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DURING his visit to India the Prince of WALBES
will probably have some opportunity of joining in
a form of "sport" which is rather more exciting
than grouse driving, pigeon shooting, or the
slaughter of hand-fed pheasants. "Sport" in the
jungle has an entirely different meaning from
sport in the turnip field or in the cover. A little
sketch of a holiday visit to the Soonderbuns,
given under the head of "Sporting" in the *Indian
Daily News*, of Oct. 22nd, will serve to bring out
the contrast between the relaxations indulged in
by Indian officials and those in which Englishmen
spend their leisure. One Sunday morning last
month a party of four gentlemen started from
Calcutta, and travelling fifty miles eastward halted
at the village of Hosseinabad. Another stage of
twenty miles to the south brought them to
Issuripore, where they heard that wild animals—
pheasants, by the way, are called wild animals in
England—were "having their own way among
cattle and human beings." The sportsmen there-
fore picked up a few guides and native "Shikarees"
who soon brought them into the company of the
wild beasts of the forest. Two gentlemen taking
each bank of a river, the party penetrated six
miles into the jungle, when they sighted two male
"rhinos" and a female. The nearest sportsman
fired but, though he was an experienced hunter,
with no result; and footsore and weary the party
had to retrace their steps, reaching their resting-
place in time to partake of "dinner" in the small
hours of the morning. When it is remembered
that in a Soonderbun expedition he is
often obliged to crawl on all-fours, or to wade
through marshes up to the waist in water, or to
tramp mile after mile over soft boggy soil into
which the foot sinks ten or twelve inches at every
step, it will be allowed that considerable fortitude
and physical endurance are necessary on the part
of the sportsman. Other difficulties in the shape
of snakes, and "boas" twelve inches in diameter,
have also to be contended with, and "a sort
of reddish-black ant, as savage as a tiger,
and whose bite is, for the minute, simply agony,"
is spoken of as a special nuisance. And, not to
speak of the risk involved, there is the utmost
difficulty in sighting a tiger, though the tracks of
these animals are sufficiently numerous. But, to
return to our narrative, on the second day of their
sport, after pushing through several miles of
jungle—frequently by crawling on all-fours—the
party came in sight of the rhinoceros which had
been fired at the day before. To get near enough
for a shot was no easy matter, but one of the
party, creeping on all-fours, got within ten yards
of the pool where the big beast was wallowing,
and gave him the benefit of some five ounces of a
lead bullet into his right shoulder. Even then
the "rhino" was able to charge, but another shot in
the left shoulder "bowled him over," and he was
found to be so fine a specimen that his skin was for-
warded to the Asiatic Museum. Two days after—
the interval having been spent in rhinoceros-shoot-
ing—two other members of the party came across
a fine female tiger. Attracted by the cry of her cub,
which had lost its way, the brute sprung to
within ten yards of the sportsmen, when a bullet
full in the breast made her turn tail. Several
other shots were fired, but with less effect, and the
night falling it was not possible to follow the in-
furiated animal to its lair—especially as signs of
the presence of a large male tiger were not want-
ing. Next day the party proceeded slowly and
vigilantly into the jungle, where they found their
foe enjoying a *siesta*, from which no amount of
shouting could wake her; and on discovering
that she was dead the Shikarees indulged in
"polite expletives reflecting on fourteen genera-
tions of her female ancestors." Pursuing their
sport for a few days the party enjoyed some deer
stalking fully equal in respect of excitement to

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anything [that the Prince of WALES enjoys annually in the Forest of Ballocbuie, or other favoured spots of the Scottish Highlands. Occasionally on the banks of the Mungul River they came across beautiful park-like lands, open but studded with clumps of trees, while on the other side the river the jungle was impenetrable. It is quite evident from this brief sketch of an outing of a week or ten days from Calcutta that, in addition to the other benefits of India to England on which Mr. GRANT DUFF enlarges, that country may long afford a happy hunting-ground for the irrepressible British sportsman. By the time that the Radical reaction with which we have so long been threatened shall arrive, and sweep before its mighty wave the Game Laws and other "remnants of feudalism," no doubt Mr. COOK will be ready to take wearied legislators and others at a small cost and with little delay to enjoy their autumn sport among the "noble game" that haunt the Indian jungles.

OUR METROPOLITAN LETTER