

THE  
"GRAND TOUR"  
OF THE  
BRITISH PRINCES:  
THE  
VISIT OF THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES  
Prince Albert Victor and Prince George  
TO CEYLON.

[A full Report of the twelve days' proceedings, reprinted from the  
"Ceylon Observer."]



COLOMBO:  
"CEYLON OBSERVER" PRESS.

1882.

*N.B.*—Although our Report begins with the landing on 26th January, the arrival of the H. M. S. "Bacchante" and "Cleopatra" at Colombo, actually took place on the 25th January, or two days before their time.



#### ERRATA.

*P. 4.*—Mr. W. Mitchell, Railway Department, has to be added to the list of those on Wharf landing-place.

*P. 15.*—For *Jubemus*, read, *Jubemus*.

*P. 16.*—For "Mrs." read "Miss" Onslow-Deane.

# THE "GRAND TOUR" OF THE BRITISH PRINCES: THE VISIT OF THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES TO CEYLON:

(From the *Ceylon Observer*, January 26, 1882.)

Only one hundred and sixty-eight years have elapsed since it was really news that "Queen Anne is dead," the weak sovereign referred to being she, during whose reign

"Great praise the Duke of Marlborough got,  
And our good Prince Eugene,"

for numerous "glorious victories," over which we are less exultant than were our ancestors, who then, as well as their successors, again, in the time of the so-called "Great" Napoleon, had to battle for political existence against the overshadowing power of the French Monarchy in the one case and the French Empire in the other. "Great Britain" was not the least amongst the nations when the Protestant Elector George of Hanover—the "wee, wee German Lairdie" of the Scotch Jacobites—was called to the throne to the exclusion of the direct line of the Papist Stuarts. There have been vast changes in sentiment as well as circumstances since that epoch. The once dreaded Pope of Rome (Bunyan's toothless giant) has ceased to be a power in the world, and the personal influence of the British sovereign has been so circumscribed, that, with the disappearance of all vestiges of an established church, the coronation oath will be, ere long, dispensed with, and when (at a date which, we pray, may be long postponed), it comes to the turn of the Royal lad now amongst us to assume the crown and sceptre of the vast Empire "on which the sun never sets," he will not be asked what his religious opinions are, any more than was Lord Ripon when he became the "Catholic" Viceroy of a Protestant Empress. Worse even than this may happen, and a sovereign of the British Empire may, like two successive Presidents of the great North American Republic, Garfield and Arthur, belong to a "sect" which does not practise infant baptism because they cannot find evidence for it in the New Testament. There are many good people, no doubt, who would regard the one result as only less dreadful than the other, and, perhaps, we ought to apologize for shocking their feelings by anticipating the inevitable. It may be more pleasant for all of us to glance at the vast material progress made by the British Empire since "George the First was King,"—in the interval between that essentially German George, and the George who is now

amongst us, the latter a type of English manliness tempered by the gentle graces derived from his Scandinavian mother. We have alluded to the great North American Republic which has taken the place of the few struggling colonies which existed when the Elector of Hanover succeeded Queen Anne. The probably inevitable change was precipitated by the obstinate folly of the last King of England who was permitted personally to have a potent voice in politics, even to the extent of having a "King's party" in Parliament. George the Fourth made some faint efforts to follow in the footsteps of his privately estimable but politically bigoted and stupid father; and it was this "most religious and gracious King" (as the established Church Clergy, with hideous hypocrisy, continually termed the "cold-blooded voluptuary," in their addresses to the throne of Infinite Purity),—it was the model Established-Protestant-Church-Christian, whose *conscience* would not allow him for a considerable time to give the royal sanction to the bill which conceded Catholic Emancipation and so saved Britain from a civil war. It was in the time of this sovereign that the poet of like passions and practices, but who, like poor Burns, admired the life which he could not live;—it was in the time of George the Fourth that Byron, after addressing "A Lady Weeping," with the words

"Weep daughter of a royal line  
A sire's disgrace, a realm's decay!"

added

"Methinks I hear a little bird that sings,  
The people, by and bye, will be the stronger."

This came to pass in the days of "the Sailor King," William the Fourth, and since the passage of the Reform Bill of 1832 and subsequent measures of a like character, our kings have reigned but have not governed. We do not mean to say that the royal branch of our constitution is a non-entity. The high personal character of the late Prince Consort, indeed, made Queen Victoria, while his valuable life was preserved to her and to us, a second Elizabeth without the faults, personal and political, of the masculine Tudor Queen. But, after all, in the special case of the Russian War, the royal influence prevailed because the Court reflected the opinions of Lord Palmerston, and because the glamour of old, plucky "Civis Romanus sum" took popular opinion captive; and so blood was shed like water and treasure

wasted by millions, in order a little longer to preserve the anomalous and effete Moslem rule over some of the fairest portions of Europe. Popular opinion has become better educated as well as stronger since then, and, if it is still true that the Sovereign is supreme in questions of peace and war, and in the granting of such charters as that which has added a "New Ceylon" to the British Possessions in those "Gardens of the Sun," whence our royal and gallant visitors have just come;—it is equally true that the sovereign prerogative can now only be exercised through a Prime Minister who enjoys public confidence,—at this moment so thoroughly a man of the people as William Ewart Gladstone; a man who acts on a sense of responsibility not only to the sovereign and the people of Britain, but to a Power higher, infinitely than either. We do not say that Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Bright and their coadjutors are faultless; but so long as our now very limited monarchy secures to us the rule of God-fearing, conscientious, unselfish men, of talent equal to their moral principle, even those of us who may be theoretically republicans, while we may insist on many still needed reforms, will be the first to deprecate revolutionary change. The ultra loyalty of the grand "Dominion" in North America which still adheres to the British Crown shews that close acquaintance with such results as have followed republicanism in the United States are not calculated to render free Britishers enamoured of "Mob Rule," which is a very different thing to the rule of the people through their best men. We do not forget how largely the abstention of the talent and virtue of the United States from participation in political life is due to the corrupting influence of a foreign element, especially that rowdy Irish element which is as much a curse and a blight on one side of the Atlantic as on the other. But the immediate and indiscriminate concession of the franchise to such objectionable "men of the people" (men of the mire rather) is the natural result of republicanism carried to its logical results, and the only republic we desire to see is one in which the virtue as well as the talent of the community shall be chosen to rule. This presupposes a state of things in which the minimum of government will suffice. As even in the United Kingdom there is a vast mass of the morally anarchical constituents (witness unhappy Ireland under the influence of unprincipled demagogues) which must be sternly repressed with the iron hand, there is, we believe, no fear that in our time, or the time of our visitor who is in the direct line of succession to the throne, the question of a republic will be seriously mooted. The best service the young princes can render to royalty as well as to the State is to imitate their good and lamented grandfather and their estimable uncle Prince Leopold in their public appearances. If they are

of the stamp we take them to be, they will not fail to benefit and so be able to benefit others, by what they have seen, heard and reflected on, during their truly "Grand Tour" round the world. Wherever they have gone, from the so-called "Indies" of the West to the true India of the East, and in the still further "Far East" of China and Japan, they have been welcomed generally in British possessions and always, even in Shanghai and the capital of Japan, by loyal subjects of their royal grandmother, who sincerely pray "God bless the Queen," because, as wife, mother, woman and Queen, Victoria has earned the affection and devotion of her people and of all peoples: witness Her Majesty's touching letters of sympathy to the widows of Presidents of the United States, and the warm response from all—and that is the vast majority—that is good and sympathetic and human in the highest sense amongst our American brethren. Canada and the United States, where their royal father, as a young man, was so enthusiastically received, the young princes have not visited. Continental India, where the Prince of Wales, amidst "barbaric pearl and gold," marble monuments of dynasties great but departed, temples of faiths equally doomed to depart, and an almost bewildering variety of races from fair to dusky, destined to indefinite improvement under the firm but benevolent sway of Britain, not to speak of the pleasures of scenes of pomp and festivity and the excitement of the hunt and the chase,—fulfilled "the dream of his life," is also, as yet, a terra incognita to his sons. But in their visit to this, in a military and naval sense, "the key of India" as it is in natural beauty "the Eden of the Eastern wave," the royal lads can trace the footsteps of their father, and like him they will, probably, here shoot their first elephant and carry away the trophy of a wiry-haired tail. In any case they will see the monarchs of our forest "kraaled," and they will be treated to the excitement of elk hunting, many recollections of that which may be equally pleasant, but much better and more instructive, we trust they may carry from our shores, after a visit to our grand mountain system

Where Europe amid Asia smiles  
and where there exists, spread out over hills and valleys which were not long ago wildernesses of forest, evidences of the application of British energy, enterprise and capital employed to redeem the land from the reign of the elephant, the bear, the leopard, and the elk, to the use of human kind. Those who have effected a change so great and so marvellous in what was once the mysterious but unproductive kingdom of Kandy will not be deemed the less but the more entitled to admiration and sympathy, because for some years back the planters, and the large proportion of the community dependent on them, have had to struggle with natural influences, due to the very luxuriance of growth

produced by our tropical climate of an adverse character. As is the wont of true Britishers, the planters are fighting on, doing their best to drive the enemy from their old staple and ransacking the world for "new products" suited to the soil and climate. Such men and their work are worthy the respectful regard of our royal and gallant visitors, and we trust they will shew more interest in their work, and in the educational operations of government and especially the missionaries than in barbaric processions and the exhibition of an osseous imposture connected with an atheistic system of so-called "religion." True sympathy with and a sincere desire for the elevation of the natives does not involve sympathy with beliefs or customs, such as Buddhism, heathenism, and demon worship, which are still, as they have been for long centuries, sources only of degradation: physical, mental, and moral. We suppose the temple of the tooth must be visited and "the tooth," so-called, duly inspected; but we trust the Princes and our other visitors will take care so to act as not to leave the impression behind them—as has been too frequently the result in similar cases—that much and approving sympathy is felt with existing error and none with the efforts made to promulgate that truth which alone makes free: free from the bondage of superstition and sin. To Kandy and Matale on the one hand, and to Nawapitiya on the other, existing railway lines will enable the princes to travel, and it is not our fault or that of the planters that equal facilities do not exist for a visit to the grand Principality of Uva, of which a view will be obtained from below Nuwara Eliya. Of course the princes and other visitors will take equal interest in native industries, such as emerald green rice fields, gracefully waving coconut groves and the appliances (lines and nets, ballams and graceful outriggered canoes) used to secure the "harvest of the sea." In this climate of combined moisture (almost perpetual) with heat, our visitors will see nature in another and a richer garb than was visible in the vast colonies (future empire of the far south) from King George's Sound to Adelaide; from Adelaide to Melbourne and Hobson's Bay; from Melbourne to the transcendent Sydney Cove; thence to semi-tropical Moreton Bay and Brisbane; away to "the Britain of the South," New Zealand, and finally to Fiji, which on a small scale would suggest what Ceylon is to a much larger and more varied extent. In having visited those wonderful Southern lands of vast distances and great contrasts of luxuriant forests, rich grassy plains, and terrible arid deserts of rock and spinifex, lands of grand promise as well as accomplishment in mineral, pastoral, agricultural and horticultural wealth, the sons of the Prince of Wales have had the advantage of their royal father though not of their royal uncle, the Duke of Edinburgh. The raising against the latter of the hand of a would-be assassin shewed how intense the loyalty of

the Australians was, and we know how cordial was the reception all over Australia of those who have now come to visit Ceylon on their homeward route. As Ceylon will be the last of the more important possessions of Britain which the sons of the Prince of Wales and the grandsons of Her Majesty the Queen will visit in the course of the truly "Grand Tour," let us hope that their report will be "though last not least in cordial hospitality and warm loyalty to the British throne." All here will do their best to deserve such a report.

### THE LANDING OF THE PRINCES.

From the *Ceylon Observer* January 26, 1882.

We were enabled to issue the following as an "extraordinary" at noon today:—

#### Official Programme:

Their Highnesses will land at 3.30 p. m. today (Thursday.) His Excellency the Governor will receive them at the landing-place. Guards of Honour in attendance: Fusiliers at Wharf, Volunteers at Queen's House. The Princes will dine at Queen's House and attend the Dance at the Club afterwards. On Friday the Princes will visit the Museum, &c., and dine at Queen's House. [The Volunteer Guard was afterwards countermanded.]

At 3.25 His Excellency the Governor, accompanied by Sir Edwin Johnson, Capt. Hayne, A. D. C., and Mr. Adrian Hope, P. S. arrived and was saluted by the guard of honour.

At 3.30 p. m., an immense concourse of people, of all races resident in Ceylon, had assembled at the Wharf and were eagerly awaiting the arrival of the "Bacchante's" boat with the Princes. The Royal Dublin Fusiliers' guard of honour was drawn up in line upon the jetty.

Capt. Donnan had most successfully co-operated with the Mudaliyars (H. L. Dassenaike Mudaliyar of Hapitiam korale and Peter de Saram, Mudaliyar of Alutkuru korale) in fitting up the landing stage, the roof of which had been hidden by white ceiling cloth and the sides of which were most profusely and artistically decorated with various fruits, flowers and foliage, characteristic of the island.

Of course we cannot give the names of all the influential personages present, but we give as full a list as possible. Among those present were:—

- Hon. Major-General Wilby, C.B.
- „ W. H. Ravenscroft, Acting Colonial Secretary.
- „ B. L. Burnside, Q. A.
- „ L. B. Clarence, S. P. J.
- „ F. R. Saunders, Govt Agent W.P.
- „ J. Stoddart, Acting Surveyor-General.
- „ W. Halliley, Acting P. Collector Customs.
- „ W. W. Mitchell.
- „ P. Rama Nathan,
- „ J. Van Langenberg.
- Admiral Gore Jones, C.B.
- Mr. G. T. M. O'Brien, Asst. Colonial Secretary.
- Mr. J. F. Churchill, Director of Public Works.
- Mr. T. E. B. Skinner, Postmaster General.
- Mr. C. Bruce, C.M.G. Director of Public Ins.
- Mr. L. Lee, Registrar General.
- Dr. Loos, Acting Principal Civil Medical Officer.
- Mr. G. W. R. Campbell, Inspector General of Police,
- Mr. T. Berwick, District Judge.
- Mr. E. Elliott, Inspector General of Prisons.
- Mr. J. Kyle, Breakwater Engineer.
- Captain Donnan, Master Attendant.
- Mr. C. L. Ferdinands, D.Q.A.

Mr. J. Smither, Govt. Architect  
 Colonel Warren, R. E.,  
 „ Duncan, R. D. F.,  
 Lieut.-Col. Armitage, C. L. I. V.,  
 Major Gorman, C. L. I. V.,  
 Capt. A. D. Currie, Brigade Major.  
 Adjutant Gwatkin, C. L. I. V.,  
 Captain Murray, C. L. I. V.,  
 „ Armitage, C. L. I. V.,  
 „ Mills, A. D. C., to Major General Wilby  
 Lieut. Davies, C. L. I. V.,  
 „ Cave-Browne,  
 „ Leslie, Flag Lieut., "Ruby"  
 Rev. H. Newton, Chaplain, C. L. I. V.,  
 „ C. Boyd,  
 The Maha Mudaliyar,  
 Captain Matthews, R. D. F.  
 Lieut. Guyon, R. D. F.  
 „ Parkinson, „ D. F.  
 „ Grant, R. D. F.  
 „ Swire, R. D. F.  
 „ Dawes, R. D. F.  
 „ Andain, R. D. F.  
 Quarter-Master Stenson, R. D. F.

Me-srs. G. Macgregor, R. H. Morgan, W. Law, F. Walker, H. S. Saunders, R. Ledward, C. E. H. Symons, C. Shand, E. Aitken, A. M. Ferguson, D. Skrine, H. Van Cuylenberg, J. J. Grinlinton, E. Ludovici, W. Ferguson, J. Ferguson, J. H. Thring, W. Saunders, R. D. Elphinstone, J. N. Keith, Dr. Vangeyzel, J. H. de Alwis, P. de Saram Mudaliyar, H. L. Dassenaikie Mudaliyar, &c., &c.

Exactly at half-past three one of the "Bacchante"s cutters rounded the corner of the pier, and soon the Princes, dressed as midshipmen, (Prince George acting as "cox") were recognized. They were accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Dalton, who was the first to step ashore. His Excellency having been introduced to their Highnesses by Mr. Dalton, heartily welcomed them. A move was then made to the part of the landing stage where the Chairman and members of the Colombo Municipal Council were waiting to welcome the Princes to this city. The Hon. F. R. Saunders (Chairman) then read the following address:—

TO THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR,  
 AND PRINCE GEORGE, OF WALES,

May it please Your Royal Highnesses,

We, the Chairman and members of the Municipal Council of Colombo, desire, on behalf of ourselves and our fellow-citizens, to offer Your Royal Highnesses a cordial welcome to this city.

As representatives of the various classes of the inhabitants of Colombo, we are glad to assure Your Royal Highnesses that the news of your intended visit was received with pleasure and gratification by the whole community.

The landing of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh on these shores, and the subsequent visit of your illustrious father His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, are still fresh in our memory; and we deem it a happy privilege to be permitted, for the third time, to welcome to Ceylon members of the Royal Family of England, and to have again the opportunity of declaring our devotion and loyalty to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, whose just and beneficent rule has conferred lasting benefits on this Island, and has won for Her Majesty and the members of the Royal Family the personal attachment of Her Majesty's subjects throughout the world.

We will not detain Your Royal Highnesses with many words, but would express a hope that Your Royal Highnesses will derive much enjoyment from your visit, and carry away with you pleasing recollections of the people and the country.

