

nestly gazing on each other. — The officer said he was aware that the word would be no effective defence in a struggle for life with such an antagonist. But he had heard that even the Bengal Tiger might be sometimes checked by looking him firmly in the face. He did so, and in a few minutes the Tiger, which appeared preparing to take his fatal spring, grew disturbed, shrunk aside & attempted to creep round upon him behind: the officer looked constantly on the tiger, which still continued to shrink from his place, but darting into the thicket, & again issuing forth at a different quarter, it persevered for above an hour in his attempt to catch him by surprise, till at last it fairly yielded the contest, and left the gentleman to pursue his pleasure walks.

The direction he took, as may be easily be judged, was straight to the tent, at double quick time.

#### INFLUENCE OF PROFESSIONS ON MORTALITY.

There are some curious facts respecting the influence of professions on mortality, collected by Dr. Casper, of Berlin, from which it appears, that a lead work is more injurious than bodily labour: that the combination of the two is the most wearing. A sedentary life, free from all excesses, is on the contrary the condition most favourable to life." Of all professions, that of a physician, according to Dr. Casper, is the most life-wearing; while that of the divine occupies the other extreme of the scale. Of 100 divines, 42 reached 70 years of age and upwards—of 100 physicians, 24 only attained to that age. Of 1000 deaths, between the ages of 23 and 62 exclusive, the years of greatest professional activity, there were—of physicians, 610—of divines, 345.

### RELIGIOUS.

To the Editor of the Instructor.

SIR,—The following beautiful passage is from a volume of Bishop Heber's Sermons, preached in India.

Bishop Heber was born in the year 1783, and died in the year 1826. A writer in the year 1833 writes thus: "On the 3d of April, 1826, at Fitchinopoli, he (Bishop Heber) was found drowned in a bath, owing, it was supposed, to the sudden transition to cold water, after great exertion in confirming some Chris-

tians." The deep and painful sensation produced by his unexpected decease, both in India and at home, cannot yet be forgotten. In him the Christian civilization of the East seemed to have lost its most zealous, most active and most enlightened friend, &c. With this brief introduction, I subscribe myself your well-wisher.

J. A.

#### ON THE LOVE OF GOD.

Beware how you neglect that species and degree of intercourse with your heavenly Father, to maintain which, his mercy permits, and his word invites, and his grace, if you will make use of it, enables you. Beware lest by thinking of Him but seldom—but seldom addressing Him in prayer, and seldom hearing his voice in his holy Scriptures and his public ordinances—you estrange yourself by degrees entirely from his love, and allow the pursuits and pleasures of the world to establish an empire in your hearts, left empty of holier affections! It is by daily prayer, and daily thanksgiving—by patient study of God's word, and by patient contemplation on our own condition, and on all which God has done, and will do for us, that a genuine and a rational love for him is kindled in our hearts, and that we become unfeignedly attached to the Friend of whose kindness we have had so much experience. It is to be expected, that, in the earlier stages of our approach to God, we should experience but little of that ardour of devotion, those pleasures of earnest piety, which are in this world the reward of love, as well as its most convincing evidence. Our prayer, at first, will often be constrained, our thanksgiving cold and formal, our thoughts will wander from our closets to the world, and we shall have too frequent occasion to acknowledge with shame and sorrow the imperfection of those offerings which we, as yet, can make to our benefactor. A religious feeling, like every other mental habit, is slowly and gradually acquired. To have begun at all is, in religion, no trifling progress; and a steady perseverance in prayer and praise, will not only, by degrees, increase the strength of habit on the side of holiness, but will call down, moreover, and preserve to us, that spiritual support and assistance, without which all human effort must be vain; but which no one will seek in vain, who seeks for it in sincerity, and by the appointed means.