

who discharged their rifles with such effect that in a few moments the tiger lay senseless on the ground. We now descended from our posts, and approached to view our prize, which seemed of more than ordinary size. We had just come up to it when one of our party, by way of explaining some remark, touched it with his gun. Imagine our horror and consternation when suddenly the beast sprang up, and with one bound cleared the circle.

For an instant we stood paralyzed, stupefied with excess of fear; then, rushing towards our elephants, we got under them; this being a comparatively safe shelter. The tiger, who had just risen, suddenly finding himself hemmed in on all sides, glared around him for an instant, and then made a dart at the head of the nearest elephant. The alarmed animal, closely coiling up his trunk, shook off his assailant, and as the latter fell heavily to the ground, attempted to transfix him with his enormous tusks. The tiger, however recovered his legs with great agility, but, discouraged by his rough reception, retired towards the jungle, instead of renewing the attack, as we had anticipated. As he retreated, several shots were discharged at him, some of which taking effect, so maddened the still infuriated animal, that he made a sudden spring upon the back of the elephant, on which sat the musicians, and bit at the principal performer, who was nearest the group. The poor man naturally shrunk back. The tiger, however, caught his foot, and tore off a considerable portion of it; then darted into the jungle, and despite a volley fired at him, succeeded in gaining the thick covert; from which for some time we vainly endeavoured to dislodge him.

Finding all other means fail, we at length sent in the elephant that carried the fireworks, and began to throw them lighted into the reeds and brushwood, in order to frighten the tiger from his hiding-place. Presently to our great horror the jungle took fire. The *mohut* in vain urged the elephant, by goading him, to leave the spot. Alarmed by the flames, he stood perfectly still; nothing could induce him to move. The *mohut*, therefore, and those on his back, were fain to slip down, and risking even a rencontre with the tiger, made their way out of the now burning cover. This they did in safety.

Never in my life did I look upon a more magnificent sight than the conflagration now before me. Disturbed by the fire, animals of every hue, burst from the burning jungle. The cries of lesser creatures, mingling with the roar of the affrighted elephant, struck awe into our hearts. The flames were high; the whole country before us presented one mass of fire. Nothing could

exceed the grandeur of the scene. Standing on the plain hard by, secure from the danger, we looked on with silent astonishment and admiration.

Presently a loud roar was heard, and the elephant dashed out of the fire. He had evidently been severely burnt. The pads and trappings on his back were in flames, burning and rankling into his flesh; the iron girths were actually red hot, eating into his sides. He was roaring with agony, and ran bounding along the open space, his trunk elevated, lashing his back with his disproportioned tail. Screaming, with torture, in vain we attempted to pursue him, or close him in. Pain had driven him mad; and as the huge animal galloped forward, the wind acting on the flames, caused them to devour still quicker his thick flesh. His mingled roars and cries I never can forget. At length, dashing into a *madhab*, he instantly cooled the iron chains, which plizzed in the water, and returning once more to their natural color, added one more pang to the wretched animal. We now attempted to offer him succor, but it was too late. The fire was extinguished; but as he came up he turned on his side, and with one convulsive roar expired.

We now proceeded to return home. The whole way the cries of the poor musician were occasionally heard. He was but too well aware of his doom. There is a venom in the bite of a tiger almost always fatal. So, alas! it turned out in this man's case. He died within eight and forty hours.

Our breakfast party again assembled at dinner; but alas! much of their gaiety was gone. The tiger hunt was anything but a subject of congratulation. Jamieson had lost one of his most faithful *mohuts*; one of the most valuable elephants had been burnt to death: the principal musician in the Resident's service was now dying.

VOUNTARY labour, taken in due place and season, doth save much exertion afterward; and moderate care enables a man commonly to pass his life with ease, comfort, and delight; whereas idleness frequently doth let slip opportunities and advantages which cannot with ease be retrieved, and letteth things fall into a bad case, out of which they can hardly be recovered.—*Burrow.*

ANECDOTE OF VOLTAIRE.

WHEN the English and French were disputing as to their respective rights to certain territories in America, Voltaire happily remarked; that they were quite agreed upon one point; viz., that the natives had no right at all to the land in question.