

ADDENDA.

ANECDOTES AND DESCRIPTIONS, chiefly illustrative of the manners of the most remarkable animals, collected from various respectable authorities.

MONKEYS.

DR. Buchanan, in his travels through India, informs us of some curious particulars concerning the veneration in which monkeys are held by the inhabitants of that country.

The monkeys in India are extremely destructive, not only plundering the gardens, but in some instances attacking the houses of the inhabitants. At Mail-cotay the roofs are covered with thorns, to prevent these troublesome animals from tearing up the tiles, and casting them at the heads of the people who are traversing the streets. Yet such is the blindness of these idolaters, that the very person who applauds his Guru for having ground the Jainas, an heterodox people, with their priests, in an oil mill, because they would not listen to his instruction, will shudder with horror when he contemplates the murder of a monkey.

The monkeys are not only defended by popular superstition, but they are under the immediate protection of the Daseris, a kind of religious mendicants, who assemble round any person guilty of their death, and allow him no rest, until he bestows on the animal a funeral, that will cost him from one hun-

dred to two hundred fanams, according to the number of Daseris that have assembled on the occasion.

The proprietors of the gardens used formerly to hire a particular class of men, who took these animals in nets, and then by stealth conveyed them into the gardens of some distant village; but as the people there had recourse to the same expedient, all parties have become tired of this practice.

After all, the intelligent traveller delivers it as his opinion, that if government ordered the extirpation of the monkeys, the inhabitants would secretly rejoice, though for decency's sake they might raise an extraordinary clamour.

Some species of monkeys are said to paint their faces of a red colour, by rubbing them against the fruit of a certain tree, which, from that circumstance, has taken the name of the monkey's face tree.

The inhabitants of Java pretend to a fellow feeling for one species of monkey which they call wow-wow, they having a tradition, that their ancestors originally sprung from that species of ape.

RHINOCEROS

VAILLANT, in his second travels in Africa, gives us the following curious and animated description of the hunt of two of these animals.

In the midst of this immense menagery, the variety of which kept me in a continual state of enchantment, I was surprised not to find that prodigious number of rhinoceroses which had been mentioned to me by the people of Haripashorde. One day, however, Klaas, who was always concerned in every matter of importance, and the first to communicate agreeable intelligence, came in great haste to my tent to inform me, that he had observed, at some distance from my camp, two of these ani-

mals, standing quietly, close to each other, in the middle of the plain; and that I had it in my power to enjoy the pleasure of the finest hunt I had ever yet experienced.

The hunt indeed promised to be amusing; but, independently of danger, I foresaw that it was likely to be attended with difficulties. To attack two such formidable enemies, it was necessary to use great precautions, and that we should approach them in such a manner, as that they might neither see nor smell us, which is always very difficult. I at first proposed to form a ring, which should surround them on all sides; and to advance upon them, gradually contracting a circle so as to unite the moment we were about to commence our attack; but the savages assured me that, with these animals, this plan was impracticable. I gave myself up, therefore, entirely to their directions; and we set out armed alike, with a good fusee, and with the necessary courage. All my hunters wished to be of the party, and each proposed to display the greatest prowess. I caused two of my strongest dogs to be led in a leash, in order that they might be let loose on the rhinoceroses in case it would be found necessary. We were obliged to make a long circuit to gain the lee side of them, lest they should smell us, along a river, the course of which we followed under cover of the large trees that grew on its banks, when Klaas soon made us observe the two animals, at about the distance of a quarter of a league in the plain.

As one of them was much larger than the other, I supposed them to be a male and a female. Motionless by the side of each other, they were still in the same posture in which Klaas had first seen them, but they stood with their noses to the wind, and consequently presented to us their rumps. It is the custom of these animals, when thus at rest, to place

themselves in the direction of the wind, in order that they may discover by their smell what enemies they have to dread. From time to time, however, they move their heads round to take a look behind them ; but it is only a look, and they soon return to their former position.

We had already deliberated on the disposition to be made for commencing the attack, and I was giving some orders to my company, when Jonker, one of my Hottentots, requested that I would permit him to attack the two animals alone, as a *bekruyper*.

