

SCENES IN ASIA,

FOR THE

AMUSEMENT AND INSTRUCTION

OF

LITTLE TARRY-AT-HOME TRAVELLERS.

BY THE

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alive to Europe. Some, however, which have been thus brought under observation, were very imitative of man; and learned to sit at table, to make use of a spoon or fork, to pour liquor into a glass, and to perform many other diverting actions.

38. *Battle between the Tiger and the Rhinoceros.*

These are both solitary creatures, which habitually hide themselves in the deep recesses of the forest; but they sometimes meet at the edge of the river, where they both come to drink. The Rhinoceros is a harmless creature; he lives on vegetables, and would hurt no one if let alone; but he is dreadful when provoked, on account of his prodigious strength. His loose skin is so thick that a musket-ball will scarcely penetrate it. When attacked, his mode of fighting is to toss his enemy up in the air, catch him on his sharp stout horn, and then trample him to death. And this he does when the tiger ventures to attack him.

Hark ! the terrific tiger's roar
 Resounds along the barren shore ;
 On the Rhinoceros he springs,
 Who high in air th' assailant flings ;
 And tho' his colours brightly glow,
 (Gold, velvet-black, and driven snow,)
 The mighty victor, strong and rude,
 Tramples his coat in mire and blood.
 But, whilst we hear his dying groan,
 We feel the fault was all his own :
 So wide, so large, the river's brink,
 He might have gone elsewhere to drink ;
 Or waited, bid him then good-bye,
 And said, " you've drank, sir : so will I."

39. *The Crocodile.*

One of the most dreadful inhabitants of the rivers, in very hot countries, is the crocodile, which can live either in or out of the water. They grow sometimes to the length of thirty feet : have a tremendous mouth, are ferocious, powerful, and prey upon all they can catch : persons who have occasion to go near the river side are therefore obliged to be on their guard. They run very fast, and the only way to