

THE JUNGLE TROPHY AT THE COLONIES.

A CHAT WITH MR. ROWLAND WARD.

EVERYBODY who has visited the Exhibition at South Kensington has seen the great jungle trophy by the steps which lead into the great gallery set apart for "India." The painted board in front conveys the information that the trophy is executed and exhibited by Mr. Rowland Ward, naturalist, but the information is worth giving in a little more detail than that. The other day, while our representative was taking notes at the "show," he saw the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, the Marquis of Salisbury, and some other distinguished men looking at Mr. Ward's exhibit. So when they had departed, he engaged Mr. Ward, who was standing by at the time, in a conversation about the way in which he had prepared so big a glass case of natural history. He began at once, Artemus Ward-like, and with his cane pointed out this, that, and the other special features, emphasizing pretty frequently the amount of study which had been required to paint the eye of that tiger, telling how long it had taken to get the indispensably wild expression in the eye of the elephant who was in conflict with another tiger, and how much pains had been bestowed upon this and that animal. From the conversation it appeared that the collection grouped behind those great sheets of glass were two distinct trophies—the one called "In the Forefront of the Tiger Hunt," being the property of "his Royal Highness the Maharajah of Kooch Behar," who is one of Mr. Ward's eminent customers; and the other, "Jungle Life," having been executed by him to the order of the Exhibition Commissioners, who granted a certain sum of money for the purpose, to grace the Indian Court with something representative of the general fauna and flora of India.

"The idea which I had to carry out," said Mr. Ward, "was to group the representative animals and birds as picturesquely as possible in illustration of their habits. I commenced the drawings of the trophy last June; but I should like to have had much more time to make the collection. I have been put to all manner of shifts in order to get the group ready and not disappoint the Commissioners. Many of the animals which I ordered from India have not arrived now, but fortunately I had a good many skins lying in my warehouses—as I might call them—waiting to be modelled when the occasion arises, and I have had to prepare many of these 'stock' animals, in consequence of the others not having turned up. My father before me, and my grandfather before him, were both well known naturalists in London, but I am the last of the clan," and poor Mr. Ward spoke so sorrowfully at the reflection that I could not help feeling certain that when he too shall go the way of all the Ward family, London will be poor indeed. "I have made this kind of thing," he continued, "my peculiar study since I was eleven years old, and I have devoted all my time to investing taxidermy with artistic merit. I hold that nobody can be a good naturalist who cannot draw and model upon strictly anatomical principles. Some people think that an animal's skin is just stuffed with so much straw as you can cram inside it, and the thing is done. Not a bit of it! My animals are not treated like that. I have first to construct a perfect model of the beast in composition, and prepare it by a special process of my own, and then cover it with the skin. Then I go to the Zoological Gardens, and study the expression of the face, the colour of the eye, the pose of an animal under certain conditions, and make careful drawings, to be carried out in the workshop."

"Look first at the trophy of the Rajah of Kooch Behar. It represents a great group in the deep grass jungle. A hunting elephant preceding the beaters has come upon a group of tigers, one of which has sprung upon him with a deadly grip; others are near or retreating in the tall grass and bamboo copse. I have been at a great disadvantage in arranging this for want of space; if I had had more room I could have given a greater depth to the jungle, and so produced a still better effect. But these animals, which are lent by the Rajah, are going back to India to be fitted up in his palace. Most of them were shot by himself, in his Highness's dominions: there are the finest jungles for big game which can be found in India. Look at that tiger. Would you believe it?—all the expression on the noble beast's face is gained by the disposition of his whiskers. I made a special study of it from the life—went to the 'Zoo' and made a tiger snarl by rattling the bars, and afterwards fixed the whiskers in my mounted tiger in exact imitation. Thirty hours at a stretch have I given to the preparation of that tiger. Overhead I have disposed several heads of the rhinoceri. One of these especially is a very fine specimen, killed by the Rajah. The whole skin was sent to me, but I had time to model the beast entire. When the heads reach me, they are just a shapeless mass, like a dried turtle perhaps more than anything else, and the tigers' skins are, of course, as stiff as boards before they are dressed. The bamboo canes used here to represent the jungle came from India. I had a free telegraph pass to wire there for anything I wanted in this way—for which privilege I have to thank Dr. Watts, who has charge of the Indian exhibits. Some of the 'foliage' in the Commissioners' Exhibit, however, I had to manufacture myself."

"Now, in this trophy of the Royal Commission I have tried to represent generally the fauna and flora of India by typical animals and birds, grouped as much as possible in illustration of their life habits. The Commission particularly wanted me to show a wild boar hunt; in the forefront there, by the watercourse, I have illustrated the sport of pig-sticking in India. All around, in the vegetation of the country, I have placed as much of the natural history of the country as can be disposed in such a space with any effect, and among the animals represented are the cheetah and axis, gaur, buffalo, bears, Ovis ammon, hog deer, black buck, leopards. Among the reptiles are alligators, pythons, snakes, and lizards. And, besides these, I have added a number of the brilliant-plumaged birds which inhabit the jungle, as well as all this big game."