F. R. Saunders, (Chairman).—G. W. R. Campbell, J. F. Churchill, J. Loos, M. D., J. Stoddart, J. W. VanGeyzel, J. N. Keith, H. Van Cuylenburg, H. J. de Zoysa, D. A. Dissanayake, J. H. de Alwis, M. S. J. Akbar, H. Ledward, Paules Perera.  
 Colombo, 26th January 1882.

Prince ALBERT VICTOR read the following reply:—

The Chairman and members of the Municipal Council of Colombo:—

GENTLEMEN.—We thank you for the address of welcome which we have just heard.

The accounts which we have heard of this interesting colony, both from our father and our uncle, lead us to anticipate much satisfaction from our present short stay in your midst.

The feeling of firm attachment and loyalty to the Queen, to which you have given expression, is similar to that which we have happily found prevailing in every British colony that we have visited.

May all classes and peoples in Ceylon enjoy an abundant and ever increasing degree of happiness and prosperity.

ALBERT VICTOR.

GEORGE.

The resemblance of the elder Prince to his grandfather, Prince Albert, as well as to his mother the Princess Alexandra, was remarked, as he stood reading the reply to the address. Physical robustness does not distinguish his appearance which contrasts in this respect with his more jolly-looking brother, a capital representative of a good-humoured "middie" with a striking resemblance to his father and royal grandmother, Her Majesty the Queen. "Refinement" is perhaps the chief characteristic of the countenance of Prince Albert Victor, while a prevailing sense of fun marks that of Prince George who, our readers will remember, is to continue in his sea-faring profession like his uncle the Duke of Edinburgh, until one day he will no doubt hoist his flag as Admiral of a fleet.

The temperature was exceedingly high, and there were indications of a sweltering heat everywhere. The Volunteers assembled at the head quarters in considerable numbers, but only to be told that there was to be no volunteer guard of honour. The disappointment was great, but all seemed to take it in good part: a very good instance of the discipline existing.

It would be rash to attempt to guess the number of persons present, as they were gathered at so many places, every yard of ground bordering the route from the Wharf to the Queen's House being occupied. The view from the landing-place was very picturesque; the belted Mudaliyars in attendance, and the hundreds of natives, many so eager to get as near the landing stage as possible as to take their stand in the water.

No accident occurred, but Admiral Gore-Jones narrowly escaped a turn-over, the pair of hired horses drawing his carriage being very much frightened by the band, as it marched from the Wharf, after the Princes had left.

The Guard of Honor consisted of 50 men under Capt. Hicks, the Regimental Colors being carried by Lieut. Oates. The Guard was a particularly smart one, composed of men, the shortest of whom we feel sure was quite 5 ft. 9 inches and did credit to the Regiment.

As the Princes walked to the Governor's carriage three loud cheers were given for them, and thousands rushed off in the direction of Queen's House following the Governor's carriage and the band of the R. D. Fusiliers.

A large crowd of natives thronged the thoroughfares near the Queen's House till the Princes drove out with the Governor at six p. m.

The Princes will visit the Museum at 11 o'clock tomorrow.

The Wolfendahl Church with the tombs of the Dutch Governors and the mural tablets to their memo-

ries ought to be among the sights visited by the Princes tomorrow; also Governor Sir Edward Barnes Bridge of Boats, and the Uplands' "tortoise" (200 years old) the only object in Colombo deemed worthy of his attention by Anthony Trollope; the banyan tree opposite "The Aviary"; Hultsdorf Mills, a Cinnamon peeling establishment and Plumbago Store; and the new Lunatic Asylum Buildings if only to learn 'with how little wisdom the world is governed'! We hope some "tumasha" for the masses of the people to enjoy will be arranged for: an illumination of the three men-of-war would answer the purpose.

On Saturday a special train will convey the royal party to Kandy and the Perahera will take place in the evening. On Sunday morning the Princes will attend service at St. Paul's Church, and return to Colombo by special train in the afternoon. On Monday, the journey "Kraalwards," will be undertaken, the Princes having luncheon with the Hon. the Government Agent, W. P. at Hanwella, the kraal being reached in the evening.

Their Royal Highnesses were asked this morning which they would prefer, a ball at Queen's House or a visit to Nuwara Eliya, including an elk hunt. The lads immediately and naturally replied that as they had attended so many balls recently they would prefer the excitement of knifing an elk. It was thereupon decided that the Princes' visit will include a run to the mountain sanatorium and, let us hope, a successful hunt there.

#### THE KRAAL.

Ratnapura, 25th January.

On Friday last, the 20th instant, Iddamalagoda Basnayako Nilomea successfully drove ten elephants across the Kaluganga, at Kuruganmodara or thereabouts, from the Kukululu to the Kuruwiti Korale. It is rumoured that a large tusker effected his escape from the herd.

#### THE BALL.

January 26th, 1882.

To the Editor, *Ceylon Observer*.

DEAR SIR,—All the ladies of Colombo are deeply disappointed to hear that no ball will take place at Queen's House during the visit of the Princes. With all due deference to the Powers-that-be, do you not think this decision is a little hard upon us all, and especially on all those who have come some distance on purpose to be present at the gaieties, which, it was presumed, would be certain to take place during the next few days. Surely if the Governor does not think it necessary to give a ball in honour of His Royal guests, he might entertain the Naval Officers at a dance, there being three war-ships now in the harbour. And who can tell but what Admiral Gore-Jones may follow this good example, and treat us to a ball on board H. M. S. "Ruby." We also hope that the Club members will have another "Assembly" next week if they find—as they are sure to do—tonight's a success. Please find a corner in the pages of your valuable journal for these few lines, and so oblige

A LADY WHO HAS COME FROM AFAR  
AND FEELS DISAPPOINTED.

#### THE PRINCES ASHORE.

(From the *Ceylon Observer*, January 27, 1882.)

The apparently inauspicious, though refreshing, rain-storm which marked the afternoon of the day on which the "Bacchante" arrived has since given place to true "Queen's weather." Yesterday was dry though cloudy, admirably suited to the landing ceremonies; last night was as fine as the most exigent of

ball-frequenter could desire, and today we have a perfect tropical day for sight-seeing in and around Colombo, the clouds so far disappearing that the lower spurs of the Adam's Peak mountain ranges are visible, indicating fine weather on the hills. Everything promises well therefore for tomorrow's trip to Kandy, the visit to Peradeniya and the Perahera in the evening. There is the almost certainty too of fine weather attending the Kraal and the subsequent Elk-hunting at Nuwara Eliya. We are now entering on the finest season of the year for the Central and Western Provinces: just the time when it is most pleasant for sportsmen to roam through the merrie greenwood.

We trust that under the direction of Messrs. Le Mesurier, Hearn, Talbot and others, a very successful Hunt will be got up for our visitors near Nuwara Eliya such as may rival the sport afforded the Duke of Edinburgh on the Bopatalawa, in 1870.

The present arrangement is for the Princes to return to Colombo from the Kraal on Wednesday evening, so as to be ready to start next morning for Nuwara Eliya. But we think it a pity that the arrangement should not be for the Princes to travel up from Awisawella by the Yatiyantota road through Dikoya and Dimbula to the Sanatorium, and then, in returning via Pussellawa, they would really pass through and see a wide compass of our hill country. It will be remembered that the Prince of Wales travelled from Kandy to the Awisawella Kraal by the Yatiyantota road. The magnificent displays of talipot-palms in full flower along the Kandy route should be specially brought under the attention of the Princes.

#### THE PRINCES AT THE COLOMBO CLUB ASSEMBLY.

The "Assembly" last night, arranged by a Committee of the Club at very short notice, is universally described as a most successful and enjoyable gathering, and visitors from far and near are constantly asking, why it could not be repeated after the 'State Dinner' tonight at Queen's House! The officers from the three men-of-war (most of whom had previously been the guests of Colonel Duncan and officers at the Royal Dublin Fusiliers' mess) made a large addition, and the mingling of naval and military uniforms added much to the enlivenment of the scene. In addition to the young Princes, the Governor and Lady Longden, there were Sir Edwin Johnson, Admiral Gore-Jones, Sir Henry and Lady and Miss Lefroy, and Major-General Wilby, as well as Captains Foot, Lord Charles Scott and Durrant, R.N., present as distinguished guests. The guests were received by the Hon. W. H. Ravenscroft, F. R. Saunders, J. Stoddart, Major Philpotts, R.A., Mr. Duff-Robinson, and other members of the Club. The Princes enjoyed themselves and gave pleasure to others very freely. One noticeable incident of the evening was the formal introduction by the Commander of the "Bacchante" (Lord Charles Scott), of his promising midshipman Prince George, to the Admiral Commanding on the Station. Admiral Gore-Jones shook his junior officer cordially by the hand and added an encouraging pat on the shoulder to one who promises to be every inch a sailor! The band of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers attended, and dancing was kept up with spirit

till about three o'clock this morning. The company numbered nearly 300.

The programme was as follows :—

PROGRAMME.

1	Valse	10	Galop
2	Valse	11	Valse
3	Lancers	12	Valse
4	Valse	13	Polka
5	Valse	14	Valse
6	Valse	15	Valse
7	Lancers	16	H. Schottische.
8	Polka	17	Galop
9	Valse	18	Valse

From an enthusiastic correspondent (and a Highlander) who was present, we have the following contribution :—

“The dance given by the members of the Colombo Club last night to meet Admiral Gore-Jones and the officers of Her Majesty's ships in the harbour, including the royal Princes, Albert Victor and George, was the most successful and perhaps most numerous attended ball that has been taken place in Ceylon, at such a short notice, and in a room not specially built for the occasion. Dancing commenced shortly after 10 p. m., and was kept up with spirit until 3 o'clock this morning, and we trust our visitors will carry many way pleasant recollections of Ceylon and its society as experienced on this occasion, and that our climate is not inimical to those who delight to

“trip it on the light fantastic toe”

would be amply proved. With the officers of the “Ruby,” “Bacchante,” and “Cleopatra,” of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, and of the Ceylon Light Infantry Volunteers, present, and the ladies of Colombo and its neighbourhood and from various parts of the island attracted to Colombo in connection with the gaieties in honor of the visit of the Royal Princes, we need not say that the assemblage of “fair women and brave men” was great on this occasion. The royal Princes took a part in all the dances until they left the ball-room at about 2 o'clock a.m.; after this the dancing was kept up till 3 o'clock, the Schottische having been danced with great energy by several of the naval officers, one of whom though not on this occasion in “the garb of old Gaul,” danced with the “fire of old Rome,” and made the ball-room resound with the peculiar wacry familiar to every Highlander at least on such occasions. I need not say with what hearty cheers and clapping of hands our Scottish friend was greeted at the conclusion of this dance, and this has suggested to us that at the next dance given some of the representative Highlanders should be requested to dance a “Hullachan” or the Reel of Tulloch, when we are sure all in the ball-room will enjoy the sight of this famous Scotch “corroboree,” and remind them of the fact that though in Ceylon we are still in the Land of Hills, of Valleys, and of Heroes! The refreshments, including a stand-up supper, were excellent, and abundant, various viands being cooled to perfection. I feel that I am only repeating the expression of every one present at this dance in conveying to “the Assembly Committee of the Colombo Club” and their energetic and attentive Secretary Mr. Horsford the hearty thanks of all for the very successful and pleasant dance got up, in such a short time.

TODAY.

This morning their Highnesses drove to the Colombo Museum in company with His Excellency the Governor, Captain A. Nevill Hayne, A. D. C., the Rev. Mr. Dalton and Mr. A. Hope, P. S. H. E., the Princes, and Mr. Hope, in the Governor's carriage; and Capt. Gwatkin, and Mr. Dalton, one carriage; and Capt. Nevill Hayne and Sir E. Johnson another carriage. The party returned to Queen's House between 1 and 2 o'clock. Large numbers of spectators lined the route from Queen's House, and a large crowd had gathered at the Museum. Mr. and Miss Onslow-Deane called upon His Excellency the Governor and the Princes this afternoon. The royal party afterwards, drove to the residence of Major-General Wilby, C. B., at Slave Island, where the Princes indulged in a few games of lawn tennis. About thirty ladies and gentlemen have been invited to dine at Queen's House tonight, including the Admiral, the commanders of the men-of-war, the members of the Executive Council, Sir Henry Lefroy, Sir Edwin Johnson, Major-General Wilby, Mr. Justice Clarence, the Hon. W. H. Ravenscroft, the Hon. B. L. Burnside, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. R. Campbell, &c.

We are glad to hear that the “Bacchante” and “Cleopatra” as well as the “Ruby” carrying the Admiral's Flag, will be open to visitors between the hours of 12 and 5 every day next week. No doubt the public will thoroughly appreciate this privilege and visit the ships in large numbers.

The Elk hunt will probably take place on Friday next, the Princes and party going up by special train to Gampola on Thursday morning.

As at Hongkong and Singapore, so here, there is to be a cricket match between the local cricketers and the naval visitors. A match, Colombo Cricket Club *versus* the Officers of H. M. Royal Navy, has been arranged to take place on the Galle Face ground, commencing on Friday afternoon next, 3rd proximo, and continued all day on Saturday. As both teams are to be strongly represented, a very interesting match will doubtless be made of it.

The following is a correct list of the officers of the three men-of-war now lying in our harbour :—

“RUBY.”

Composite S. corvette, 2,120 tons, 1,830 H. P., bearing the flag of H.E. Rear-Admiral Gore-Jones, C.B., Commander-in-Chief, East Indies.

Captain.—Charles E. Foot, 12th May 1880.

Flag-Lieutenant.—Adam B. Leslie.

Lieutenants.—Michael P. O'Callaghan, W. P. Shakespear, James G. Bremer, Oliver A. Stokes.

Navigating Lieut.—Sugden.

Chaplain and Naval Instructor.—Rev. James Black, M.A.

Staff Surgeon.—John N. Stone.

Paymaster.—Alfred P. Freeman.

Chief Engineer.—Robt. Hall.

Acting Sub-Lieutenants.—Chas. A. Radcliffe, Chas. E. Madden, Edmund R. Pears.

Surgeon.—George W. F. Armstrong, M.D.

Engineer.—Francis Ford.

Gunner.—David Murgay.

Boatswain.—George W. Watkins.

Midshipman.—John F. Lea.

Assistant Engineer.—Samuel Aston.

Clerk in Admiral's office.—Graham Hewlett.

Clerk.—Herbert A. Copeland.

Re-commissioned at Bombay, 2nd July 1880.

“BACCHANTE.”

Iron S. Corvette, cased with wood, 4,130 (2,679) tons. 5,420 H. P.—Detached Squadron.

Captain.—Rt. Hon. Lord Charles T. M. D. Scott.

Commander.—George W. Hill.

Lieutenants.—Hon. Assheton G. Curzon-Howe, J. W. Osborne, Charles H. Adair, A. M. Farquhar, W. B. Fisher and C. W. W. Ingram.

Nav. Lieut.—Herbert Roxby.

Lieut. Mar.—Arthur C. Smyth.

Chaplain.—Rev. J. N. Dalton, M. A. (act).

Naval Instructor.—John W. Lawless.

Fleet Surgeon.—Alexander Turnbull, M. D.

Staff Surgeon.—Alfred G. Delmege, M. D.

Paymaster.—William H. Whichelo.



Ch. Engineer.—David Wilson.  
 Sub-Lieutenants.—C. H. H. More, Evelyn R. LeMarchant, Francis B. Henderson.  
 Assist. Paym.—G. A. F. C. Secals.  
 Engineers.—W. J. Canter, John L. Stevenson.  
 Gunner.—Charles W. Fraill.  
 Boatswain.—John Mahoney.  
 Carpenter.—Allen Evans.  
 Midshipmen.—Hugh Evan Thomas, Richard P. Fitzgerald, A. H. Limpus, A. H. Christian, Walter B. Bisset, R. E. Wemyss, G. W. Hillyard, Hon. John C. M. D. Scott, Hon. George A. Hardinge, Right Hon. Lord Francis G. G. Osborne, H. R. H. PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR of Wales, and H. R. H. PRINCE GEORGE of Wales.

Commissioned at Portsmouth, 15th July 1879.

“CLEOPATRA.”

Corvette, Steel and Iron, cased with wood, 2,380 tons 2,610 H. P.  
 Captain.—Francis Durrant.  
 Lieutenants.—A. C. Corry, L. D. Sampson, F. G. Stopford, E. P. Powell, H. P. Williams.  
 Nav. Lieut.—F. A. Halleran.  
 Captain and Nav. Instr.—Rev. William French. B.A.  
 Staff Surgeon.—Wm. H. Stewart, M.B.  
 Paymaster.—Wm. E. P. Saer.  
 Chief Engineer.—John Dunlop.  
 Sub-Lieutenant.—Wm. G. Stewart.  
 Surgeon.—J. J. Connell, M.D.  
 Assistant Paymaster.—R. R. Marwood.  
 Engineers.—C. J. Cock, J. R. D. Johnson.  
 Gunner.—E. J. Metters.  
 Carpenter.—B. Stoneman.  
 Midshipmen.—Thomas S. Guppy, C. G. F. M. Cradock, E. C. P. Cooper, A. E. G. Moir, H. Thompson, F. K. C. Gibbons, E. F. de Chair.  
 Assistant Engineer.—E. R. Odam, Clerk, P. C. Cooke.

THE DECORATIONS AT THE WHARF.—With regard to the decorations, we hear that the pandal and other decorations at the jetty were completed by P. de Saram Mudaliyar's men at 3 P. M. yesterday. Definite information as regards the lauding of the Royal Princes was announced at 10 yesterday morning, and Mr. de Saram had to put on about fifty extra hands to complete the work, which was done, we feel sure, to the satisfaction of all. It was a work spontaneously taken in hand by him, in which he was assisted by other district Mudaliyars.

