

HUNTING

THE PRINCE OF WALES IN INDIA.

AMONGST the various pleasures which the Royal Tour must undoubtedly have given to the Prince during his, in many ways memorable Eastern visit will rank the remembrance of the real hunt His Royal Highness had at Lahore in February, when he rode a horse the property of an officer of the garrison, and who was also one of the whippers-in. The Lahore Hunt, it will be remembered, was established in 1873 by Major Willis, of the Royal Horse Artillery, and twenty-six years later was revived by Lieut.-Colonel E. C. Lock and Mr P. Bevan Petman. The present Master and huntsman, who took office in 1917, is Lieut.-Colonel W. F. S. Casson, D.S.O., and he has twenty-two couples of imported hounds, who hunt jackal in the country round Lahore twice a week from mid-November to mid-March. The country is mostly irrigated land, with several big woodlands, and there is plenty of ditch and bank jumping. It may be added that the Prince's horse during the run in question carried him well over the ditches, irrigation cuts, and open water courses, which, as will be gathered from the above remarks, are the chief obstacles in the country. On the day referred to, hounds met at Shah-hi-Kui at half-past six in the morning for the wind-up of the season, a large field turning out in appreciation of the presence of the Royal visitor. The weather conditions were distinctly favourable, and hounds moved off punctually, and drawing down the thorn scrub on the left bank of the canal put up a jack. On a good scent they drove along, crossing the Ajodhyapur road, and, taking a left-handed turn in the direction of Kot Lakhpat, ran up to the covert when it looked for a moment as if the wire boundary fence had turned the jack; but presently the pack were stopped, and the Ajodhyapur Copse was drawn from the north end. A jackal was soon holloed away from the opposite end with the pack almost on his back, and he was pulled down before he was able to go very far. The third find took place in a covert by Shadiwalla, where a jackal went away at once; but when hounds settled to the line, scent began to deteriorate rapidly, and soon gave out altogether. The best fun of the day was undoubtedly enjoyed with the first jackal, though the run was on the short side; but during the hunt hounds are declared to have never run better. The chopping of the second jackal was undoubtedly unfortunate, but at the same time probably unavoidable; and altogether the staff of the Lahore Hunt had every reason to congratulate themselves on the sport they had been able to give the Prince.

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