire Cottage.

A young girl, holding a cat in a gateway, an apple tree to the right.

Size: $7\frac{1}{4} \times 8\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Signed.

(*See illustration opposite*)

59. Resting.

A young girl seated on a wooded hillside, a basket of apples at her side.

Size: 9×11 inches.

Signed and dated 1880.

(*See illustration opposite*)

60. St. Giorgio Maggiore, Venice, in bright sunlight with numerous gondolas in the foreground.

Size: $18\frac{3}{4} \times 14\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

Signed.

COLLECTION: Given by the artist to Sir James and Lady Crichton Brown in 1912.
Lady Lloyd, daughter of the above.
Mrs. C. Lambert, daughter of the above.