THE PRINCES ASHORE.

(From the *Ceylon Observer*, January 28, 1882.)

THE DEPARTURE FOR KANDY: THIS DAY.

It having been previously announced that their Royal Highnesses, the young princes, would take their departure for Kandy today, from an early hour this morning the route leading from Queen's House to the Maradana railway station was lined with crowds of people of all classes and conditions eager to get a glimpse of their Royal Highnesses, and the nearer the station the greater the crowd. At the station itself, there was a very large number of people collected, awaiting the arrival of the princes; and the railway officials must have experienced considerable difficulty in preserving order. Perhaps a little disappointment was felt at the station not being gaily decorated for the occasion, for beyond the recent coat of paint, there was nothing worthy of note. Capt. Hansard was in attendance with a strong *posse* of police, and, together with the stationmaster, Mr. Vanderstraaten, deserves credit for the careful arrangements. A special train consisting of five carriages, including the royal saloon carriage, conveyed the party. At about 1:35 p.m. their Royal Highnesses accompanied by H. E. the Governor arrived at the station, and were received with cheers from the assembled people. They then alighted and got into the royal saloon—the same one, we believe, used by their royal father on the occasion of his visit to Kandy. A few minutes more, and, amid the cheers

of the concourse the special train slowly glided out of the station, bound for Lanka's mountain capital.

Among those who travelled by the special train, we noticed, besides H. E. the Governor:—Sir Edwin Johnson, Rear Admiral Gore-Jones, C.B., Lieut. Leslie, and some of the officers of the men-of-war in the harbour, Sir Henry Lefroy, Rev. J. N. Dalton, Hon. W. H. Ravenscroft, the Maha Mudaliyar, Mr. H. S. Saunders, Mr. A. Hope, P.S., Capt. Hayne, A.D.C. Capt. Mills, A. D. C., Messrs. E. Robinson, E. Strong, G. W. R. Campbell, etc.

A special pilot engine ran 15 minutes in advance of the special train, in order to keep the line clear.

The Princes will arrive at the mountain capital about 4 p.m., and they will thus have sufficient time to drive to the Peradeniya Gardens and round the town and lake before dinner and the Perahera. There will no doubt be a gathering of Kandian Chiefs with the Government Agent and Municipal authorities at the Kandy station, to welcome the Princes, but no address is to be read. The picturesque capital of the ancient Kandian kingdom is sure to look its best in such splendid weather as is enjoyed today. Adam's Peak has been visible from early morning. Prince George should take a special interest in Kandy: some ten years ago, we suggested that it would gratify the Eastern subjects of Her Majesty if titles for her grandsons were found in India, Ceylon and other dependencies and we suggested a Duke of Bombay or Madras and a Prince of Kandy. The *London Times* copied our suggestion and *Punch* still further honoured it with a note, at the same time happily surmising that Prince George of Wales whose name had been mentioned, would probably much prefer at the time to be made Prince of Sugar-Kandy!

Yesterday, the Princes were a good deal interested in a clever exhibition at Queen's House, by Indian snake-charmers, many of whose performances were quite new to our youthful visitors.

The Princes will return from Kandy tomorrow with His Excellency the Governor and party by a special train which is timed to leave Kandy at 2:45 p.m. and reach Colombo at 6:15 p.m.

(Special Telegram.)

THE PRINCES' VISIT TO KANDY.

KANDY, 27th Jan. 5:30 p.m.

Most enjoyable ride up. The people in all parts *en route* were aware of the approach of the English Rajahs, and there were crowds in many places along the line. At Mahara an arch was specially admired. Prince George in company with Mr. Strong rode on the engine from Rambukana to Kadu gannawa. The reception at Kandy was very enthusiastic. The Chiefs were assembled at the station to meet the Princes. They were introduced by the Governor as the sons of the Prince of Wales, who was here some years ago. The Government Agent and many officials were at the station. The train arrived at two or three minutes to 5.

NEXT WEEK.

Everything promises well for a successful kral: the weather is perfection; but the elephants are reported

to be getting a little impatient of the control exercised over their movements, though no fear is felt of their not being available for Tuesday's drive-in.

The start of the Princes for the Kraal on Monday will be made at 10-30 A.M., but the route is not yet decided, and will probably depend on the latest report of the state of the roads.

As regards the Elk Hunt, it is said the alternative routes are either beyond Baker's Farm, or down towards Dimbula through Abbotsford and up by the Railway gorge by Elgin estate. The Haputale hounds will no doubt be in requisition; while Mr. Saunders and Mr. Talbot with the other gentlemen we have named, will give a good account of the sport.

Besides the Kraal and Royal Elk Hunt, there will probably be another Assembly under the auspices of the Colombo Club, in honour of the Princes; and for Thursday next it is rumoured that Capt. Foot and his Officers are arranging for the Amateur Company of H. M. S. "Ruby" to give a combined Theatrical and Musical Entertainment on board that vessel.

The "Ruby" with Admiral Gore-Jones is likely to leave for Trincomalee on Friday, whence she will almost immediately proceed to Calcutta for the Admiral to pay his respects to the Viceroy.

At the Club Assembly, the Reception Committee included the Hon'bles W. H. Ravenscroft, F. R. Saunders, and J. Stoddart, Major Philpotts, R.A., Mr. Duff Robinson and the Secretary, Mr. Horsford. The number present was close on 300, including nearly all the Officers of the three men-of-war.

On Thursday evening, the Princes drove out with the Governor and Lady Longden. Prince Albert Victor, the Governor and Lady Longden were in one carriage; and Prince George, with Capt. Hayne, A. D. C., Mr. Hope, P. S., and Capt. Gwatkin, A. D. C., in the second carriage. In the Cinnamon Gardens, Prince George expressed a wish to drive, and showed that he was no mean whip.

"A Volunteer" writes:—It is rumoured that the officers of the C. L. I. V. are anxious to entertain the officers of the fleet now at our port, but that there is some difficulty in the way of determining what shape the entertainment should take: may I be allowed to offer a suggestion that an invitation to a friendly rifle shooting match at Mount Lavinia between 30 picked men and officers of the Volunteers and ditto of the Navy, to be followed or preceded by a luncheon, would be a very suitable way of entertaining our gallant visitors. I feel sure it would be a very pleasant picnic, and would be greatly appreciated.

Kraal-town, 27th Jany.—A correspondent writes:—Please contradict the "fever scare." Mr. Dawson and others, who have been here living on the spot for the last fortnight and more, testify that they have not heard of a single case. This is a joke said to have been started by the well-known 'jovial Philip.' Colombo folks who intended coming should on no account be deterred. Arrangements are all well and satisfactorily advanced. The first post from Kraal-town left at 7 this morning, but I have lost it for want of writing material. This will explain the cause of my present communication being in pencil.

## "OUR ROYAL AND DISTINGUISHED VISITORS"

(From the *Ceylon Observer*, January 30, 1882.)

Have now had a look at the Kandian capital, have seen a "Perahera," † and have listened to strains of music which, if not capable of "creating a soul under the ribs of death," might yet vie with Macbeth in "murdering sleep." If the latter were the result, there was surely compensation in the scene by moonlight of the lovely valley in which Kandy reposes; the bright river which encircles the city, and the grand amphitheatre of mountains and hills, keeping watch and ward over it, like mighty but silent sentinels. If, during the journey, they were disappointed with the rice terraces, the dashing streams, the varied vegetation, the mountains, rocks and boulders of "the Incline," then they will be the first to relate such an experience. But disappointment with such a scene is impossible, if from the precipices of the Meeangalla gallery and over the depths of sensation rock, due use was made of the sense of vision. We hope the Queen's representative did not fail to point out to the Queen's sons how the Imperial Talipot Palms of Ceylon had in scores put on their primrose coronets—the court dresses of forest monarchs, in order to give fitting welcome to the royalty of Briton. He who does not admit that it was worth while coming to Ceylon, if but to see those noble palms arrayed, like sunset, in the glories of a closing life, must be deficient in faculties which render life spiritual and enjoyable. Allagalla, the mountain up the sides of which the iron road climbs at the rate of one foot of elevation for every 45 feet of advance, is famous in the traditions of Ceylon, the legend being that from its precipitous summit, after shortest of shrifts, persons guilty or supposed to be guilty (much the same thing in the olden days) of high treason were precipitated. Opposite the isolated mountain mass, from the summit of which a most extensive view is obtained, stands Utuankande (the Camel-rock) of the Sinhalese, which, if viewed from the Rhine or the Drachenfels, would be regarded as the picturesque ruin of the castellated fortress of some puissant noble or more puissant bishop of the olden times. Further up is the square summit of "the Bible Rock" or "Fort King" of the English, and beyond that rise the mountains of Gampola, Pussellawa and the ramparts of the table land in which is situated our beautiful sanatorium. Thrice now has Kandy received into its bosom

† So frequently did the Kings of Kandy seek consorts from the royal families of Southern India, of the "Solar Race," that the "Malabar" (properly Tamil) element ultimately preponderated, and so essentially is the barbarous ceremony of the Perahera, in its tinsel and its noises, Hindu *cum* Devilry (demon worship, which Buddhism supplanted as the "established Church" but did not supersede as the popular faith,) that the question is on record as put to a Kandian monarch by an orthodox visitor, after witnessing a Perahera, "Is not this a *Buddhist* country?" Pure Buddhism rejects such mummery; but where is *pure* Buddhism?

members of the Royal family of Britain, and with each occasion is associated different and more pleasant reminiscences than are called up by the names of the majority of "the Kandian Kings." The last of the line, whom we most rightfully and righteously deposed, amused himself by compelling a mother to pound the severed head of her infant in a mortar, preparatory to her own death by drowning in a "lake" which once existed near such evidences of progress as the railway station and the engineering establishment of Messrs. John Walker & Co. When he proceeded to cut off the ears and noses of British subjects, whose sole crime was that they were traders, he brought down on himself and his kingdom the retribution of the British arms. His own subjects delivered him up, and when he was captured the abject wretch, cowardly as he had been cruel, was in mortal terror, expecting his well-merited doom. But, as is the wont of the British, they sent their prisoner to comfortable quarters in the Fort of Vellore (infamous for Seapoy mutiny and murder,) giving him and his multitudinous progeny pensions which, although not like those of the Duke of Wellington "the heaviest that history mentions," were yet remarkable for their almost infinite subdivision, until a Douglas came to the rescue, and said "hitherto shall ye come and no further." In the war of 1815, as in the rebellion of 1817-18, our troops suffered so fearfully from exposure to rain and land leeches, and especially from the wretched means of communication afforded by the native paths, that the Kandian country received the false reputation of being pestiferous. Sir Edward Barnes, one of the Great Duke's Peninsular warriors, and who acted as his Adjutant-General at Waterloo, who held supreme power in Ceylon soon after the kingdom of Kandy became British territory, speedily dissipated this idea by running a great military road—which became the route of subsequent commerce, and British enterprise—into the mountains. About the age which Prince George is now was "CEYLON'S GREAT ROADMAKER," Major Skinner, (who might have died Sir T. B. Skinner had he consented to receive the honour) when, as one of Barnes' Lieutenants, he commenced a career of usefulness as roadmaker and topographer, which lasted half a century. Skinner's name is inseparably connected with the grand "Simplon of the East," on which our visitors looked down from the railway as they emerged from the great Mooragalle tunnel and approached "Dawson's Monument" at Kadugannawa; but with the feelings worthy of a truly great and good man, Major Skinner was the first to hail with delight the era of railway construction, which has rendered access to the mountains, valleys, streams, plantations, cities and villages of the ancient Kandian Kingdom doubly facile. Centuries before Kandy was a royal residence, the temple of Kelani stood, as it still stands,

on the opposite bank of the noble river, up the course of which the princes have today journeyed en route to the Kraal, the scene of which lies amid the sub-ranges of that prominent "Peak" sacred to Buddhists, Hindus, and Muhamadans in view of traditions equally well founded regarding a visit and a foot print of "the sage," to whom Saman, the spirit of the mountain, did homage; while according to the Muhamadans (and some so-called Christians) the tombs of Adam and Eve lie at the foot of the mountain. The Kelani temple has its own traditions, amongst which we may mention one, illustrative of the high morality of the much vaunted "Light of Asia," of which Europeans of the Arnold stamp are so much enamoured. An ancient King of Ceylon discovering, by the interception of a letter (an olah) that the high priest of Kelani was carrying on an intrigue with his queen, tried a piece of cookery on his own account and boiled the priest in a caldron of oil. "Serve him right,—all but the boiling to death process," most of us would say. The priest had been guilty not only of adultery but high treason, and by laws divine and human, he richly deserved to die. But the "powers" or "forces" which are connected with Buddhism, (for "No God" is the foundation principle of the system) knew better: it was the king who had been guilty of mortal sin for punishing so sacred a person as a priest of Buddha—one of an order which bows neither to royalty on earth nor Deity in heaven—and so punishment most logically fell on the King's innocent subjects, thousands of whom were drowned by a disturbance of the earth and sea which ended in the submergence of more than a dozen villages off the west coast of Ceylon. Geologists believe in the catastrophe, however they may regard its cause. Those who journey by the banks of the Kelani river by day light will see its banks lined by groups of graceful bamboos, but it is at night that the brilliant fireflies hold dance and revel—shewing and hiding their diamond flashes of intermittent light, as if at the word of command, from a firefly commander-in-chief. At the kraal, besides the romantic scenery of the green wood and the stream lined hills, rising to magnificent mountains, our visitors, royal and loyal, will see a good deal of mimic war in "the drive;" while in the enclosure of the wild elephants and their capture by the aid of their tame fellows, will be witnessed surprise, treachery, agony, strenuous but vain efforts to attain freedom, rage, despair and final resignation, after a fashion brute in force, but very human and very touching in expression. But of all this our correspondents will tell. For us it but remains to express the hope that the driven elephants will be as amenable to loyalty to the princes, as the "Donald" of Highland story was expected to be obedient to his chief, when

the wife of his bosom said to him in coaxing accents "Hoot, Donald! come oot an' be hanged, to please the laird."

### THE PRINCES ASHORE. THE VISIT TO KANDY.

(From the *Ceylon Observer*, January 30, 1882)

My first visit to Kandy I shall never forget. The luxuriant foliage bordering the railway from Colombo to the mountain capital; the varied, lovely landscapes to be seen during the latter half of the journey; the sensation experienced as the train passed round the faces of the rocks in several places, and the view of the Dawson monument, were all stamped in my memory so firmly that it must take many years of sight-seeing to efface them. After travelling the same journey many times, its charm has not in the least lessened. Indeed, it has been intensified by the journey taken without the disadvantages of stopping at a dozen stations and occupying four hours time while *en route*. The special train which conveyed the Princes, the Governor of the colony and other distinguished personages too numerous to mention, left the Colombo station punctually at 1.40 p.m., on Saturday last. The cheers of the immense crowd at "the terminus" had scarcely died away, when fresh cheers were heard, from those at "the junction." Here several hundreds of Ceylon's sons and daughters had congregated in order to obtain a glimpse of the Queen's grandsons as they passed slowly through the station. "Along the line the signal ran"—or rather the cheers—for the loyal Sinhalese were not confined to the stations. The railway was bordered by natives for nearly a mile from the stations and lustily did they cheer as the train gained speed and started in earnest for the quick run to Kandy. At Kelani the royal visitors were enabled to see one of the largest of Ceylon's rivers being spanned with a new iron bridge, which, we believe, will be one of the "sights" for visitors to Ceylon in a year or two. The site of the new bridge, the cylinders of which Mr. Jackson is now engaged in sinking, was plainly denoted by a row of showy flags stretching across the river. Further on, the Kelani folks had turned out in hundreds to bid the royal party a pleasant trip onwards. Have you been to Kandy, and do you know that nearly the only drawbacks to the journey are the heat felt in the carriages and the sparks and dust which find their way into the eyes of the individuals who, eager to see as much of the beautiful panorama as possible, push their heads out of the carriages and face in the direction in which they are travelling? Well, if you have not undertaken the journey to Kandy, do so on such a day as Saturday, when the rays of the sun are obstructed occasionally with clouds, and when the "road" has been rendered less dusty than usual by recent rains. Mahara, best known as the village from which the stoue for the Colombo breakwater is obtained, has some patriotic and loyal inhabitants, including the stationmaster. Here a prettily decorated screen had been erected in true oriental fashion. Passing on, it was amusing to see the native cultivators, their agricultural work stopped for the nonce, grouped in dozens or half-dozens—men, women and children—pointing at the train. At most of the stations the speed of the train was slackened in order to gratify

the curiosity of the assembled spectators. Most of them pointed out the persons whom they imagined to be the Princes. But I am afraid that many were mistaken. The gallant A. D. C. was evidently taken to be of one of the royal scions, for, dressed as an officer, he was in the eyes of the Orientals more likely to be a Prince than the light-tweed-clad youths who sat with His Excellency the Governor\*. At Polgahwella an address from the people of the adjacent districts was presented by a Mudaliyar. Bouquets of flowers accompanied it. The signal station half way up the incline was rendered conspicuous by the presence of the words "God bless the Princes" neatly arranged in white letters upon a red background. At Rambukkana the adventurous "sailor Prince" (Prince George) was pleased to accept the invitation to take a position upon the engine (with Mr. Strong) during the journey up the incline. The view from "Sensation Rock" proved as attractive as ever, and very few kept their seats while the far-famed rock was passed. All seemed attracted to the right side of the train, the view from which causes the "sensation." At intervals of a quarter of a mile, throughout the whole length of the railway, coolies were stationed to keep the line clear. Sir Wm. Gregory once remarked:—"You have seen nothing till you have been to Kandy; it is the loveliest place in creation," and certainly the remark applies with as much force now as it did in the days of the popular Sir William. Upon our arrival at this "loveliest place," the elaborately dressed chiefs were among the most conspicuous of the thousands of Kandyans who had assembled in and near the railway station. We did not notice any prominent decorations at the station, but the many hues of the dresses, and the expressions of admiration and wonder of the spectators, were in themselves a study. The royal party was met by the Government Agent of the Province, the Hon. F. B. Templer, Mr. A. C. Lawrie, District Judge, Major Tranchell (of the Police) Mr. MacBride, (of the P. W. D.), Rev. E. A. Copleston, Rev. J. G. Garrett, Mr. Liesching, Rev. J. Watt, and others. A red cloth was stretched across the platform from the railway carriage to the barouche, flanked on each side by two rows of Ratamahatmeyas glittering in gold. Mr. Templer, as soon as the train came to a standstill, was beckoned by His Excellency to enter the saloon carriage, where he was introduced to the young Princes. The distinguished party then stepped out and the Princes were introduced to the Ratamahatmeyas, and their wonderful dresses† and monstrous rings duly admired. The elder youth was grave and dignified, but, fun, one could see, characterised the features of Prince George. A guard of honour of 50 men, of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, under the command of Capt. Bird, and with him Lieut. Seymour, saluted His Excellency on arrival. The party then drove into the town via Ward street. It was believed, in Kandy, that the Princes would pass the Queen's Hotel. But His Excellency was of opinion that a more favourable opportunity for a drive round the Kandy Lake would not occur, and

\* The stalwart proportions of Captain Hayne confirming the Orientals in their idea of his princely character.—Ed. C. O.