Mr. Ward has other exhibits in the exhibition—one in Ceylon and another in South Africa. The latter includes a fine collection of antelope heads.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A CHINAMAN ON THE DUKE OF ARGYLL'S LOGIC.

To the EDITOR of the PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—One of our great philosophers, Mo-tze (book 12, cap. 47) is reported to have said to one of his pupils: "If a man of sound reason and judgment were called upon to perform the functions of a butcher and slay a pig, you may rest assured that, if he has not learned the handicraft, he will decline to do it; but if he is invited to perform the functions of a Prime Minister and sway a kingdom, though he may know nothing of politics, you may rest convinced that he will do it." I am a Chinaman, and know nothing of English politics. I do not feel competent, therefore, to offer an opinion on the points at issue between the Duke of Argyll and Mr. Gladstone. But I have studied logic in China, and I therefore make bold to criticise the line of argument employed by the Duke in his "Three Letters" published in the *Times*. 1. Mr. Gladstone seems to have remarked that certain classes, say the Dukes, who are opposed to him, might be swayed by prejudices peculiar to their class. The Duke replies that Mr. Gladstone, too, belongs to a class—the class of Prime Ministers—and may be subject, therefore, to the prejudices peculiar to that class. In China we do not call this an argument, but *Eul fu*—"Thou also;" in Latin, *Tu quoque*. Also, we should in China distinguish between a class, inheriting certain prejudices, and a profession, such as that of a statesman, which is open to everybody—to a commoner as well as to a Duke. 2. The Duke maintains that it requires a high degree of intelligence and education to form a just opinion of the bill for the better government of Ireland, and that the highly educated classes must be better judges than the masses. Yet he declares Mr. Gladstone, who knew ten thousand words, and therefore received a first-class at one of your universities, to be the most incompetent judge, and he hopes that the unintelligent classes will exercise their judgment and turn him out. Is not this unconscionable in the extreme! —Your younger brother blockhead,

LO-KUAN-CHANG.

CO-OPERATION AND QUALITY.

To the EDITOR of the PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—You were kind enough some weeks ago to give room to some remarks of mine upon co-operation. Perhaps you will allow me space to refer to two points in co-operative production which seem hardly to have received sufficient prominence in your recent notices of it. The first is that it is one of the main objects of the co-operative movement to keep up the quality of the work. In this I believe it has been fairly successful. But that is not the point. I am speaking merely of its aim. Its aim is to produce the best work at a fair price. The second point is that the co-operative associations established in London, notably the seamstresses, rely mainly upon hand-work. Now I wish to ask through your columns, Does the public understand the meaning of these two facts taken together? Do people understand that in hand-made articles there is no such thing as cheapness? So-called cheapness means that the workers are underpaid or, which comes to the same thing, are overworked. But overworked hands cannot produce good work, and therefore your cheap work will be bad work. In other words, it will not be cheap at all. Now, if this process of argument be reversed, we arrive at the point I wish to emphasize. It is this: that hand-produced work which is good cannot have been produced by hands that are overworked. If, then, those who can afford it—and it is they to whom I speak—would realize once for all that it is their bounden duty to give a fair price for a good article, would not the "problem of the shirt" be solved? I do not say that bad work may not be produced by good hands; I do not even say that good work may not be produced by machinery guided by overworked hands, but this I do say that overworked hands cannot produce good hand-work. It is we the consumers who are really to blame in this matter of the shirt-maker. It is we who corrupt the producer. If we cease to demand cheap articles the producer will cease to produce them. Co-operative production is an attempt to teach us this.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. H. MUIRHEAD.

TO THE STATIONMASTER AT CHARING CROSS.

To the EDITOR of the PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—Being a constant reader of your valuable paper, allow me through it to try and call the immediate attention of the stationmaster at Charing-cross to the loungers that infest that place, so much so that it is quite impossible for a lady to come on the platform and wait for her train without being grossly insulted by some so-called gentleman coming up to her to speak, and goodness only knows what these blackguards may say. Just now, when we have so many of our lady friends from over the Atlantic, and, besides, our wives or sisters (as the case may be) at home, it is high time something should be done, for as matters now stand we cannot let a lady friend cross the platform at Charing-cross station alone. Trusting you will be able to find space for these few lines, I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

W. R. CADOGAN-ROTHÉ

TO THE MANAGERS OF THE "COLONIES."

To the EDITOR of the PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—I would respectfully suggest that the authorities might without much cost provide better pathway in the grounds, by removing the loose stones or shingle which at present exist to the irritation of thousands who would derive so much more pleasure in perambulating the grounds of the "Colonies" were the paths swept clean.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

W. K.

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