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THE
MENAGERIES.

QUADRUPEDS,

DESCRIBED AND DRAWN FROM LIVING SUBJECTS.

VOLUME THE SECOND.

LONDON:

CHARLES KNIGHT, PALL MALL EAST;
LONGMAN, REES, ORME, BROWN, & GREEN, PATERNOSTER-RROW;
OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH; ATKINSON & CO., GLASGOW;
WAKEMAN, DUBLIN; WILLMER, LIVERPOOL;
AND BAINES & CO., LEEDS.

MDCCCXXXI.

followers, who were exerting the utmost speed of their respective elephants, to come up to his assistance. The constant desire felt by the elephant to get rid of his unwelcome rider, which produced a waving and irregular pace, gave the opportunity, for those who were mounted on light and speedy animals, to overtake the singular fugitives. Another gentleman of the party coming up close, was enabled to choose his position; when, taking a safe aim, he shot the tiger, which fell to the ground and required no farther operations *."

A well-trained elephant has been known to catch the springing-tiger upon his tusks. This, however, is a rare accomplishment. If their enemy falls near them, they will instantly kneel upon his body, at the same time transfixing him to the earth. This is partly an effect of instinct and partly of education. They are first familiarized to the appearance of a tiger, by a stuffed skin being thrown in their way, upon which they are taught to trample and kneel. A calf is sometimes put inside the skin;—and then the elephant is indeed terrified. Some become so excessively alarmed, that no threats or entreaties will induce them to go near the object of their dread. Others are more courageous; and these, of course, are selected for occasions of real peril. One of the most difficult operations in this course of instruction is to persuade the elephant to bear a dead tiger on his back. Mr. Williamson saw a tiger, which had been insufficiently secured on the back of an elephant, fall off on the way home from the chase; the poor animal was so terrified at the moment, that he resisted every attempt to replace the carcase, and no other elephant in the field would endure the hateful burthen †.

* Oriental Field Sports, p. 72.

† In the first volume of this work, p. 188, will be found a description of a tiger hunt, in which Bishop Heber was engaged.



Dead Tiger.

The elephant has an equal terror of the rhinoceros. It appears, from some statements in which Mr. Williamson confided, that if a herd of elephants encounter this formidable animal, they retreat, if possible, without hazarding an encounter. Major Lally stated to the author of *Oriental Field Sports*, that he once witnessed, from a distant hill, a most desperate engagement between a large male and a rhinoceros, in which the elephant was worsted and fled*.

* The cut representing an "Elephant attacked by a Rhinoceros" is from Capt. Williamson's work.



Elephant attacked by a Rhinoceros.

the Memoirs of Baber, however, we collect that the terror is mutual. "When we had gone a short way, a man came after us with notice that a rhinoceros had entered a little wood near Bekrâm, and that they had surrounded the wood, and were waiting for us. We immediately proceeded towards the wood, at full gallop, and cast a ring round it. Instantly, on our raising the shout, the rhinoceros issued out into the plain, and took to flight. They followed it for nearly a kos, shot many arrows at it, and finally brought it down. This rhinoceros did not make a good set at any person, or any horse. They afterwards killed another rhinoceros. I had often amused myself with conjecturing how an elephant and rhinoceros would behave if brought to face each other; on this occasion the elephant keepers brought out the elephants so that one elephant fell right in with the rhinoceros. As soon as the elephant-drivers put their beasts in motion, the rhinoceros would not come up, but immediately ran off in another direction*."

* Memoirs, p. 292.