† Original crinolines.—Ed. C. O.

therefore it was decided to turn to the right when near the Oriental Bank. The group of Europeans waiting near the "Queen's" to give a thoroughly British welcome to the royal lads were somewhat nonplussed, but determined that their object should be gained. Accordingly a move was made to the corner near the Prince of Wales' fountain, where the arrival of the royal carriage was awaited. On its arrival—after driving past Sir H. Ward's statue—it was unhorsed and the loyal Britons, foremost among them being the Rev. Mr. Garret, took upon themselves the task of conveying the Princes to the Pavilion. His Excellency did not appear to relish this treatment so much as his royal companions, who laughed heartily. The entry was a most triumphant one, and to the Princes and the on-lookers one of the most pleasing incidents of the day. Why there should be a volunteer guard of honour at Kandy, in spite of the refusal to allow one at Colombo, we have not heard. Possibly the parading of the volunteers upon the esplanade in time to "present arms" when the Royal equipage passed was a spontaneous effort to display the loyalty of the citizen-soldiers of Kandy. Capt. Byrde was in command, Lieut. Van Langenberg assisting. The decorations here demand a few words of description. Kandy undoubtedly excelled Colombo in regard to its expressions of welcome. Leaving the station, the eye of the visitor, as he drove into the town, could scarcely fail to discern the conspicuous sentence, "God bless our sailor Princes" gracefully lettered in white upon red cloth and hanging over the entrance to the new jail. The police barracks were also embellished with bunting and "Nature's own ornaments." Messrs. Lawton & Co. displayed several large flags and other occupants of Ward street premises lent their aid in making the route of the royal party more attractive than usual. In the cool evening, the Princes could not but be charmed with their ride round the Lake (or as the Kandy folk call it, the "Bund"). Although the Princes would not be visible there for several hours, the crowd in all the roads near the Temple of the Dalada did not disperse. Thousands of them had come in from the villages within 20 miles from the town, and had apparently determined to remain on the spot till the whole of the grand spectacle of the Perahera had been seen. The Princes made a short stay at the Pavilion and then drove to Katugastota, where the large iron bridge over the Mahawila ganga was inspected. The inhabitants were much surprised at being honoured with a royal visit, but quickly turned out in numbers to cheer the Princes as they passed. Taking a walk through the streets of the mountain capital at about 6 p. m. one could not help being struck with the great amount of labour which must have been expended in the preparation for the royal visit. I have already noticed the decorations in Ward street. Those in front of the Dalada Maligawa were especially noticeable, temporary palisades of wood draped with coconut leaves having been erected all alongside the roadways. Trincomalie street being one of the streets through which the Perahera would have to pass was rendered attractive by the number of arca palm posts—crowned with flags—which lined the street. The same remark applies to Pavilion street and Hill street. I do not know why jailors should be specially interested in the presence of Princes, but it certainly seemed that officials connected with jails excelled the other citizens in their marks of appreciation of the honor done to Kandy by the royal visit. Mr. Gamble had most artistically ornamented his residence at the old jail-house in Hill street, "God bless the royal middies" being conspicuous there.

## THE PERAHERA.

Half-past eight a. m. was the time fixed for the procession of the perahera to start from the temple, and by that time some two scores of elephants and thousands of persons had assembled near the far-famed temple. The scene was one which was bound to leave a vivid impression upon the memory of any spectator: the native musicians tuning their instruments, the gaily caparisoned elephants ever and anon making known their presence by the ringing of the bells which invariably hung from their shoulders, and the lighting of the torches. Such a large body of performers, however, was not easily marshalled into marching order, and consequently it was nearly 9 o'clock before the gun at the Maligawa was fired, signalling the starting of the huge elephant with the shrine from the temple. This enormous beast slowly left the temple yard, descending the steps into the roadway; then taking a position between two other elephants led the way down Gregory road followed by a cavalcade not easily to be described, for even then all those who took part in the procession had not arranged themselves in proper order. The unearthly din which had been commenced by the musicians (save the mark!) who had emerged from the Dalada Maligawa was continued until the long procession had reached the Pavilion gates. At the gates the crush was great, but Inspector-General Campbell, with active superintendents and inspectors, kept the way clear for the sacred procession. A few outsiders managed to evade the police, however, and by some means or other a hundred or two of Europeans were waiting at the Pavilion when the first batch of tomtoms arrived at the front of that handsome structure. Two Princes, with a Governor, an ex-Governor, an Admiral and a Bishop, a member of India's Legislative Council, and other distinguished personages made a party, to perform before which was an honour which it was worth much trouble to attain. As the Princes and their companions sat in the moonlight upon the gravelled pathway in front of the Pavilion, looking down the drive now occupied by two scores of elephants, Kandyan chiefs, tomtom beaters, sword, umbrella and fan bearers, dancers, acrobats, &c., they must have been astonished at the sight and realized the truth of the descriptions which probably their father had given them of his visit to the ancient capital of the Easternisle. On the procession came, slowly but surely, the noise vastly increasing. Most of our readers are acquainted with the character of Sinhalese "music," and doubtless not a few of them have watched the gyrations and contortions of the devil-dancers. Suffice it to say herethat each and all seemed determined to excel themselves in their different parts. It took a considerable time for the long procession to pass the Pavilion, for each of the various groups stopped in front of the Governor's guests in order that they (the performers) could be seen to the best advantage. It was only upon the orders to *palayan* being given by the Government Agent and A. D. C., that some of the devil-dancers, plentifully ornamented with bangles, anklets and cymbals, could be induced to cease their contortions in front of the Princes. The whole sight was one which must have deeply impressed the latter as one of the most wonderfully weird scenes they had ever witnessed. Prince George was greatly pleased with the sight of the elephants, and fed several of them with sugar cane upon their stopping to be surveyed for a short time. The Chiefs formed no inconsiderable part of the procession. They walked sedately up to the spot at which the royal visitors were standing and in most cases were suitably recognized by the Governor. One very aged chief was introduced to the Princes by His Excellency as one of the oldest Sinhalese noblemen. The drums which were captured from Major Davie's force when it was massacred so foully, were, we heard, used in the perahera.\* The noise which they now made must, we should imagine, have been as great as that made by them when the

\* Incredible! Such an insult to the ruling race would never be permitted, even if attempted — Ed. C. O.

gallant Major advanced Kandywards. It took quite an hour for the procession to pass, and then hearty cheers were given for their Royal Highnesses, and three more for the Queen; the Europeans winding up by singing the national anthem and awakening the echoes of the Pavilion grounds by a hearty rendering of "God bless the Prince of Wales." Between eleven and twelve o'clock the Princes and a large party from the Pavilion visited the Dalada Maligawa, where they were met by the High Priest of Adam's Peak, Sumangala, the librarian Suriyagodda Unanse, and other Buddhist dignitaries. The Princes on the way passed through the Pavilion road by the Maha Dewala and the verandah of the old palace to the audience hall, where their Royal father knighted Sir William Gregory. Mr. Lawrie the District Judge, who accompanied them, had the place well-illuminated for the occasion. Here the Princes and the officers of the men-of-war closely examined the elaborately carved wooden pillars of the hall, which were very much admired by them. From thence the party entered the Maligawa and passing through serried ranks of scores of shaven Buddhist priests, clad in yellow robes, lining the sacred corridors, visited the octagonal library containing 900 books, mostly native, but some of them European works. This was of great interest to the visitors, while the view from the library verandah was so magnificent that all the party were glad to stay for a few minutes gazing on the imposing spectacle before them. The elephants were all drawn up in a line from the east end of the Esplanade along the Nata Dewala wall; these monsters, excepting those carrying howdahs, were made to salute the Princes by kneeling; they were also made to trumpet so loudly that the neighbouring hills rang with the echoes. The Princes appeared greatly delighted during this performance. The octagon was brilliantly illuminated with small lamps, so that the view from among the crowd upon the esplanade was equally charming with that from the sacred building itself. It was a beautiful moonlight night, and not a drop of rain fell to mar the effect. The whole of the Dalada Maligawa was illuminated, and the octagon looked like a tower in Fairy Land. The Chiefs had finished their work and entered the Maligawa and were asked to stand in two rows at the Octagon door. The Governor and party with the Princes met them here, and the elder of the two addressed the Chiefs and thanked them much for the entertainment they had prepared in honor of their visit. Dorakumbura Ratamahetmaya, as spokesman, then said that it was a source of great pleasure to them to have seen their Royal Highnesses that evening, and they trusted that, by Divine providence, they would prosper well in the world; Mr. Goonetilleke the Gate Mudaliyar acting as interpreter. The next part of the programme was the visit to the shrine of the sacred tooth. The discolored piece of ivory, two inches long by half an inch in diameter, said to be the tooth of Gautama Buddha, is in a by-no-means very accessible spot, and it is only possible for a few persons to press into the room at one time. However, the Princes saw all that was to be seen, and, although the temperature in the holy place was anything but comfortable, the Princes and other visitors evidently did not begrudge the trouble they went to to get a view of the "tooth." The royal party then proceeded to the Pavilion, it being nearly 12 o'clock. Many Europeans were afterwards allowed the privilege of visiting the shrine. Nugawela Ratamahatmaya of Uduwara acted for the Dewe Nilleme at the Perahera.

As might be expected, the Queen's Hotel was crowded with visitors, some of whom could not resist the temptation to resort to the liquor bottle too many times, the result being scenes which were, to say the least, not creditable to those who took part in them.

The police did all they could to maintain order and with one or two exceptions were successful.

The Princes drove to the Botanical Gardens, Peradeniya, yesterday (Sunday) morning; stayed there a short while, and then drove back to the Pavilion. They attended St. Paul's church at 11 a.m. The Bishop and his brother Rev. E. A. Copleston, officiated; the former preaching a sermon in which he drew attention to the fact that the day was the anniversary day of the church. The offertories amounted to R250, of which the Princes contributed R100.

The following were the chiefs who were introduced to the Princes at the Kandy railway station:— Andarawewe Ratamahatmaya, Henagahawala Ratamahatmaya, Yatawaka Ratamahatmaya, Moses Gunatileke Interpreter Mudaliyar, Maha Dewala Basnayaka Nilame, Nata Dewala Basnayaka Nilame, Kataramgam Dewala Basnayaka Nilame, Pattini Dewala Basnayaka Nilame, Koswatte Basnayaka Nilame, Kotuwelle Ratamahatmaya, Helugalle Ratamahatmaya Halpe Ratamahatmaya, Palipane Ratamahatmaya, Tennekoon Ratamahatmaya Tenne Ratamahatmaya, Giragama Ratamahatmaya, Nugawela Ratamahatmaya, Halangoda Ratamahatmaya, Ammunugama Basnayaka Nilame, A. Sinna Tambi Kasi Mohandiram, Superamanian O. B. C.

The following were the Kandy headmen who brought in elephants to join in the procession:—

Nugawilla Uduwara Ratamahatmaya and Giragama Yatinuwara Ratamahatmaya, of the Dalada Maligawa.

Halangoda Lower Dumbera Ratamahatmaya of Natadewala Temple.

Nugawella Loku Ratamahatmaya of Harrispatu of the Mahadewala Temple.

Doracumbura Ratamahatmaya of Matale, of the Kataram Dewala.

Yatawara Ratamahatmaya of Lower Hewahette of the Pattina Dewala.

Kambuwaattuena Ratamahatmay of Kurunegalle.

Kalugalla Ratamahatmaya of Kurunegalle.

Halpay Ratamahatmay of Kurunegalle.

Kattuwella Ratamahatmaya of Kurunegalle.

Pallipana Kadu Ratamahatmaya of Kurunegalle.

Udupalata Ratamahatmaya of Gampola.

Uda Dumbera Ratamahatmaya.

Uda Bulatgama Ratamahatmaya.

Tenna Ratamahatmaya of Matale.

Kappittepelle Ratamahatmaya of Matale.

Tenna Kuda Ratamahatmaya of Kurunegalle.

The following Headmen took part in the procession:—

(Dalada Maligawa) Uduwara Nugawella Ratamahatmaya,

Yatinuwara Giragama Ratamahatmaya, President of the

Uduwara Gansabawa, Halpe Ratamahatmaya, Pallipana

Ratamahatmaya, (Natadewala) Ratwatte Basnayke Nilame,

Tumpane Paranagama Ratamahatmaya of Lower Dumbera

President of the Gansabawa of Dumbera, Tennekoon Rata-

mahatmaya, Pasgama Basnayke Nilame, Dodanwelle Bas-

nayaka Nilleme, Wageria Basnaik Nilleme (Mahadewala)

Nugawella Basnaik Nilleme, Uda Dumbera Rambukwella

Ratamahatmaya, Hulugalle Ratamahatmaya, Allawattogodde

Basnayke Nilleme, Hangurankette Basnaika Nilleme, Bin-

tenne Basnaik Nilleme, Gadaladeniya Basnayke Nilleme.

(Kataramgam Dewala) Udanwita Basnaik Nillem, Udapalate

Andrewere Ratama Ratamahatmaya, Kotuwelle Ratamahat-

maya, Walhagodde Basnaik Nilleme, Ganagodde Basnaik

Nilleme, Ambekka Basnayke Nilleme. (Pattini Dewala)

Wegoddepelle Basnayke Nilleme, Yatawara Ratamahatmaya,

of Lower Hewahetta, Uda Bulatgama Ratamahatmaya, Amb-

bokke Basnayke Nilleme.

The departure of the Princes from Kandy by special

train punctually at 2.45 yesterday afternoon was the

occasion for another outburst of loyal cheers from several

hundred of persons assembled at the station. The weather

was deliciously cool, when compared with Colombo.

and the journey to this city was a very pleasant

one. One incident on the road was the exhibition

of two large (dead) specimens of the *tic polonga* snake

at Rambukkana station. One of these poisonous

reptiles was taken to Queen's House. Soon after six

o'clock Colombo was reached, amid the cheers of

the assembled multitude. Major General Wilby, C.B.,

Capt. Mills, A.D.C. and Adjutant Gwatkin, A.D.C.,

met the royal party who drove to Queen's House immediately.

The Princes, with His Excellency the Governor and Lady Longden, Admiral Gore-Jones, Sir E. Johnson Capt. Hayne A. D. C. and Mr. Hope P. S. and several naval officers, drove from Queen's House at 11 a.m., today *en-route* for the Kraal.

The ladies, who had been greatly disappointed on hearing that the ball at Queen's House would not be given, will be delighted to hear that the ball has simply been postponed.

#### THE PRINCES' STAY AT POLGAHAWALA EN ROUTE TO KANDY.

(From the *Ceylon Observer*, January 31, 1882.)

As soon as the movements of the Royal party were definitively ascertained, the Government Agent, with the consideration and courtesy that characterize all his actions, promised the towns-people of Kurunegala to secure for them the privilege of welcoming the Princes at Polgahawala. By permission of Government, and with the co-operation of the railway authorities, the platform at the railway station was placed at the disposal of the Government Agent, who issued to all respectable applicants free tickets of admission. There was a general exodus to Polgahawala to welcome the Royal Princes on Saturday. The platform was filled by representatives of several nationalities, and the varied costumes presented a striking appearance. There was a sprinkling of Mudaliyars and Mulandirams in uniform, but the round flat "tiles" of the native chiefs and headmen were conspicuous by their absence, almost all of them (the headmen) having gone to be present at the grand Perahera at Kandy. Two lovely bouquets of flowers were presented to their Royal Highness by the two daughters of Mr. Finch. This was followed by similar floral offerings by other children to the Princes' suite and the train moved on towards the mountain capital, but not before Mr. Lushington had led three hearty cheers and one more for the Princes, and one for Lady Longden. For the opportunity afforded to the people of Kurunegala to evince their loyalty, and for all the pleasure and gratification they enjoyed thanks are due to the Government Agent for his forethought in making the arrangements, and to his assistant and others who took part in carrying out the same so happily and successfully.—( *or* )

#### THE PRINCES IN KANDY: ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

(From the *Ceylon Observer*, January 31, 1882.)

(From a *Correspondent*.)

27th January, 1882.

