

W. H. Stocqueler

THE

BENGAL SPORTING

AND

GENERAL MAGAZINE.

CONDUCTED

BY

J. H. STOCQUELER, ESQ.

EDITOR OF THE ENGLISHMAN, &c.

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JANUARY TO JUNE,

1837.

DEDICATED TO ASMODEUS.

Calcutta:

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frame the rules and regulations for the Club. As soon as they are completed they will be published for the approval of the subscribers.

COMMITTEE.

General Stevenson,		J. Neave,
Brigadier Churchill,		F. Hickey,
H. Fraser Junior,		

G. F. TYLER, *Secy.*

I have since heard that many other gentlemen have subscribed, and that the races have been framed and are now being circulated for approval. So soon as I can get a correct copy of the proceedings you shall again hear from your well wisher,

‘OBSERVATOR,’

Upper Provinces, Feb. 1837.

 RHINOCEROS HUNTING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BENGAL SPORTING AND GENERAL
MAGAZINE.

MY DEAR EDITOR,—About four o'clock in the afternoon of the 13th instant, I learnt that a fine large rhinoceros had ensconced himself in a patch of bamboos near the peaceful village of Gozgotto, six miles from this station. He amused himself by playing off a number of tricks on the villagers and had frightened them very much. I immediately determined to attack him, and sent a messenger to my good friend, ‘Rhinoceros’ to come with me, (who was out on duty 8 miles off). As for ‘Marmion’ he too was from home and I had to go and attack the foe alone; I arrived at the ground about six o'clock and found a multitude of people at the look out. The animal was in a patch of bamboos on the banks of an old nulla (river); I rode round to try to see him, but he did not appear till it began to get dark, when he walked boldly out into the nulla below. He seemed to be of great size and power, and an awkward customer for a person to deal with on the back of a newly caught elephant from which a shot had never been fired. I now began to despair of getting him, for it was dark; the new moon had risen, and I sent people on

all sides to try to inform me of his motions. My Elephant had not arrived, and I waited impatiently to see her; at last she announced herself by trumpeting aloud, and I made up my mind to attack him, although I could not see overclearly at night; the song 'meet me by moonlight alone' came to my recollection, and I laughed outright. I loaded a large gun (10 to the pound) and mounted my elephant, not however without some trouble, for she had been hurried out and was in very bad humour. This she displayed by knocking my factotum down with her trunk and bruising him severely. Now I was afraid she might dislike a gun and throw me off when I fired; but this could not stop me. I seated myself firmly behind the Mahout on the pad, and advanced along the banks of the nulla slowly, some two or three hundred yards, when I saw him. He charged down on me at once at a sort of amble or trot, making an extraordinary noise something like the grunting of a pig, and seemed bent on trying his strength on the Elephant; but I was not desirous of a collision and bore away to the right, and, whilst doing so, I fired at him. He continued the chase some 30 yards and stopt; when I turned he was not to be seen: having again advanced, I saw him some fifteen paces off in a ploughed field. Nearing him a little he turned round and exposed his broad side, when I fired at his shoulder. I again retreated, for I had not another ball to give him: he charged up close to my elephant's heels and I expected to get a shake and so held hard by the ropes; but no, he fell behind, and I turned once more and saw him, as it were, tumbling or going down some steep bank. My Mahout said, 'he is down,' but these people are not always to be depended on, and I could not see clearly. Having dropt a flint I retreated to put one in and load my gun by torch light, near a house. I returned and advanced slowly and found him dead amongst some grass: he had been hit on the shoulder and flank, and measured

	feet	inches
Height.	4	5
Length.	12	2

He proved to be a male, with a pretty large horn, and he was a very powerful animal. I finished the work at 9 P M, and

dined at a Potwaree's house, and slept there all night on a mechaun ; next day some thousands of people came to see him, and carried away his flesh and skin for medicine and charms ; nobody can say where he has come from, for there is no large jungle nearer than 40 or 50 miles ; he had opened up a hut, and frightened an old man very much, and had injured many fields of tobacco, rice &c. During the day he had charged out three times, and nearly got hold of a passenger. I am about to start very soon with my friend RHINOCEROS for Ching Maree, and no doubt he will let you know what we do there amongst the tigers. I am sorry to say that our friend MARMION is about to leave us, for he is not only an excellent huntsman, but is one of the most agreeable members of society I have met with

I am, yours truly

A GALLOVIDIAN,

R—pore }
24th Feb. 1837. }

P. S. I have just learnt that the Rhinoceros had killed a man and a boy some few days before I shot him.

LITTER-ARY LEAVES OR PROSY VERSE.*

We could write a long and edifying article on the change which has taken place in India, since our first advent to its shores, ('eheu fugaces Posthume!')—we could dilate upon the march of intellect as evinced in the improvement of our heathen brethren ; and we could dwell on the Town Hall meetings, the Steam Tug associations, the Ice concerns, the Horticultural dinners and the rail road and Black Act committees, together with the merit fostering minutes and the abolition of flogging in the native army, all this could we do, and infinitely to our own satisfaction. But should we be appreciated? 'Aye, there's the rub!' We know how thankless such tasks would be, and we entertain serious doubts whether the Editor would insert an article of the kind, for even