

the banks of the Ganges, in Bengal, in the year 1784 :—

“ As you could not partake of the pleasure of the hunt, from which I am just returned, I snatch my pen to give you the following hasty description of the business of the day.

“ ——— Matters had been thus judiciously arranged : tents were sent off yesterday, and an encampment formed within a mile and a half of the jungle which was to be the scene of our operations; and in this jungle, the thickets of long rank grass and reeds are, in many places, fifteen feet high. At one o'clock this morning thirty elephants, with the servants, and refreshments of all kinds, were despatched; at two we all followed in fly-palanquins; at a quarter after four we reached the encampment, and having rested near two hours, we mounted our elephants, and proceeded to the jungle.

“ In our way we met with game of all kinds—hares, antelopes, hog-deer, wild boars, and wild buffaloes; but nothing could divert our attention from the fiercer animals of the forest.

“ At the grey of the dawn we formed a line of great extent, and entered a small detached jungle. My elephant (sorely against my wish, but there was no remedy, for my driver was a keen sportsman, and he and I spoke no common language) passed through the centre, but happily no tiger had at that hour nestled there. I saw, however, as I passed through it, the bed of one, in which there was a half-devoured bullock, with a heap of bones, some bleached, and some still red with gore.