The train conveying their Royal Highnesses Prince Albert Victor and Prince George, reached the Bogambra station this evening at the appointed time, 4.45 p.m. Mr. Templer, the Government Agent, then entered the Royal saloon and was presented to the young princes. They soon after stepped out upon the carpeted platform, where the Heads of Departments and the Kandian Chiefs were formally presented. The latter mustered in great force, in all the gorgeousness of oriental costume and the glitter of superabundant tinsel. A detachment of the 102nd R. D. F. formed a guard of honor, and presented arms as the princes stepped out of the railway carriage. The Royal youths were dressed in light tweeds, and looked remarkably composed for strangers witnessing an oriental ovation. There is something very attractive about the elder prince, something peculiarly soft and striking\* in expression, and reminding one very forcibly of the

\* The Prince is by his brother middies irreverently termed "sheepie." But there is often great force associated with gentleness.—Ed. C. O.

Princess of Wales. When he sat up next Lady Longden in the Governor's carriage, his peculiar attitude recalled the graceful bearing of his mother, as seen to such advantage in her afternoon rides in Rotten Row amidst the plaudits of the people. But for the calm refinement and quiet dignity which stamp the features of both the Royal youths, one would mistake the younger for a jolly and robust farmer's lad. He looked as if he was possessed of a keen sense of humour, and could relish above all things a little bit of fun. While the ceremony of presentation of the Kandian Chiefs was being enacted, the elder prince went through his part of it, with a sober gravity almost beyond his years; but one watching the younger prince could not help perceiving in his eyes and lips a sparkle of quaint consciousness, at the sight of the enormous girth of padded waist which the Kandian gentry are accustomed to exhibit. Bare feet, and pancake hats, and tinselled jackets, and peg-top trowsers present an appearance of inflated grandness which even to people most familiar with the sight has in it a strong touch of the ludicrous; one can therefore readily imagine the effect which a costume so *outré* must have had upon the royal middies.

From the station the princes rode into town amidst deafening cheers from the spectators who had gathered along the route to the Pavilion. Every available bit of ground whence the princes could be seen, was covered with a motley crowd. The station ground and the banks along the Police barracks were lined with a array of eager on-lookers. Messrs. Lawton & Co., evinced their loyalty as Photographers to His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, by dressing out their establishment with a large display of bunting. Messrs. Walker & Co.'s stores in Ward Street, were also decorated with flags. Indeed a good portion of the way from the foot of Ward Street to the Pavilion, had long lines of bunting connecting the tops of tall area-posts put into the ground about fifteen or twenty feet apart.

The Princes instead of being conducted direct to the Pavilion were taken on round the lake, returning to the Vice-regal residence by way of Palace Road. In the neighbourhood of the Pavilion gate, a party of planters threw themselves forward, and in a fit of exuberant loyalty into which also the Rev. Mr. Garret threw himself *con amore*, stopped the Governor's coach in which the Princes were riding, unharnessed the horses, and with a long pull and a strong pull, and a pull altogether, drew the royal carriage to the Pavilion. This was commendable enough; but not so commendable was the next part of the programme, for these wild colts† from the hill districts emerging from the Pavilion gate, went past St. Paul's Church singing "Glory! Hallelujah!"

The illuminations at night though not carried out on so grand a scale as when the Duke of Edinburgh and the Prince of Wales were here, were nevertheless very brilliant. The triangular recesses in the bund wall were all lit up with earthenware lamps. The front of the Octagon was illuminated with tiny coloured lamps, and on either side of the roads leading from the Pavilion to the esplanade and the Maligawa, there was a row of empty coconuts stuck on post about four feet high and about six or ten feet apart, and the light given from these coconut shells which were stuffed with rags immersed in oil, was very brilliant, though not very pleasant to smell.

The Perebera procession was conducted on a very grand scale. A friend said he counted about forty elephants, but, this must be a mistake. At all events the procession was unusually attractive. There were huge effigies about 12 to 15 feet in height carried along, representing a Kandian lady and a Kandian gentleman. Mr. Gamble, the jailer, had his house very tastefully illuminated, a transparency with "God bless the middies," being very prominent.

After witnessing the perahera the Princes proceeded to the Maligawa and the Octagon, to see the illu-

minations and the returning procession. On Sunday morning, they drove to the Peradeniya Gardens, and at 11 o'clock attended St. Paul's, where the Bishop preached. The spacious church was crowded to overflowing, the Princes being the centre of attraction. Everybody seems to have been struck with the devout bearing of the royal youths; and was pleased to see that they had more religious feeling in them than the bigwigs who catered for their amusement and planned the arrangements for their travels by land in Ceylon. The open desecration of the Lord's day which was so conspicuous a feature in these arrangements must ever redound to the discredit of a Christian Government. But, Oh! it is *such a Government*; and we must "WAIT-A-BIT," and grin and bear, in the hopes that the next importation will be an article more worthy of our regard. By a special train at 2 o'clock, the Princes took their departure to the metropolis, and Kandy relapsed again into the quiet of its every-day life.

You will have noticed that the Municipality here, had no word of welcome to offer to the grand sons of our Queen. Its over paid secretary distinguished himself by bustling about in his usual much-ado-about-nothing style; and the exagenarian grandam who presides over its interests, went through her part of the evolutions with an unusual amount of excitement indicated in her rubicund countenance. [Kinder satirical.—Ed. C. O.]

### EN ROUTE TO THE KRAAL.

(From the *Ceylon Observer*, January 31, 1882.)

(From our *Special Correspondent*.)

WAKOYA RIVERSIDE VIEW, Monday Forenoon,  
30th January.

Up in the mornin' no for me,  
Up in the mornin' early—

Says the refrain of the old Scotch song, and I must confess the sensation was a novel one, of leaving my couch soon after 4 a. m., in order to get ready for the start to the Kraal. It reminded me of the old Kandy coach days, when, following the morning gun, the cheery horn and prancing horses used to wake up the echoes of the old Fort as the Royal Mail dashed across the drawbridge and moat, through the Pettah, Wolfendahl, Grandpass, and the Bridge of Boats *en route* to the Hills. To have the accompaniment of the morning gun once more for a start was sure to bring back memories of "the Days of Old;" and, if the present Kraal affords no greater pleasure to a large number of travellers from Colombo than the opportunity of enjoying the early drive on towards Hanwella, of watching the first peep of dawn, inhaling the cool bracing breeze which swept across woodland and mead, freshened up by last night's rain, it would deserve to be regarded as a green spot in our memory. Our route lay through the Cinnamon Gardens, Borella, Wellikada, by the "North and South Base line" to Urugodawatta, where we left Colombo behind us, and enviously regarded one or two residents who were able to build their homesteads in their own land just outside the limits of Municipal taxation! Passing under the new Railway bridge across the canal, we notice that the laying of a double line of rails is nearly completed—an arrangement which will no doubt lead to the multiplication of suburban and lowcountry trains, the working of which will be so much facilitated. The road is in capital order, and we bowl along, facing the dawn, remarking on the large number of detached

palm trees rising from the open low-lying fields, on<sup>e</sup> after another standing out against the morning sky,—  
a column, and its crown a star.

Half-past six and the Adam's Peak range bursts into view, the western slopes still in a deep blue shade with a globe of fire on the lofty horizon tipping the cone with gold. Standing out in its unapproachable prominence with a practical recollection of its steep and chain-guided ascent, how almost impossible it is to believe that the huge unweildy elephant has climbed even Adam's Peak and stood (in meditation possibly on the folly of mankind,) over the "sacred foot-print"—the Sri Pada itself Major Skinner vouched for the fact, as you will remember, that indubitable evidence of the presence of elephants has been found on the steep rock which stands sentinel over Sabaragamuwa, 7,352 feet above sea-level. With the forest felled far up the eastern slopes of the mountain, there is not much chance of this climb being repeated in the present day by the monarch of our Ceylon forests, and when the great Adam's Peak tea district is formed on the western and south-western sides, and one of their last fastnesses in the west levelled, "Elephant kraals" at Labugankanda or in the Western Province will probably become things of the past. How great the change effected even already! I remember reading somewhere that Le Brun reports the capture in 1705, of no less than 160 elephants in a single "corral" (the proper name, of which "kraal" is a modification) in the vicinity of Colombo. Evidently the forest extended farther westward in those days, and now every year is likely to witness an addition to the area under "New Products" in the neighbourhood of Hanwela, Avisawela, Ratnapura, and thence, by-and-bye up the sides of the Peak range, the nucleus of the future great district being already formed by the enterprising Eratne pioneers. Let us then prize the privilege of witnessing a Kraal carried on in the good old style—the first which the present writer has had the chance of attending after twenty years' residence in the island.\*

Thoughts of the kraal and the future, however, must be laid aside. Here we are driving through brickfields and heavy cabook cuttings: the first sign of welcome to the princely visitors is observed, as we crown the Kotikawatta hill and note a signboard pointing out the location of a Baptist Mission school. The road is herespanned by a few lines of green leaves, probably the work of the schoolchildren. Hitherto neither pandal nor roadside decoration has indicated that anything unusual was to occur, and indeed how could the people venture to do anything, when it was uncertain up to this morning which route would be chosen. The bosky dells and richly-crowned knolls from Kotikawatta onwards afforded ample vegetable material; but it is only as we pass to the main road that we note the first pandal with the intimation "Hewagam Korale." Wayside decorations, lines of creepers supporting strips of the tender young leaves of the coco-palms with pandals at appropriate intervals, denoting the existence of a village or a wealthy man's residence, henceforward become the

\* Our confrere has the advantage of us, nevertheless, for twenty-nine years had passed over our heads in Ceylon, before we saw elephants "kraaled".—Ed. C. O.



rule rather than the exception. Kaduwela is lively, bright and cheerful. We did not stay to look at the Buddhist vihara and Buddhist dewala, the remains of an ancient entrenchment on the riverside, or the "Upas-tree," but drive on, noting the tasteful display of vegetable "bunting" and arches made by the village registrar, the holiday attire of the people, many of whom have evidently come "from the interior" to watch the Rajah and the English Princes pass, and the richly varied and charmingly fresh vegetation on either side of the road. One little village passed through is called "Kondegama" (or the "Kondavillage"). Further on, the splendid and enormous specimens of the Imbul tree with its scarlet flowers (a few still left, will, we trust, be pointed out today to the Princes.) The open country and grassy glades, backed by forest-covered hills in the neighbourhood of Hanwella, are very charming, and, as we drive into the village shortly after 8 a. m., the whole place is alive with gaily-dressed Sinhalese visitors and busy preparations for the Princes.

We find the approaches to the picturesquely-situated resthouse in the centre of the old Fort most tastefully adorned. The explanation is speedily at hand. The well-known—the massive, cheerful and intelligent chief of the Siyane korale on the other side of the river, has for the occasion taken charge of the Hangwella Fort and resthouse. He has been ably seconded by his son, to whom indeed the Mudaliyar says he has left the supervision and to whom the credit is due. The Mudaliyar is not intruding, although he has crossed the river into another district, for Hanwella Fort has for a long period been closely associated with his family. Here in 1803, when the Kandians invaded British territory and threatened to drive the Conquerors of the Dutch into the sea, the grandfather of the young man before us (who, by the way, bears the same name,—

SOLOMON DIAS BANDARENAYEKE WIJEWIKKREME JAYETILEKE SENEWERATNE)

occupied the Fort and checked the advance guard of the King's army. For this and other special services, the grandfather Mudaliyar had a Grand Medal from Governor the Hon. Frederick North; which was followed by another medal from Sir ROBERT BROWNRIGG for eminent services during the Kandian Rebellion of 1818; by a special letter of thanks from Sir Edward Barnes for his share in constructing the Great Kandy Road; by similar letters from Sir E. Paget, Sir R. W. Horton and Sir Colin Campbell. The latter, in 1843, consented to present to the good old Mudaliyar a superb gold chain and medal contributed by the inhabitants of Cina Korale, addressing him as follows:—

"Gentlemen, I feel great pleasure in being called upon to present this Medal to Don Solomon Dias Modlier, as a mark of your confidence and respect to an old and meritorious individual, who appears to have discharged the important duties of his situation in a manner highly creditable to himself, and beneficial to the prosperity and happiness of those he is placed over.

I confidently trust that his example will be followed by many whom I now address, as nothing can prove more honorable to a public servant, than receiving from the community over which he presides this flattering testimony of their approbation."

C. CAMPBELL.

Governor.

The Medal bore the following inscription:—

"This Chain and medal are presented to Don Solomon Dias Abeyewikkreme Jayatilake Senewiratne Bandarenayake, Esq., Mudaliyar of the Governor's Gate, and Mudaliyar of the Udugaha

and Gangebodde Patoos of the Sina Korle, &c. &c., by the inhabitants of those Patoos, in testimony of his parental and affectionate conduct towards them; (not to mention his distinguished services rendered to Government during the Kandian rebellion, especially in 1803 when, at the approach of the King of Kandy, elated by his success at Kandy, he hastened to the spot of the bloody catastrophe—Hangwelle—headed the native troops, and by his distinguished bravery made the enemy retreat to the mountains)—by opening canals and raising large dams for the improvement and better cultivation of their paddy fields; by supplying seed corn and other grains to those who were destitute of the means to get any; by rendering his efficient aid to enable them successfully to cultivate and improve their fields and gardens; by assisting the destitute with a liberality unprecedented in Ceylon, during seasons of great dearth with which they were afflicted; by procuring physicians and medicines at his own expense, when epidemic diseases were making fearful havoc in this Korle; by alleviating the distress of the inhabitants when severely suffering from the pangs of grief and the feverish cravings of hunger, during the inundations of several years; by checking the litigious spirit of the natives, and thus avoiding vexatious and unprofitable law-suits between the men of his patoos; by being instrumental in opening the Kandy and other roads by which the value of their estates was greatly enhanced and facilities afforded for internal commerce; by giving them the necessary information to enable them successfully to cultivate coffee and pepper; by protecting the rights and upholding the liberties of the inhabitants, by explaining the "Ordinances," and preserving regularly by enforcing the laws, and calling upon them to do so;—and by destroying elephants and other wild animals at his own expense, and thus freeing them from the terrible depredations which those animals had committed throughout the villages of this Korle.—During a period of forty years in which he has so happily, ably, and meritoriously discharged his duties as Mudaliyar of this Korle—in which situation may he long continue among us! and may God bless him!!

One more reference to Solomon Dias Bandarenayake, one of the most noted of Sinhalese headmen in British times, I give in the following Military order, which speaks for itself:—

Memo: To the Commandant, Colombo.

Don Solomon Dias Bandarenayake Mudaliyar of the Governor's Gate died this morning: the Major General Commanding directs that this Native Headman of distinction should be interred with Military Honors.

A funeral party of the Ceylon Rifle Regiment provided with three rounds of Blank Cartridge consisting of: one Subedar, two Jemadars, four Sergeants and two Buglers, 100 Rank and File and the Band of the Regiment will be formed at the house of the deceased Mudaliyar in Silversmith street near the Court House tomorrow afternoon at half-past 4 o'clock.

The detachment will attend the body to the place of interment, and after the burial Service will perform the usual funeral honors; when finished they will return to barracks.—By Command,

(Signed) H. L. MAYDWELL, D. A. Genl.

P. S.—Six Privates without arms will likewise be in attendance.—(True copy) Signed H. L. MAYDWELL, D. A. G. Head-quarters, Colombo, 15th Sept. 1859.

This then is the man whose son and grandson have rendered Hanwella fit for the reception of the young Princes of England. First, there is a grand arch at the entrance to the Fort, bright with parti-coloured flags, cream-coloured strips of coco-leaf, yellow king coconuts, and the tasteful display of greenery, for which the Sinhalese are far-famed. This arch bears on its front, in scarlet letters, on a white ground, the proud inscription:—

PROCURATOREM NOSTRUM ET PRINCIPES  
ANTIQUUM HANGWELLE  
CASTELLUM INTRANTES  
*Salvete Jubemus*

A little further on comes a second arch, connected by the usual decorated avenue, with the further welcome:—

PROCURATOR NOSTER  
ET ANGLIÆ PRINCIPES  
DIU VIVAT OPTAMUS

While, on the front wall of the Resthouse itself, runs the scroll, borne up by two angels,—

VIVAT REGINA.

But this is not all, for a third arch carries the motto,—

REGINÆ NOSTRÆ BENIGNISSIMÆ  
ET FAMILIÆ REGIÆ  
BENEDICET DEUS.

Evidently the schoolmaster is abroad in the land! We chaff the Mudaliyar and his son for passing over the English and Sinhalese languages, to welcome our Governor and Princes to the ancient fortress of Han-

wella, with blessings on the Queen and family, in Latin; but why should the sons of the island gentry not utilize, on such rare occasions, the "larnin" obtained at our Colombo Colleges? Most tastefully and chastely has the bungalow itself and the adjoining improvised tiffin room been decorated—sitting rooms, bedrooms, verandahs; all bear the marks of truly artistic taste and there has been a more than usual degree of care and ability displayed in the guidance of the workmen. Covers were laid, under the direction of M. Montcoutier, for eighteen, and the party will include, beside the Governor, Lady Longden, the Princes and their respective suites, Admiral Gore-Jones, Lord Charles Scott, Sir Edwin, Johnson, Sir Henry and Miss Lefroy, Miss Deane, Mr. and Mrs. Ravenscroft, and the Rev. J. N. Dalton. All will be the guests here of Mr. Saunders, the Government Agent of the Province.

We were much interested to find the Mudaliyar busy preparing for tree-planting. Over four doorways of the rest-house, he had placed four significant years:—  
1803: The year in which his father defended the Fort.

1870: The year of the Duke of Edinburgh's visit, when his Royal Highness planted a Banyan (*Ficus Indica*) and Bo tree (*Ficus Religiosa*.)

