

IN AN INDIAN JUNGLE.

An Englishman Describes His Companion and His Surroundings.

I have a great admiration for my head tracker "Monny." I wish you could see him at work on the track of a bison. As we start in the morning he leads the way at a sharp pace, carrying my heavy eight-lore rifle. I follow him. Behind me is tracker No. 2, a most extraordinarily ugly little old man, with a kindly wrinkled-up face and a wall eye; he says he does not know his age, but I should think he was between fifty and sixty, and without a white hair. He has a deep scar on one naked leg, the remains of a gash made by a wounded wild boar; and there is a curious mark on his other leg which he received when one of his masters was charged by a bull bison. He has seen an Englishman killed by a bear. He carries my second rifle. He is not now of much use, as he has lost the sight of one eye, is a bit groggy on his legs, and can not carry a heavy load far. But his knowledge of the jungle and animals is great, and nothing would induce the old man to give up carrying my light rifle all day long. Behind the old man a coolie carries cold food in a bag, a flask of whisky and two bottles of soda water, for it would be a sure case of fever if one were to drink the water of forest streams. And how temptingly they ripple along over a gravel bed, clear as crystal. I may as well mention that I do not speak a word of "jungle language" except the words for camp, rifle, food and for all the animals; but we quite understand one another with these and signs.

Leaving camp we plunge at once into the jungle by the narrowest of foot-paths. The word "jungle" does not signify only high trees and enormous creepers; it includes also open glades of grass and marsh, which are mostly a hundred yards wide and sometimes as much as a mile in length. Many are mere patches of grass the size of an acre or two, and one wonders how they manage to exist against the encroachment of the forest. How can I describe to you the jungle in the early morning—when nature is awakening, freshness is in the air, and a thousand buzzings, cooings and other jungle sounds proclaim the rising sun? Indeed, "tis well to make the most of his rising, for by noon he will have subdued us all, man and beast; but until nine o'clock life is enjoyable, and we can admire the rays of light creeping slowly through dense foliage till it lights up the trunks of big trees, and pouring gently down on open glades, and gradually lessening the length of the trees' shadow. The dew of these glades drenches us through and through as Monny hurries us on to the spot where he proposes to commence his search for bison tracks. This spot is six miles from camp; and we walk on, getting wet up to the waist from the dew of tall grass; and if my boots have withstood the dew they will soon be soaked, for we have to wade three or four streams of cool water running from those blue hills. Monny in his nakedness looks back on me with pity as I cross the streams; he shakes his legs and is dry, where I come along, "squelch, squelch," with my boots full of water. However, I have the laugh on him when he steps on a bamboo thorn!—St. James Budget.

Mrs. Rambo Was Right. "I should like to know," said Mr. Rambo, testily, when the conversation had begun to wax warm, "why is it that a woman always wants to have the last word?" "She doesn't," replied Mrs. Rambo. "It's a slander." "My dear, it is certainly the truth. You know you always—" "Absalom, you know better. I don't." "I am sure—" "No, you're not. It isn't so." "Why, my dear, can't you see—" "No, I can't! And I think—boo-hoo—you are—are just—as mean as you can be." "Well, dear, I'll take it back. You don't always want the last word." "Of course I don't. I don't see what you wanted to say for." "Well, I won't say it any more." "Because you know it isn't true." "I—" "As well as I do." "I—" "You want it yourself." "I—" "And you know it." "You may be right, my dear," said Mr. Rambo, putting on his hat and going out. "I know I'm right," rejoined Mrs. Rambo, calling after him.—Chicago Tribune.

At a Washington Hotel. New Arrival—I want a room on the second floor. Clerk—Can't have it, sir; the floor's full. N. A.—Give me one on the third or fourth. Clerk—They are full, too, sir; everything is full. N. A.—Give me a cot in the dining-room or the parlor, then. Clerk—All full, too. N. A.—Then I guess I'll sleep with the landlord. Clerk—Can't do it, sir. He's full, too; fuller than a goat, and has been for three days.—Washington Critic. Too Fancy for Her. He—You and Round-up-Rube don't seem to cotton as you use her. She (Duluth)—Now. He puts on too many frills for me since he kem back from the East. Why he's so stuck up that he eats pie with a knife.—Philadelphia Call.

CHINESE BURGLARS.

The Amount of Cunning Exhibited by Celestial Thieves.

