

THE RHINOCEROS HUNT AT MADRAS.

Madras Times, Dec. 9.)

We had expected, after the success of the Police on the night of Wednesday last in securing the rhinoceros with a strong rope, to have nothing more to record this morning than that the capture of the beast had been completed. But, contrary to our expectation, we have to give an account of another holiday enjoyed by the animal within the limits of the Park. Early yesterday morning, the rhinoceros was found with the noose that had been fastened round his neck during the previous night, and he was moving about as far as the rope would allow him to go, and, perchance, would have been satisfied to remain as he was, if he were left undisturbed. His pursuers, however, renewed their efforts to fasten his legs with a rope, and the beast being thus worried, was determined to show what he was still capable of, and, after a few slight jerks, broke the rope, and was once more free to roam wherever he chose. The capturing party held a consultation as to what should be done next, and Major Bowen, Mr. Loch, Colonel Napier Campbell, and Colonel Fordyce having arrived, it was resolved to set elephants against the beast to reduce him to subjection. In accordance with that resolution, four elephants were brought into the Park and were made to face the rhinoceros. The beast was at this time enjoying a walk on the bank of the Cooum; but, on seeing the four elephants with their riders advancing towards him, he halted and looked at them, wondering within himself as to what was intended. It was, however, not long before he became aware that his huge friends were not approaching him with any friendly intentions, and he soon prepared himself to meet an attack. Colonel Napier Campbell was on one of the elephants, and that animal went forward towards the rhinoceros, and twisted his trunk about the body of the beast with slight success, and it first appeared that the formidable elephant would, with the assistance of his three friends, obtain an easy victory over the rhinoceros; but such was not to be the issue of the war, and the rhinoceros, though at first he

seemed as if he would be discomfited, stood up boldly, and charged his opponent with all his might and nearly knocked him over, and compelled him to best a retreat. The other elephants, after seeing the result of the encounter of their friend with the rhinoceros, declined to have anything to do with the beast, and turned their backs upon him and fairly belted away. The midmost of the elephants was thrown off but the elephants very graciously and quickly picked him up with his trunk, and replaced him in his seat. The rhinoceros looked triumphantly about him, and, watching his opponents as they retreated, stood on the spot where he had won his victory, as if waiting to see whether they would come back to renew the engagement. But, being satisfied that the elephants had gone altogether, he once more set about amusing himself as on the previous day, at one time jumping into a pond to cool himself, another time indulging in a feed on grass or taking a little exercise on the bank of the stream. His pursuers of the forest, having provided themselves with fresh and longer ropes, again planned measures to capture him, and he was fastened with two ropes about his body. The capturing party, imagining that he was now secured, crowded round him, when he burst the ropes with ease, and made a charge, and knocked three men down, but they fortunately escaped with only slight bruises. At about three o'clock, however a stout rope was passed over the neck of the animal, and two other ropes were fastened about his body and a third rope was tied up to a tree, and there he kept on, his escaping from where he was, while paper was piled all round him, and afterwards his legs were further fastened with chains. Thus ended the holiday of the rhinoceros.