1875: The year of the Prince of Wales' visit, when H. R. H. planted, passing the river as before, but the on the other side of the reethouse, a Tamarind tree.

Near to this spot, the young Princes are expected by the patriotic and loyal Mudaliyar (when he receives them surrounded by his minor headmen in full dress) to plant a Na-gaha, Iron-wood (*Messu ferrea*) and a Sapu (Champac, the wood *Michelia Champaca*). Not only so, but the Banyan, *Michelia Champaca*. Not only so, but the Banyan, which is to replace that planted by the Duke of Edinburgh. Mr. Saunders took in Lady Longden, and the party included besides the Princes, the Governor and Admiral, Sir Edwin Johnson, Captains Lord Charles Scott, Durrant, Hill, the Admiral's Flag-Lieut. (Lieut. Leslie) Lieut. Adair, and Mudaliyar Bandernaike and his son. The latter as a recognition of his grandfather's services, and his father's reception of H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales and now his sons, has been promised by His Excellency the rank of Muhandiram of the Governor's Gate.

the stream which runs between the official and unofficial portions of Kraal Town in magnificent style, showing that he knows how to ride. Large crowds of planters and others cheered him vociferously. Prince Albert Victor arrived on foot, walking with H. E. the Governor alongside of Lady Longden, who was carried in a chair. There are two herds of elephants within a mile of the kraal, twenty-six in one herd, and fifteen in the other. A successful drive is expected early tomorrow (this) morning

## AT THE KRAAL.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

Monday afternoon.

A few corrections on my last. The Hon. Mr. & Mrs. Ravenscroft and General and Miss Wilby, although invited, did not remain for Mr. Saunders' luncheon party at Hanwella. The former, accompanied by Mr. MacBride and the latter by Captains Currie and Mills, interested themselves with an inspection of the preparations for the Princes at the rest-house and passed on to the Kraal. So also with Sir J. H. and Miss Lefroy and Mr. & Mrs. Onslow-Deane. The latter are the guests at the Kraal of the Acting Surveyor-General. Before tiffin at Hanwella, Prince Edward planted the iron-wood tree and Prince George the Sapu (Champac) prepared by the Mudaliyar. The former also put down the Banyan, which is to replace that planted by the Duke of Edinburgh. Mr. Saunders took in Lady Longden, and the party included besides the Princes, the Governor and Admiral, Sir Edwin Johnson, Captains Lord Charles Scott, Durrant, Hill, the Admiral's Flag-Lieut. (Lieut. Leslie) Lieut. Adair, and Mudaliyar Bandernaike and his son. The latter as a recognition of his grandfather's services, and his father's reception of H. R. H. the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales and now his sons, has been promised by His Excellency the rank of Muhandiram of the Governor's Gate.

The Labugama road was in capital order on Monday afternoon (although continuous rain has since not improved it) when the royal party drove over it. Notwithstanding its occasional sharp turns, steep sides, high banks and adjacent precipices, the drive over this eight miles is a very enjoyable one. The evidence of population and cultivation along the route is astonishing, raising the question how did the people with their coconut and fruit gardens get on before the road was made last year. It seems their only outlet was a long winding foot-path uphill and down-dale to Bope, along which all their surplus produce had to be carried on pingoes. The country is one abounding in water and streams. 'The land of the five rivers' is nothing to it. I suppose the number of bridges, nearly all substantial iron structures, and some of a considerable size, within the eight miles is greater than on any similar extent of roads in the island. The stream of traffic today was unceasing: coolies laden with stores or luggage, more particularly the ubiquitous tin-box, Sinhaese pedestrians in holiday attire, still more crowding bullock-bandies which were also put into requisition by Moormen, Parsees, Burghers and Europeans. Of horse conveyances there was every grade from the light jungle dogcart to the most commodious of Messrs. Pate's coaches. The Maha Wakoya is a delightfully clear limpid stream; much more so than the Labugama stream, which is

(From a Native Correspondent.)

January 30th 1882.

The decorations at the Hanwella rest house which were spontaneously taken up by the well-known Dias Bandarenayeke Mudaliyar of Veyangoda, whose great taste for this kind of work is too well-known need comment. The Pandals, Arches and other decorations with suitable mottoes, that were got up in honor of the two young Princes were greatly admired by the people who were bending their way towards the kraal town.

The Duke of Edinburgh and his party were entertained at a sumptuous banquet at this identical rest house by this well known Mudaliyar so far back as 1870, on His Royal Highness' way to the Labugama kraal.

As a slight token of respect to the aged Mudaliyar, his only son a young promising youth of about twenty one years, was invested this day as Mohandiram of the Governor's gate by His Royal Highness Prince Albert at the Hanwella rest house. Indeed this must have been the happiest moment of the aged father, to see his only son touched by the Royal Hand.

## THE PRINCES AT THE KRAAL.

KRAAL TOWN, JAN. 30, 6 p. m.

The Princes arrived at the Kraal at 5 p.m. Prince George was mounted on a fiery steed and cleared

known as the Wakoya, and which we followed up to the future reservoir this afternoon—the wide expanse of flat meadow-land—a natural amphitheatre with its encompassing mountain walls and narrow gorge—destined ere long to be the splendid sheet of water which Mr. Bateman calculates will contain sufficient water to meet the impossible case of a 220 days' drought in Colombo. The new road affords all needful convenience for approaching the reservoir and its works, and the piping (which we saw stacked up on this side of Hanwella) can easily be conveyed along it, but the business of transferring the pipes from the road to their permanent resting place in the route laid out across country from the reservoir to Hanwella, will be no easy one. Elephants will no doubt be employed, of the intelligent type which we encountered on the road, a splendid tusker coming down with his keeper to welcome the Princes, and who so patiently disposed of himself in a gully under the side of the road so as not to alarm the "Mahatmaya's" pony.

If the traffic along the road was remarkable, much more the gathering on the last mile or so, along the side of which vehicles of all descriptions had to be arranged as best they could amidst stabling and butiques, so as not to stop the traffic. Before the last of the capital bridges was reached, the foot and bridle path to the kraal (2½ miles) was reached. Here were saddled horses and chairs with bearers in uniform ready for the Governor and his party, under the charge of the orderly sergeant and some troopers. Mr. Saunders and Mr. J. H. Thring were the first to arrive about 4 p.m., followed by Admiral Gore-Jones, who, bluff and hearty, speedily got into his "Madagascar chair,"—of peculiar but comfortable build, in which he was carried from the coast to the capital of the Madagascar ruler on a recent visit. A mail-coach driven by one of Messrs. Pate's staff brought the Governor and party, and Lady Longden being started in her chair, the rest of the party mounted with the exception of the Governor and Prince Edward, who, accompanied by Mr. Churchill, prepared to walk. Prince George in his business-like leech-gaiters (only provided at a planter's suggestion on the morning of the start,) seemed quite in his element on the back of a spirited pony, and he was all excitement to induce his leader, the Government Agent, to start before the chairs should block their way. "Let's pass on!" he eagerly whispered, as the chair with the chief lady in the land, began its journey! However the horsemen got all in front, while His Excellency and our "king-to-be" plodded steadily on, shewing the good stuff that was in them, in overcoming some excessively steep pieces of path. All Kraal-town—population estimated at 300 Europeans and 5,000 natives—turned out to welcome the royal party, and the welkin rang again with good solid British cheers, well-supported by the thousands of orientals, in honour of the Princes, as they took their way up the hillside overlooking Kraal-town, on which the official residences facing the kraal are placed.

From Mr. Saunders, while waiting at the bridge, I learned that Iddamalgoda's people beating up from the Kukulu Korale, secured a herd of ten elephants, three of which, however, had escaped. The other seven were safe; but there was some doubt whether they could be driven in with the larger herd some fifteen elephants—surrounded

by the chiefs Ekneligodde, and driven from the Peak; differing "castes" seems to be the obstacle. If the rain kept off (which it does not) Mr. Saunders believed Mr. Dawson—under whose direction the kraal has been planned—would begin driving into the inner beat tonight (Monday); but it is more likely "driving" will be the work of Tuesday, and the prospect of heavy rain, putting out campfires and torches, leaves the question of success an open one. The Surveyor-General does not think there will be serious work before Tuesday afternoon.

A Maskeliya planter, who has been all round the kraal itself, is surprized at its limited area, but this is his first kraal and he cannot institute a comparison.

How astonishing is his news of the landslide which, sometime last year, carried away a considerable part of the cone of Adam's Peak on the Maskeliya side, so that it is now scarcely possible to pass from the little hut (on the top) on the eastern side to the *Sri Pada*, the slip encroaching almost to the rock itself! Strange, no notice of this was made public. No chance of elephants making their way to the top again, although my friend says they seem to be more numerous in the district now than when planting was begun in the valley of the Peak.

As regards the Nuwara Eliya Elk Hunt, while Mr. Talbot was communicated with about the arrangements, the huntsman and owner of the dogs and the gentleman on whom everything will now depend is Mr. Lutyens. What will be done—whether a regular hunt in orthodox fashion, or a drive of deer by coolies—is not yet settled. Mr. H. S. Saunders has charge of all the transport arrangements for the Princes, and he will entertain them one evening (Thursday) at Barnes Hall, while on Friday their Royal Highnesses are likely to be the guests at dinner of the members of the Nuwara Eliya Club.

#### TUESDAY FORENOON.

The little programme sketched out by the Government Agent, and which the energetic Dawson hoped to put into execution, ran somewhat as follows: the driving from the outer into the inner beat to commence last night, to be followed this morning by the drive into the kraal which, it was hoped, would be effected before noon. The noosing and tying-up to be at once begun and continued on Wednesday. This would have enabled the Princes to see all the operations connected with a kraal and to start back so as to reach Colombo in good time on Wednesday.

But so far, we have only an illustration of the well-worn aphorism that

The best laid plans of mice and men  
Gang aft agley;

and we all know how often, especially in the case of elephants, are the plans of men at fault. An old chief last evening gave me the opinion, based on his experience of a good many kraals, that, while a herd of elephants were difficult to compass and drive from their native jungle in the first instance, once start them and get the beat fairly established, and by the time they come within driving distance of the kraal, they were all fairly cowed and very easy of management. No doubt comparatively this is the case; but in the history of kraals we have too many instances of successful charges and escapes, to feel that the final drive is such an easy matter as the old chief would have us believe. Last night's experience

is no exception. The herd that it was proposed first to capture after being driven into the inner beat broke through into the wider range and the evening's labour went for nothing. No doubt the wet, evening-rain extinguishing fires and torches, had a good deal to do with the breach effected. Of nothing is the elephant so much afraid as of fire, and with nothing will a Kandian approach a wild elephant so readily. You will remember Major Skinner's experience on the Anuradhapura road as an illustration. How he found the road to his camp, wilfully, if not deliberately (and of malice aforethought) blocked up one evening by a herd of elephants which had been prowling in the neighbourhood. How all the efforts of himself and his men to clear the road of the intruders proved unavailing: the leader, an old tusker charging furiously when any attempt was made at dislodgment. And how this went on for some hours until finally a Kandian arrived with a huge torch with which he marched right up to the tusker, who stood his ground until the fire almost touched his trunk and then turned tail and fled with all his belongings. In the hands of a man of Mr. Saunders' nerve, no doubt an umbrella alternately opened and shut would prove as effectual as a torch, and very probably the Government Agent found occasion to use it last night, for he and Mr. Dawson are reported to have spent most of the night with the beaters.

Very early astir this morning, probably the first from the official encampment, was Capt. Foot (of H. M. S. "Ruby") and a long walk round the kraal and on along the line of beaters failed to afford a sight of waving forest tree tops or the sound of crashing through "batalee" (small bambu), much less the sight of an elephant. The hope now is that one herd may be driven in this afternoon, but there are doubts about it and the headmen are more than usually susceptible to the presence of strangers, insisting that their beaters should not be visited and that no bugle should be sounded for the benefit of "kraal-town" until the barrier-gate was closed and the herd secured. There is as usual, too, some little jealousy among the Chiefs, the one insisting on his herd being first disposed of and by no means mingled with the others.

Meantime the Princes are enjoying themselves under "the merrie greenwood." Their quarters have been most delightfully chosen—for situation beautiful exceedingly—and much care and taste have been displayed in fitting them up. A "crow's nest" for four has been established at a good point for a sight of the drive-in, while the principal grand-stand is, as usual, erected partly inside the kraal to secure a good sight of the final and really interesting operations.

Last night was a lively one in kraal-town: there were "jovial huntsmen" and jolly visitors, some of whom kept up the song and dance to an early hour,—

These lyric feasts,  
Made at the Sun,  
The Dog, the Triple Tun,

bore but a faint resemblance to the 'fun, both fast and furious' in young men's quarters in kraal-town; but it was all harmless enough, so far as we have heard, and waiting for the drive and capture at a kraal is sometimes tedious enough.

The photographers, more especially Mr. Skeen, are busy enough, and the latter will, I believe, have some

interesting pictures to shew for his visit to the kraal of 1882.

#### TUESDAY EVENING.

This has been a day of disappointment for all concerned. The drive-in, which was expected to take place last night, was considered certain for this morning and in hurrying up from a distance of ten miles (where I had taken up my quarters last night) I feared the risk of missing an exciting portion of the proceedings, but was consoled to find everybody still waiting for the elephants. The afternoon was now considered certain for the drive, and in preparation thousands of natives wended their way kraalwards; from which, however, they were kept off at a respectable distance. Later on, as I learn, "the grand stand" began to be occupied by permission of the Government Agent, and everybody in the official circle was evidently on the *qui vive*. On the other hand, Colombo ladies, merchants, and bankers stood in the sun on the hillside for a considerable time. I mention this, because there is considerable grumbling in kraal-town tonight about official mismanagement if not discourtesy, conveyed to me from reliable quarters, with a view to censure.

I cannot speak of this personally, or of anything but readiness to oblige. Mr. Dawson was starting after breakfast about 2 p.m. for the outer line of beaters and readily consented to my joining his party. Starting before his party I got round a great part of the cordon of several miles, first. The one boundary runs along the bridle-path to Bope, and here, about two miles from Kraal-town, I came upon small jungle huts or rather nests and campfires of the beaters. Very picturesque was the scene and wonderful the interest of the people in their work, from the old grey-headed Kandian sire with his flowing white beard, who had probably passed through more kraals than he could recall, to the young stripling by his side who was on the "Corral" beat for the first time. From the far distant jungle came the signal of their chief Eknelligodde, or his henchmen, and immediately the cry was taken up:—

Harri—harri—harri—harie,  
harie—hoise—ho—ho

winding up with a prolonged cheer. Passing from the bridle road, the cordon line passed through the small bamboo jungle uphill and downdale:—with camp fires, huts, and beaters with their long forks, or here and there an old musket, and again a crow's nest with an agile keen-eyed watchman swung up in a tree, placed at regular intervals. Finally the boundary line carries us into the bed of a river whose wide rocky bed shaded by the fine overarching trees springing from the banks, afforded a pleasant change from the more open jungle line. Here we encountered two or three Maskeliya planters who had been helping the beaters and trying to get a glimpse of the elephants from early morning, without avail. The herd had obstinately located itself in thick jungle: it had driven the beaters back since early morning, the previous advance having been too sudden and hurried. Suddenly a wild "halloo" is raised by the Sinhalese on the river bank, there is crashing of jungle, firing of guns and flinging of stones, two or three indefatigable apoochamies literally throw themselves into the stream to pick up rocks and fling them into the jungle. The elephants are surely coming and right down upon

us in the river is the first thought: three beaters at one side look out for trees and the thought of shelter becomes a leading consideration. Suddenly the Assistant Agent, Mr. Dawson, accompanied by the indefatigable Capt. Foot and a few other officers break from the cordon line into the river-bed: their presence has a wonderful effect: the beaters redouble their furious attack on the supposed advancing "allias," shouts and yells, shots and shells in the form of pieces of rock, crashing and trampling form a proper accompaniment and it seems more than ever needful to look out for danger. As a Colombo wallah I could not help thinking discretion the better part of valour, and my friends looked if they did not speak it,—

He who ascends into a tree  
May next day climb again with me,  
But he by elephants that's gored  
May see at once that he is floored.

But before we moved a step, the clamour and shindy subsided as suddenly as it was commenced and it did not require the 'knowing' look of a friend up to "the ways that are dark" of the beater folk to see that all was got up as a "plant" (excuse slang) in honour of the visitors, to afford them a little sensation for their jungle trip: "the elephants are upon you" they said, in fact, in order to see how we should stand the test or shew a clean pair of heels. But fortunately we stood it all, while we followed on in search of the elephants.

I was anxious to see the old Chief, Eknelligodde, who at the head of 500 men directed this drive of 15 elephants—his people being out for nearly a month, while he has been half that period, living and lodging as best he can in the jungle. "Here he comes," cries my companion who knows the old man well: a little, dark skinny old man, bearded like the wanderer, with an ordinary comboy which he is holding up as he walks barefoot through jungle and water—the inevitable dilapidated billy-cock hat setting off a figure which a stranger would at once say belonged to a poor old Kandian of no consequence. But a glance at his face revealed power and authority, set off by a keen eye and aquiline nose—a man of few words, yet his English is good. We met him later on coming back from one of his beats, when he frankly assured us he did not think we could see the elephants, penetrate and push on as we might. He complained not loudly but expressively of the difficult task set to him: more troublesome elephants had probably never come under his care.

But here I must stop—tappal time—9 p. m. is up. Suffice it is to say that the day is over and not an elephant in or near the kraal up to 6 p. m. The hope now is that Eknelligodde may get his herd in tonight, and that we may find them all ready for noosing in the morn's morning. So note it be!