The ladder of the Chinese burglar is, in ordinary appearance, nothing more than a bamboo pole, such as every laborer uses in carrying burdens; but it is in reality hollow, as all bamboos are, of course, and through it runs a rope which is so arranged that at each joint of the bamboo it connects with another rope, forming a loop. These loops can be drawn taut and concealed, so that when the thief carries this ladder on the street it is a simple and honest-appearing pole; but when needed it is set against the wall to be scaled, the rope is slackened, and by the loops thus formed the thief mounts the wall and enters the building to be plundered. Thus "armed and equipped," the cool adroitness and success with which a thief will enter a house, go even to the sleeping rooms of the inmates, and steal the very clothing from their beds, is something marvellous.

A friend of the writer, for many years a resident of Peking, awoke one winter night, some ten years ago, shivering with the cold, and found all the clothes slipping from the bed. He replaced them and fell asleep. In an hour he awoke again for the same reason, again replaced the bedding and again went to sleep. In another hour he awoke to find himself absolutely without any covering, though the bed stood near the open window. A thief had come into the house, crept under his bed, pulled off all the clothing gradually and carefully, as bedclothes will sometimes creep off themselves, and on the third trial had been successful and got away with the plunder. Each time that the occupant of the bed awakened and replaced the bedding the thief had been quietly ensconced under the bed, ready to try again as soon as the owner fell asleep. Chinese thieves know that "perseverance conquers all things," even to bedclothes.

Another friend awoke one night and saw in the full light of the moon shining through a window, a Chinese thief on his knees, bending over a quantity of clothing, busily packing and tying it up in a sheet. This friend, a man of great coolness and presence of mind, thought that if, without alarming the thief, he could spring from the bed upon the back of the intruder thus bent over, he could hold him down and capture him. So, after removing the bedding with the utmost care, he sprang upon the thief and succeeded in claspng him about the waist. He then found, to his disgust, that the body of the Chinaman was oiled, and with all his strength he could not prevent him from turning about in his arms. Thinking to improve matters, he kept one arm about the waist of the thief and reached up with the other to seize him by the cue, but he drew it away again at once, bleeding in half a dozen places, and the thief easily slipped from the single arm that surrounded him, and, empty-handed, bounded from the room and disappeared.—Cor. Philadelphia Call.

IT WOULDN'T WORK.

A Penniless Man With a New Racket Is Ignominiously Defeated. A citizen yesterday stood on the steps of a Griswold street bank gazing at something across the street. While thus occupied a pedestrian halted, ascended a step or two, and after taking off his hat, said: "Being, you know, as I haven't had any thing to eat for two days, I didn't know but you could spare me a dime." The citizen did not lower his eyes by an inch. "Presume the cashier gave you all bills, you know," continued the man, "but if you'd be pleased to hunt around in your pockets I've no doubt you'd find a dime." Not a sign that he was heard or seen. "I would take it as a great favor, I assure you. Purty tough, you know, to tackle a job on an empty stomach. I've got fifty dollars worth of work waiting for me as soon as I can get a meal." And yet no sign. "It's only a loan, you know. A loan to be returned to-morrow. I hate to ask it, Colonel, but there's no other way for me. If you should happen to have a quarter it would be all the same—a loan." The Colonel seemed hewn out of marble. "Hope you'll excuse me," continued the man, "but I happened to see you as I passed. There's no particular hurry, you know, but the sooner I get the money the sooner I can fill up and go to work." The Colonel now made a move to raise his umbrella.

The cashier would doubtless change a bill for you if you are broke for silver. This is a fine rain, Colonel! Things must be looking nice in the country! Make it a half, Colonel, and I'll be around Saturday." The Colonel descended the steps as rigid as a poker. "I'll take your address," said the man, as he followed behind, "because I'm very particular about repaying borrowed money. I might telegraph to my brother in Buffalo, but he might be home, you know. Now, Colonel, if you would be so kind as to hand me out—" The Colonel joined the procession and disappeared, and after looking up and down the street a minute the tramp said: "I might as well quit right here. Some one has worked this town before on my patent racket, and he didn't even leave a good name behind."—Detroit Free Press.

A champion case of meanness is reported from Montreal. The employe of a concern accidentally fell into the water while in the performance of his duties and had his wages docked for the time lost while he was getting dry! A local paper thinks the man was lucky in not being used for the water absorbed by his clothes.

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