My readers will here recollect, that, when I foolishly attempted to cross the elephant's river near its mouth, on the trunk of a tree, Jonker was one of the swimmers who saved my life ; and that in return, at the desire of my companions, I raised him to the rank of hunter. At that time he was entirely a novice in this exercise ; but I have already remarked, that he afterwards became a most excellent shot, and surpassed all the rest of my hunters, particularly in the art of creeping.

I have before observed that hunting in Africa has no resemblance to that in Europe ; that to get within reach of certain wild animals, we must approach them without being perceived ; and that it is impossible to get near them but by creeping on the belly. Those who have acquired this art are called *bekruypers* ; and it was in this quality that Jonker asked leave to attack alone the two rhinoceroses, assuring me that he would acquit himself to my satisfaction.

As his design would not prevent the execution of our plan ; and as, in case his particular attack should not succeed, it would not impede our general one, I granted this request. He then stripped himself naked, and, taking his fusee, proceeded towards the animals, creeping on his belly like a serpent.

In the mean time I pointed out to my hunters the different posts they were to occupy. They repaired to them by circuitous ways, each accompanied by two men. As for me, I remained on the spot where I was, with two Hottentots, one of whom held my horse, and the other my dogs; but, to avoid being seen, we posted ourselves behind a bush.

In my hand I held a glass, which had often enabled me to see the operation of stage machinery, and the effect of our theatrical decorations. How changed the scene! At this moment it brought before me two hideous monsters, which at times turned towards me their frightful heads. Their movements, which indicated fear and observation, soon became more frequent, and I was apprehensive they had heard the agitation of my dogs, who, having discovered them, made efforts to escape from the keeper, and rush upon them.

Jonker still kept slowly advancing, but with his eyes fixed on the two animals. If he saw them turn their heads, he stopped and remained motionless. One would have taken him for a large stone; and indeed, in this respect, I myself was deceived.

He continued creeping, with various interruptions, for more than an hour. At length I saw him proceed towards a large bush of euphorbia, which was only two hundred paces from the animals. Being certain, when he reached it, that he could conceal himself there without being seen, he rose up; and, casting his eyes every where around, to see whether his comrades had arrived at their posts, he made preparations for firing.

During the time he was creeping along, I had followed him with my eye; and, in proportion as he advanced, I felt my heart beat with an involuntary palpitation. This palpitation, however, increased, when I saw him so near the animals, and

just upon the point of firing at one of them. What would I not have given at that moment to have been in the place of Jonker, or at least by his side, that I might have brought down also one of these savage monsters? I waited with the utmost impatience for the report of the gun, and I could not conceive what prevented him from firing; but the Hottentot who stood near me, and who was able by the bare sight to distinguish him as perfectly as I could with my glass, informed me of his design. He told me, that Jonker did not fire, because he was waiting till one of the rhinoceroses should turn round, that he might, if possible, take aim at its head; and that on the first motion they made, I should hear the report.

Presently the largest of the two having looked behind, was immediately fired at. Being wounded, he sent forth a horrid cry; and, followed by the female, ran furiously towards the place from which the noise had proceeded. I found my heart now agitated by the most violent emotion, and my fear was carried to its utmost extent. A cold sweat diffused itself over my whole body; and my heart beat with such force, as to prevent me from breathing. I expected to see the two monsters tear up the bush, tread the unfortunate Jonker under their feet, and rend him to pieces; but he had thrown himself down with his belly on the ground; and this stratagem succeeded. They passed close by his side without perceiving him, and came straight towards me.

My fear now gave place to joy, and I prepared to receive them; but my dogs, animated by the report they had heard, became so restless on their approach, that, being unable to check them, I ordered them to be let loose, and encouraged them to the attack.

When the animals saw this, they instantly turned

aside, and proceeded towards another of the hunters placed in ambush, from whom they received a third fire. My dogs, on the other hand, harassed them prodigiously, which still increased their rage. They kicked at them in the most terrible manner; ploughed up the plain with their horns; and, digging furrows in it seven or eight inches in depth, threw around them a shower of pebbles and stones.