As at present arranged, the Princes and party are to be at Queen's House for dinner this (Wednesday) evening. They leave early tomorrow morning, and breakfast at Gampola, getting to Nuwara Eliya tomorrow night, and start for the hunt at 4 a. m. Friday. H. E. the Governor and Lady Longden will probably not go to Nuwara Eliya.

### THE BRITISH PRINCES AND THE ANIMAL MONARCHS OF THE CEYLON FORESTS.

(From the *Ceylon Observer*, February 1, 1882.)

We thought so, and if we did not say it right out, we hinted at it! The elephants, who are fighting for liberty, and as far as their knowledge extends (it is limited, notwithstanding their proverbial sagacity,) for dear life also, are, for the nonce, like the deaf adder (the mathematician of the old joker,) who will not listen to the

voice of the charmer (known amongst men as the Hon. F. R. Saunders,) charm he never so wisely or so coaxingly. The native chiefs are more amenable to the voice of authority, and yet, in the graphic letters of our special correspondent, it will be found hinted that amongst them there is not all the loyal unity which should distinguish brethren of the crinoline and the pancake hat, or the comboy and the konde, but that, if each is not fighting for his own hand, like "Harry of the Wynd," each claims priority for his herd. And if a sentiment of loyalty to the Princes does not induce the beleaguered elephants to rush headlong into the stockade so benevolently prepared for their reception, we can scarcely expect them to shew submissive obedience to rival headmen, respect to the Government Agent of their Province, and reverence for the Queen's representative. Our "junior" is just recording a repetition of experiences, which kept us a week waiting for "the drive-in" amidst the hot jungles of Kurunegala in 1866. Mr. Atherton was but a young and Acting Government Agent and the Chiefs engaged were numerous and carried their dignity and hereditary fouds with them into the field, to the extreme annoyance of Sir Hercules Robinson, for whom the Kraal was got up, and to the inconvenience, amongst others, of the Hon. Wm. Frere (brother of Sir Bartle) and his clever daughters, authoresses of an interesting book on Indian folk lore. When, at length, after weary waiting, the rush came, it came so suddenly and unexpectedly, that we and others were opposite the entrance, and how we escaped being crushed to death in the melee, is a question we have never yet been able to solve. We suppose it was the "sweet little cherub" which in this case "sat smiling aloft" on the top of a noble Kumbuk tree, in the shape of a golden oriole, pouring out flute like notes of cheer. In the case of the Kraal of 1866, delay involved merely annoyance and inconvenience. But, as, we suppose, the stay of the Princes cannot be delayed beyond this week, there will be the disappointment, if delay is prolonged, of losing either the sight of elephants driven in and captured, or the excitement of knifing or shooting a so-called "elk"—the gigantic sambur deer of Ceylon. Let us cherish the hope that all has gone or will go well at the Kraal, and that our visitors will see both the grander sport of the low-country, and the more exciting hunt amidst our higher mountain ranges and the magnificent prairies which lie between, in full perfection. If the weather is calm out on the Elk Plains, the effect of the echoes will be something to be remembered apart from the sounds which the echoes will reflect and the sight of scenery scarcely rivalled for grandeur and beauty. We should like our royal sailor boys, their associates and superiors in navy rank, and all our visitors to carry away only pleasant associations

and memories of at least the forest and grass land scenery of Ceylon.

We notice that the so-called "cheetah," reported to have killed a cooly on the Abbotsford path to Nuwara Eliya, has himself been killed, although the elk (if there is only one) which has been trying the effects of a regimen of cinchona tops, has not. This reminds us that, when in Nuwara Eliya resthouse recently Mr. Edward Grinlinton mentioned that he and Mr. Rogers had caught a leopard in a trap, which, although it had the marks of being aged, was not more than one-third the size of a beast he had recently "treed." The old one was a female: the big one may have been a male. But young Mr. Baker (nephew of Sir Samuel,) who was present, raised the question of species, and seemed inclined to the belief that we had in Ceylon large sized panthers as well as small sized leopards. At any rate he had seen animals of the popular "cheetah" class differing as widely in size as horses do from ponies. Elephants, also, differ greatly in size and in disposition, and we were greatly interested with Mr. Baker's graphic descriptions of the unsuccessful attempts made by Mr. Downall and himself to get a shot at a huge elephant, which left his mark on Abbotsford and over widely scattered portions of Upper Dimbula about three or four years ago. After two days long and weary pursuit, we saw the two huntsmen at the Surveyors' camp on the Agra Patenas. "Faint but pursuing" was their motto, and Mr. Baker has been frequently since then close to the great tusker in the depths of the jungle, the thick undergrowth giving all the advantage to the elephant and none to the huntsmen. About four months ago, however, the peripatetic tusker was met in the open by Messrs. LeMesurier and Gordon Cumming, who fired simultaneously. It was, we suppose, impossible to tell which bullet had most contributed to the finish of this noted "rogue," and so each sportsman took a trophy in the shape of a tusk. If the death of this elephant has been already recorded and fuller details given, our absence from the island must plead our excuse for giving "piper's news," a phrase which we no more profess to understand than the alliteration "plain as a pikestaff." Of elk hunting and the hounds employed in running the big game down, many graphic accounts have appeared. One story will bear repetition. Amongst the great hunters of Dimbula, on the Agras and the Lindula patenas (not to speak of the Bopatelawas, where the Duke of Edinburgh enjoyed an elk hunt) was Mr. William Smith. When on Craigie Lea estate, his good old hound "Chime in," (corrupted to "Seeman" by the natives, so that Europeans ultimately knew him only as "Simon") had so often hunted with his master that he and a companion hound tried a hunt on their own account. They brought an elk to bay on a rock in the river, but knowing they could not

knife him, one hound remained as guard while "Simon" set off to tell his master. This he effectually did, his glistening eyes and wagging tail indicating "you and your knife are wanted." Mr. Smith understanding "Simon's" *dogmatics*, took down his hunting knife and stuck it in his girdle, on which the dog, perfectly satisfied, ran off *down the short way*. Mr. Smith on arrival by the more winding path, found both dogs guarding the "Elk" which he speedily disposed of, after hunter fashion, the dogs, we may rely on it, getting their share. Poor "Simon's" end was sadly tragical. He went at a jackal and followed the vermin so closely, that both went over the precipice of the Devon Falls (which with those of St. Clair our visitors should not miss seeing) and were dashed to pieces.

To these discursive reminiscences we can only add the repeated hope that our visitors may, in spite of rain, land leeches, obstinate elephants and perhaps "Elk" as modest and retiring as Scotchmen, have "a good time" in Ceylon and so think and speak kindly, when far away, of our isle, its inhabitants, its scenery and even its fauna.

#### AT THE KRAAL.

INCOMPLETE SUCCESS OF THE KRAAL: SEVEN ELEPHANTS DRIVEN IN, BUT THE ATTEMPT TO NOOSE THEM UNSUCCESSFUL.—ONE ELEPHANT SHOT AND THE TAIL PRESENTED TO PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR.—ONE BEATER KILLED AND ANOTHER WOUNDED.—DEPARTURE FROM THE KRAAL OF THE GOVERNOR AND THE PRINCES.

(From the *Ceylon Observer*, February 2, 1882.)

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

After a hard day's work—tramping through jungle or standing in the sun and occasional rain from early morning to dewy eve, returning home footsore and weary—one does not feel much inclined to put the day's impressions and experiences on paper, between 7.30 and 9 p.m. However, as I was far away from the Post Office, in all the excitement of an expectant drive of wild elephants, when the midday post left, I must not miss the evening tappal.

I broke off yesterday with a reference to the Chiettain Ekneligoda, who has his headquarters on the north side of the Peak in the Yatiyantota district, as his relative and superior, Iddamaligoda, holds sway over the richer and more populous south. Ekneligoda is a man of few words, but when I met him the second time in the bed of the expansive rocky ela, which feeds the Maha Oya, the Chief, who looked disconcerted after his interview with his civilian superior, threw out his hands in the expressive oriental fashion and deprecated this English plan of fighting against time and nature, hurrying up the elephants *volens volens* whether inclined to go on or not. "Now," said the Chief, "the Sinhalese way is to wait on the elephants: don't allow them to go back; wait until they go, or only at proper times help them to go forward." In the light of last night's and today's experiences, there is much in the old Chief's remark. We are assured by Eknelligodde that, follow up the beaters as we might,

it was not likely we would see the elephants that afternoon, and so we accordingly turned back along the cordon, having experienced several alarms with preparations to receive the enemy in full charge on our way. Arrived on the bridle-path, a spot was pointed out where the elephants were certain to pass in "the open," if they crossed into Kraal Valley that evening. There I took up my post of observation for a couple of hours, while my companions went on to a three o'clock breakfast. No elephants came, however; but the tedium was broken at intervals by the cry of the beaters, as it ran round the cordon, swelling into a general chorus, and subsiding into a dropping fire of shouts, frightening the echoes of the amphitheatrical valley, if not the "aliyas." By-and-bye Capt. Foot of the "Ruby" galloped down the steep path, reporting some "hitch," and no appearance of elephants. He was followed soon after by Mr. Thring with an express for the chief authorities respecting Ekneligoda's apparent deception and "humbugging" as to the proximity of his herd and their readiness for kraaling. Back in a few minutes came this valuable A. D. C. with the order thereon, and very speedily he brought better tidings from the front: the beaters had begun to work in earnest, the position of the herd had been noted by the waving of the jungle, and the Chief was very sanguine of passing into the Kraal valley and probably driving his herd in during the night. With this anticipation, the princely and viceregal party, as well as Kraaltown, had to be content for Tuesday evening. All day long had ladies and gentlemen been waiting for the bugle-sound, which was to summon them to the Kraal, and at the various stands, grand and minor, the thousands of natives were equally on the *qui vive*; but, as we have said, no call came. A start at break of day, to see the kraaled elephants and to watch the noosing and tying-up, was now the plan on all hands. Every one made the best of the disappointment; the evening closed in pleasantly: the planet  
that makest day of night,  
Goddess excellently bright,

maintained its reputation, casting a soft effulgence over the hills and valleys. Music, songs, and dancing lasted far into the night—especially among the young K.C.B.'s who were determined to make the best of their few days' holiday:—the districts between Great Western and the Peak, as well as around the old Sentry-box and those with "New Products," being excellently represented in the attendance at the Kraal. "The Hittites" and "the Amorites" are two designations I have heard applied to encampments. Kollupitiya, the Pettah, Sea-street and Mattakuliya were supposed to be represented in Kraaltown upper and lower!

The Princes were for part of this day entertained with the performances of the tame elephants, and they had several walks to the "crow's nest" in front of the Kraal to watch the approach of the herd which, alas! never came.

#### WEDNESDAY'S EXPERIENCES.

During the night, several of the more active civilians and planters were on the alert, in case the drive-in should take place. Among the rest Messrs. Unwin, Challinor and Pyemont-Pyemont had a curious experience soon after midnight in watching a stray elephant—supposed to be the

tusker—which had been hanging about Eknelligodde's herd, *break into* the Kraal! The huge brute, by main strength, forced one of the upper beams from its strong jungle-creeper fastenings, and, after it fell down, sprang inside. He could not get out again, apparently, but had to be let out, as I suppose it would not do to shoot him, or try to capture him, with the herd so close at hand. It took six men this morning to lift and replace the beam so tossed aside.

Day broke, and in the grey morning mist, from 5 to 7 a. m. (and a few hours afterwards), the denizens of Kraaltown might be seen climbing the hillside, and passing on to the Kraal entrance in the hope of all being ready for business at last; but only again to meet with disappointment. The Acting Colonial Secretary was one of the first to announce: "No elephants; not likely to be any kraal—we are going!" Later on, however, came better news and by degrees a move was made towards the kraal, and while the Governor and Lady Longden sat in state from an early hour in their grand stand inside the kraal, the Princes and suite mounted the "crow's nest" in front and there patiently for hours waited the approach of elephants, which, judging by the nearness and loudness of the cries of the beaters, might be expected at any moment from 9 a. m. onwards to burst from their final fastness along the drive into the kraal. A good many Europeans and still more natives took up posts of observation alongside the kraal and high up in the jungle, where they were kept in order and occasionally by way of relief at intervals driven back by the several superior officers of police. Conspicuous on the opposite side of the valley, high up, on the hill directly overlooking the drive, were a few Europeans and a perfect crowd of natives with no policeman to keep silence or to send them under cover. I mention this, because, while the delay in kraaling is attributed by many to the great crowd and inevitable sounds from them at the side of the kraal, it seems to me that the opposite hillside and the crow's nest itself, with its numerous white-helmeted occupants must be chiefly blamed—if blame be attached. But I do not think there was any unreasonable delay: the wonder is that elephants could have been hurried on at all, in the way we have partially experienced.

It seems that after all during the night a complete change of plan was effected: and Idalmalgotde's smaller herd, and which he had much better in hand—Mr. Templer, the Assistant Agent, being with him ten days in the jungle—was hurried up in front of Ekneligoda's to be kraaled first. About breakfast time, came the news that they were ready to be driven in, but that the bigger herd of fifteen was now so near that Mr. Sauders, who was in between, (while Mr. Dawson was with Ekneligoda) thought they had better be kraaled together. This attempt was fully made, and a good deal of time lost in vain. It was inevitable that the rearward elephants should hear the cries in front of them of some of Iddamalgotde's men, and accordingly they would not stir.

Time up: and I must stop the regular order of my story. Suffice it to say that great difficulty was experienced in kraaling even the 7, which was only done after the cow-elephant (with her baby-calf to care for) had killed one beater and wounded some

more. She had to be wounded by a shot from Mr. Munro. Then the whole herd bolted into the kraal about 1.45. The Princes were at luncheon but hurried out. Mr. Macartney had to finish the wounded elephant in the kraal, and the tail was presented to Prince Albert Victor. The attempt at noosing did not succeed; and the Princes left without seeing a proper kraal! The Governor and Lady Longden, accompanied by Prince Edward, left first; Prince George and party following two hours after, at 5 p. m.

Prince Albert Victor, H. E. the Governor, Lady Longden, and Capt. Hayne, arrived at Queen's House at 7.35 last night, and the remainder of the party at about 10 p. m. The two princes, Capt. Hayne, A. D. C., Mr. Hope, Mr. Dalton, Hon. Mr. Ravenscroft and Mr. Campbell left Colombo by special train at 6.50 this morning. Capt. Gwatkin, A. D. C., accompanied the party to the station.

(Special Telegrams.)  
THE PRINCES AT GAMPOLA.

GAMPOLA, Feb. 2nd.  
The train arrived at 10.15 with the royal Princes and escort, amid great cheering. The party left by the royal mail coach for Nuwara Eliya at 10.30. Crowds of all classes, with a good muster of ladies assembled at the station, which looked grand with flags, flowers, &c. The decorations extended from the railway station to the suspension bridge over the Mahawelli Ganga.

(Another account.)  
GAMPOLA, Feb. 2nd.

The Princes arrived by special train at 10 a.m., and left immediately for Nuwara Eliya by the Royal Mail Coach. Very enthusiastic reception. The town was very neatly decorated. All honor to our worthy and popular Magistrate, Mr. Gibson, for his laudable zeal and unflagging energy. The railway station and the post office in particular were very tastefully decorated, and reflected great credit on Mr. McLones, the stationmaster, and Mr. Anthonisz, the postmaster. Perfect order.

THE ROYAL KRAAL AND ITS INCIDENTS.

However much we may regret the obstinate objections of the Labugama elephants to be "cabin'd, cribb'd, confined," even to gratify scions of the Royal family of Britain, a Governor, an Admiral, and no end of gallant and graceful visitors, we can scarcely add that we are surprized. If any of us—we are speaking for our readers as well as for ourselves—were elephants, is it at all likely that we should be less inclined to act on the principle if we could not quote the words, "Disguise thyself as thou wilt, still slavery thou art a bitter draught!" If the case of the eccentric beast which forced its way into the Kraal, and which it was so difficult to turn out, is adduced as adverse to our proposition, our answer is, that, if men sometimes go mad from the unreciprocated love of one, we cannot be surprized if an elephant, rejected and dismissed by the united trumpet-notes of a whole herd

of females, should "go off his head," and "run amok," caring as little for "pallisadoes" as for "Spanish blades." We have no doubt the object of the "amok" elephant was to get shot, and his already disordered brain must be puzzled to distraction by the conduct of those who refused him the fate on which he had rushed, reserving it for a cow-elephant, by the death of which a calf was reduced to the condition of orphanage. We hope the seventy or more English ladies who were present at the Kraal did not, in the midst of their own troubles, refrain from sympathizing with the martyred mother and the bereaved little one. In any case supposition is changed to certainty in regard to the beater, whose life was the sacrifice of this Princely tourney, better in intention than successful in execution. The family of the man who was killed, as well as the man who was wounded, have been or will surely be duly cared for. The mother of the young elephant was shot, but she did not die unavenged, and the contrast must have been grim between the presence of death on the scene and the presentation to Prince Edward of the tail trophy. We ventured to indicate that in the forests whence the royal father carried away a prized memento, the son would find another, but we did not anticipate the tragic accessories. We take it for granted that the Princes got a good view of the wild elephants in the Kraal, but to miss the noosing was like seeing the play of Hamlet with the part of Hamlet left out. To see the wild elephants advance to the tame under the impression that they are friends and to mark the bewilderment and terror of the captives when they find that in their own kind they have enemies to deal with, is very striking. But the main interest centres in the treacherous caution with which the educated elephants aid the human captors of the wild ones to place noose after noose round the legs of the beleaguered brutes, making the ropes fast on all sides to trees. Then the terrified creatures exert to the utmost their vast strength, rushing being succeeded by writhing, until, finding all efforts to recover freedom vain, they give way to despair, lie down, or sit on their haunches and give utterance to sobs so human-like as to be very painful to the human spectators. After being left for some time without food or water, each captured elephant is secured between two tame ones and led to a river to obtain the refreshment so grateful to these animals. A plentiful feed of succulent plantain stems follows, and thenceforward, generally, the captives become fully amenable to education. In the Punic wars and subsequently, elephants so captured and so educated were used in actual battle; but their terror of fire must have been early discovered, and although still elephants are useful to the Commissariat of armies in the field, they are generally employed for more peaceful and more useful purposes. Our correspondent, calculating on a due fulfilment



of the official programme, meant to return to-day; but we suppose he will wait for the noosing of the captured herd, if not for the drive-in of the larger number still outside.