During this time, we all kept approaching, in order to surround them more closely, and to unite against them our forces. The multitude of enemies by which they found themselves enclosed rendered them completely furious. The male, however, suddenly stopped; and, turning round to attack the dogs, endeavoured to rip up their bellies with his horns; and, while he was engaged in pursuing them, the female quitted him, and made her escape.

I was highly pleased at her flight, which I considered as a fortunate circumstance; for it is certain that, notwithstanding our number, and our arms, we should have been much embarrassed by two so formidable adversaries. I must even confess, that, without the assistance of my dogs, we should not have been able to combat, but with great hazard and danger, the one that remained. The bloody traces which he left wherever he went, announced that he had received more than one wound; but, reduced to despair, he only defended himself with the greater obstinacy.

After a fruitless attack, which continued for some time, he began to retreat; and seemed as if desirous of gaining some bushes, apparently with a view of finding shelter, and to prevent his being harassed but in front. I guessed his stratagem; and, in order to disappoint him, I rushed towards the bushes, and made a sign to the two hunters who were nearest me to advance thither also. He was only thirty paces from us, when we took possession; ac-

cordingly we all, at the same time, presented our pieces, and, discharging our three shots, he instantly fell, and was never after able to rise.

I beheld his fall with the utmost satisfaction : as a hunter, and a naturalist, it afforded me a double triumph.

Though mortally wounded, the animal still continued to defend himself when lying on the ground, as he had done when on his legs. With his feet he threw around him heaps of stones ; and neither we nor our dogs durst venture to approach him. I wished to put an end to his torments, by firing one more ball, and was making preparations for the purpose, when my people entreated me to desist. As I could not ascribe their request to sentiments of pity, I was at a loss to conceive what could be their motive.

I have already said, that all the savage tribes, and even the people at the Cape, and in the colonies, set a high value on the dried blood of the rhinoceros, to which they ascribe great virtues in the cure of certain disorders, and which they consider in particular as a sovereign remedy for obstructions. The reader will recollect, that when Swanepoel, intoxicated by Pinar, fell under the wheels of my carriage, and had one of his ribs broken, he asked me for the blood of the rhinoceros ; but as none of it could be had, he drank some brandy in its stead. Nature alone effected a cure ; but he ascribed it to the liquor, and acknowledged that this remedy, equally proper, he said, for the sick and the sound, was preferable to the other. His companions, however, had retained their prepossession ; and they were determined to have a store of rhinoceros' blood. The animal had lost a great deal by his wounds. It was with much regret that they saw the earth moistened with it around him, and they were apprehensive that a new wound would increase that loss.

Scarcely had the animal breathed his last, when,

both old and new Hottentots all approached with eagerness, in order to collect the blood. With that view, they cut open its belly, and took out the bladder, which they emptied. One of them then applied the mouth of it to one of the wounds, while the rest shook a leg of the animal to make the blood flow more readily. In a little time, to their great joy, the bladder was filled; and I am persuaded, that with what was lost, they might have filled twenty. I had approached the body also, but with a different design; for my intention was only to measure and examine it. The savages of the horde, accustomed to see such animals very often, assured me that it was one of the largest of its species. I, however, did not believe them; and what induced me to doubt their information was, that its principal horn was only (in French measure) nineteen inches three lines in length; and I had seen horns much longer in the possession of some of the Dutch planters. The height of the animal was seven feet five inches, and its length from the snout to the root of the tail eleven feet six inches.

ELEPHANT

THE elephant, which is, perhaps, the mildest of all large animals, appears, when provoked, to be more prone to resentment than others of the most ferocious disposition. An instance of his vindictive spirit occurred to some Dutch boors, who travelled to the eastward in search of the place where the Grosvenor Indiaman was cast away, which is remarkable in this respect, and the authenticity of which cannot be called in question. This animal, after having received into his body several large musket balls, and twice fallen on the ground, crept with difficulty into a thick thorny coppice. "Conceiving him to be done for," says Jacob Van