We could wish to mix no jarring note with scenes of enjoyment, but we feel in honesty bound to say that a gentleman, who has just returned from the scene of the Kraal, reports complaints both loud and deep of alleged want of consideration for visitors, many of them ladies. Many of the ladies, even, we are told, were exposed to sun and heavy rain, because of the limited accommodation in the grand stand—accommodation designedly limited, it is believed, for the purpose of confining it to the select few. It is stated, with apparent reason, that, had a larger space been prepared and a compartment railed off, as in a race stand, for the Governor's and Princes' party, all could have been accommodated. As it was, we are told the grand stand was "rushed," but there was room for but few of the large number present; while, we are told that "Byrde's Stand" was at a distant spot where nothing could be seen. We suppose the truth to be that so large a presence as 300 Europeans at the kraal was no more anticipated by Mr. Saunders, who gets the reputation of being the soul of courtesy, than was the paucity of elephants willing to "walk into the parlour," prepared for their reception. Our special correspondent will report the truth about this matter, as about every other incident of the kraal, but meantime "we tell the tale as 'twas told to us." It is not every day that Princes, not to speak of elephants, are to be seen *al fresco*; and it is a pity that, while curiosity has been so imperfectly gratified, the feeling of loyalty which led so many to the wilds of Labugama should receive any other damper than that which precipitated moisture supplied.

As we write, the royal midshipmen are probably in Nuwara Eliya and eagerly preparing for the elk hunt. Let us hope that for any disappointment—if disappointment they really felt—at Labugama, more than atonement will be made by the sport enjoyed, six thousand feet higher up, amidst the mountains and upland prairies in which rise the sources of our grandest river, which wakening to life on the side of Pedurutalagala and Kirigalpotta, loses itself finally in the ocean waves close to the splendid naval harbour of Trincomaltee.

(From the *Ceylon Observer*, February 3, 1882.)

### A T T H E K R A A L.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT.

I left off with the cheering announcement, issued verbally with the authority, apparently, of the Government Agent, that he hoped the two herds of from 17 to 20 elephants could be kraaled simultaneously. This was received as a welcome relief by

the weary bystanders now experiencing the lesson from "hope deferred" in bright sunshine, for the early morning clouds had cleared away, and the day turned out a splendid one for the enjoyment of the "Kraal"—if the "tumasha" only would come off.

Very patiently, though with eager expectation, did we all wait, for the sudden rustling of the jungle and the burst inwards, which would afford ocular demonstration of a herd being kraaled. But hour after hour sped away, and, though numerous were the alarms, no approach to the entrance followed. It was a case of,—

How often we Prince Rupert killed,  
And bravely won the day,—  
The wicked cavaliers do read,  
The clean contrary way.

At one time the tame elephants were ordered down into the jungle to charge the wild herd upwards if possible, but the attempt failed: the work was one in which the tame ones had no practice, and the "cow" in the herd, already nearly driven desperate about her calf, threatened to undo all the labour of many weeks, if any weak point were left exposed. Fiercely, and again and again, did this gallant brute and faithful mother charge the beaters: she refused to be driven back, and, after injuring directly or indirectly, several of the beaters, she at last killed her man, and it was resolved she must perish. At 1-30 p. m., the message came for Mr. Macartney—a well-known elephant shot—to come down with his rifle. It was arranged that he and Mr. W. Murray should go to the spot, but his "battery" was at kraal-town, and, before it could be fetched, a Sabaragamuwa resident, Mr. James Munro, was requested to punish the offender, not by killing, but by wounding her, which he did at 40 paces by a flank-stroke near the ear. This laid the cow prostrate for from five to ten minutes, during which blood poured out of the wound in a torrent forming quite a pool; but after this interval the animal rose, much to the delight of its distracted calf, and trotted after the herd, thoroughly cured of further designs on the beaters, and, in a few minutes more—unfortunately in the absence of the crow's nest party at luncheon—the whole herd—four large and three small—dashed along the entrance drive into the kraal, trampling down the bamboo jungle and passing at lightning speed and with the sound of rumbling thunder into the kraal.

"Caught at last" was the cry; and the Grand Stand was speedily occupied; the order having gone forth to old Iddamalgoda, who now appeared on the scene, that an attempt should be made at once to move and tie up one of the herd. The old chief, save for his long white locks, is a very uninteresting-looking representative of his class. He knows no English; is heavy and dropsical-looking, and his combination of European and native costume is not becoming. But he—or at least his retainers—had done their work well, thanks, perhaps, a good deal, to the energetic prompting of Mr. Templer, who spent some ten days in the jungle with the Chief and his party, and who now stands every inch of him the hero of the moment. In passing, let me say that no one could have done more on the "beat" than Mr. Dawson, during the last few days, to ensure the timely success desired with Ekneligoda's big herd, and that they were not kraaled in time is certainly not his fault. He, and indeed all the officials and the chiefs themselves, are, apparently, the

victims of circumstances they could not well control. It is absurd to fix on two days as the limit of a kraal, from the hour of the order to drive in through the final stages. The old Chief was right: elephants puzzled and terrified enough by their month's experience should not, at the end of their long involuntary march, be urged too rapidly, much less fought with, under pain of demoralization and no satisfactory progress at all. Elephants, when approaching the kraal, should rather be waited on, and from three days to a week ought to be the allowance.

It is just possible that, in the present case, the well-known desire to be first, and to gain *kudos*, may have prompted Ekneligoda to report far too favourably of his position to Mr. Dawson a few days back. He was clearly not in a position to get over from the Maha Wakoya to the kraal valley on Monday or Tuesday forenoon. True, his herd were reported to have burst through the inner line of beaters on Tuesday morning, but this apparently was an excuse for delay. At the same time, "too much haste" has been the cause of marring a kraal—so far as the Princes are concerned—which had otherwise all the elements of a notable success, and on which an enormous amount of labour, affecting aged and loyal chiefs and thousands of retainers who, save for the love of the excitement and the hunting spirit inherent in Highlanders every where, can have no inducement—no adequate return—for this continuous, tiring and anxious spell of active service in the field. It is a thousand pities, therefore, that they were not so far rewarded by the completion of their work under the eyes of the Royal Princes, the Governor, Admiral and other visitors. A little firmness of purpose would have secured this end; but, of this, more anon. I have digressed lamentably. The Princes were timed to leave at 1:30: they lingered on till about 3 p.m.; and so secured a passing sight of the herd in the kraal and the tail of the elephant shot. Then Prince Albert Victor, His Excellency the Governor, Lady Longden, Sir Edwin Johnson, Lieut. Adair, and Capt. Hayne, A.D.C., started for Colombo; while Prince George with his tutor, the Rev. J. Dalton, Capts. Lord Charles Scott, Durrant and Foot—as well as Admiral Gore-Jones—remained some hours longer in the hope of witnessing a noosing and tying-up. Beaters were already hard at work with catties, and very soon two or three of the tame elephants lent their effective aid, butting down, gently but effectually, trees of no mean magnitude: everything in the shape of light jungle speedily disappeared from around the royal stand. The enormous Government "tusker," fully roped and equipped for the noosing and tying business, now moved down in stately measure among the spectators to the eastern side of the kraal, where, at the word of command, he lightly and readily slipped aside the top beam and dropped the one end from his trunk to the ground. He crossed the lower beam, still over four feet high, without difficulty, and proceeded into the jungle. I passed on to the remoter end of the kraal, where a continuous trumpeting, varied by stentorian but painful cries of the bereaved baby-elephant, indicated the presence of the herd, hidden in the dense bamboo jungle. Nothing could be seen of them here, however; only the occasional waving of the bamboos. Turning back, I found that the Government tusker

had got rid of his keeper inside the kraal for some reason, and was vainly trying by himself to slip back the upper beam again in order to get out of the kraal! Fortunately for the thousands of natives and some Europeans too (who could not well stampede through the close jungle) the beam had been firmly secured, and very soon the keeper once more resumed his work and authority and the tusker went to work, although, apparently, he was not to be depended on so much as the remaining tuskers' trio. After a good view of this end of the kraal from Mr. Chas. de Soyza's stand, I went on to the grand stand inside the kraal, where Prince George and party were waiting for the exhibition which never came off. Although two or three encounters took place, and although a band of volunteer European parties undertook to drive from the lower end of the kraal, no favourable opportunity for noosing could be obtained, and the Prince had to be contented with the several ineffectual attempts made.

The fact is that the attempt to noose on the same evening as the capture is unprecedented, and the civil officers scarcely expected success. The usual and proper course is to allow a night to intervene, during which the captives trample down all the "batalee" and other jungle stuff, exhaust themselves in examining their prison, and finally lie down in whatever puddle may remain in the hollows. Noosing and tying can then proceed in a business-like way. Clearly, neither chief nor retainers could feel much enthusiasm in the after-proceedings of this afternoon. That the same elephants and keepers did their duty well is vouched for by the experience of a planting friend who, occupying a prominent position in a high tree inside the western side of the kraal, witnessed a charge of three tame elephants on to the quartette of big ones in the herd, which fairly astonished him. The trio were arranged in line, facing the position in the bamboo, where the herd gave evidence of their presence, and all at once, in regular and most rapid motion, at the word of command, they charged, butting the herd fairly over or on before them. So rapid and regular was the run, that the three seemed as one and to run like a race-horse, to my friend's observation. From this same tree, Mr. Macartney's successful stalk of the poor wounded beast was followed. As a finish to my day's work, I paid a visit to the dead elephant, which lay in the bamboo jungle not far from the western entrance. The fatal shots on the forehead were examined, as well as Mr. Munro's ear wound; the ears and feet as trophies or talisman had already been either cut off or backed about. We were a party of 20 or 30, including natives around the prostrate animal, when suddenly a crash through the the jungle near at hand was followed by the cry of "here comes the herd," and sure enough the wild elephants, closely followed by two of the tame ones, appeared to be making directly for us. There was screaming and shouting enough in good earnest and although the only risk lay in a hurried stampede in one direction, the pursuers being behind, clearly discretion was the better part of valour and a rush was made for the barrier. Unfortunately one of the two European ladies present could not readily get over the sudden alarm, became semi-hysterical, which added to the difficulty of clearing out of the way. This little encounter illustrated, in a practica,

way, the awkwardness of a panic among a number of people in a closely-filled cane jungle with a herd of elephants supposed to be on you! Colonel Campbell mentions a narrow escape of the kind he had in the Kurunegala jungles, where, through a misdirection of his tracker he found himself suddenly facing a herd of elephants in full trot. He had the presence of mind to spring for the nearest large tree, but had no time to do more than squeeze himself against the side, as well as he could, out of view of the herd, swinging on with his rifle in hand, however, prepared to defend himself in case he should be interfered with. He was not, but I think it was Macbeth who asked the Lords of Scotland,

Who can be wise, amazed, temperate and furious,  
(Loyal and neutral,) in a moment?"

But to return to the kraal: I suppose it will be pronounced a failure (more or less complete) by Governor Sir James Longden and his guests, and yet most people here are hopeful of tomorrow making amends for present and past disappointment, and most people also think that, considering the uncertainty attaching to a successful elk-hunt (notwithstanding Mr. Lutyens' special exertions) that the royal visitors should have been persuaded to remain here to see the kraal out. Two days more would have put a very different complexion on their experience; but the opportunity of seeing a successful kraal in Ceylon is now for Princes Albert Victor and George gone—and, perhaps, for ever.

THURSDAY MORNING.

Disappointment and delay once more. During the night, the tusker, who, on the previous night, had broken into the kraal, returned to the charge, broke in once more, and liberated the herd captured yesterday. These are now with the larger herd outside, but close to the kraal. "Shooting irons" have been sent for and the tusker must die. An attempt will then be made to kraal the remaining elephants. This may be done today, but it means another day's weary waiting for those not too weary to wait.

A correspondent who was present at the kraal till last evening says that the larger herd, of 15 or 16 elephants, was driven in yesterday, after the smaller herd had escaped. Another account is that eleven elephants were driven in; whether exclusively of the big herd, or including some of the liberated animals we cannot say.

Just as we are going to press we hear from private sources that a budget is on the way to the *Observer* Office from our special correspondent of yesterday's proceedings, which, just before dusk, when the elephant were successfully kraaled, were of no little excitement. The elephants had at 2 o'clock in the afternoon been driven within 50 yards of the entrance to the kraal, but they obstinately refused to cross the crest of the hill which intervened. After one or two attempts to force them over, the whole herd charged down into the ravine just within the innermost circle of watchers. From the position now taken up the continuous yelling and shouting of the beaters for some three hours failed to move them. About 4

o'clock, shortly after a good deal of the bambu jungle had been felled and fires lighted, a very heavy thunderstorm broke, and proceedings were for a time stopped. By this time some 30 or 40 Europeans had come to the aid of the beaters, who were thoroughly demoralized, the greater number of them absolutely refusing to move an inch in the rain. As soon as the rain moderated, however, the Europeans determined on showing a bold front, and, rushing in with torches and sticks, forced them-selves up to the herd, one of their number actually applying his torch to an elephant's tail. Now ensued a scene which it is difficult to describe. All but two of the elephants were scared into the kraal. These two (a cow and calf) charged down on their pursuers and broke through the midst of them. A rush was made for a place of safety; Hats were lost, clothes were torn, and a valuable watch and chain (which had no business in the jungle) were lost. Our special correspondent will doubtless give us a graphic account, as gathered from those who were on the spot, and we will not attempt to forestall him. We may add that the rush of water after the storm temporarily cut off communication between the kraal and kraal town and again with the highway. And this doubtless accounts for our representative not having returned to Colombo this morning, as he had intended.

(Special Telegrams.)

THE PRINCES ELK HUNTING.

NUWARA ELIYA, February 3rd, 1-15 p. m.

Nuwara Eliya was astir very early this morning, but up to 12-30 there was no sign of elk. One is said to have gone away towards Maturata. Finding waiting for the break rather slow work, Prince Albert proposed tennis, whereupon there was a general adjournment to the kachcheri. After taking part in several sets, Prince Albert drove to Queen's Cottage. Prince George waited patiently with the seizers. Hopes are still entertained of a royal hunt in the afternoon.

NUWARA ELIYA, Feb. 3rd, 1-16 p. m.

We have found two elk; one was lost, and the hounds are still with the other. We hope to kill this afternoon, but the hounds have run too far for the princes to be up and knife. Mr. Lutyens' hounds hunted in good form, and so did the scratch pack. The princes seemed well pleased, and, I think, enjoyed themselves. The weather has cleared up, and it is now everything that could be desired.

AT THE KRAAL.

A HARD DAY'S WORK, RESULTING FINALLY IN THE CAPTURE OF TWELVE ELEPHANTS INCLUDING A SPLENDID TUSKER.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

KRAALTOWN, THURSDAY EVENING.

This morning came in simultaneously with the news of a bitter disappointment, in the loss of the six elephants supposed to be left in the kraal last evening. Its succeeding hours brought prolonged and bitter disappointment, until evening almost closed in; but "the unexpected" as usual has at last happened and the night closes with a brilliant success achieved under such difficulties, and with such unusual means, that it almost makes amends for all the vexation and regret of the past two days.

Let me, however, continue my story consecutively as well as I am able. I left the kraal last night as darkness closed in. Six living elephants, including the "baby calf," were safely enclosed, and although the attempt—against all precedent—to noose and tie up within a few hours of the capture of the herd, in order to allow Prince George to see the operation was a failure, yet everybody who was not obliged to leave that evening, felt there was compensation ahead in this morning's proceedings in the noosing and tying. So contented were many of completing their experience so far, during this forenoon, that they made all their arrangements at an early hour, for a start homewards during the day: ourselves among the rest sending our appu and boxes ahead some 10 miles to where we intended driving and spending the night. 'Man proposes' and a Higher disposes. At any rate, this confession shews we were wanting in the first lesson of jungle and planting experience, namely, never to part with your box cooly, at any rate to be sure he is within reach. Having cleared out of Kraaltown finally as we supposed, we were met at an early hour by an official intimation—probably written the night before—to the effect that the public were requested not to approach the stockade and kraal, as Eknelligodde's herd was within easy distance, and the attempt was to be made to open the barrier gate, drive them in and kraal all together. This was a disappointment, because it added to the risk of their being no noosing at all this day; but before we had fully realized the new "situation" created by the official "proclamation," came the authentic news, meeting us on the road up to the kraal, that the whole of the six elephants kraaled the night before had escaped during the night and that the kraal was vacant! This proved to be the fact and the explanations tendered were most varied. One statement was that part of Eknelligodde's herd had broken in during the night, and the palisade being knocked down, all escaped scot free again; another account made it appear that the gate must have been opened preparatory to the further kraaling, and so in being too greedy, crying "more, more," those already held were lost. The official report, as I heard it from Mr. Dawson at an early hour, is that a "tusker" from Eknelligodde's herd—and it is supposed to be the same "tusker" as visited the kraal the night before (when Messrs. Unwin, Challinor and Pyemout-Pyemout saw him)—broke in again so effectually as to release his sisters and brethren, old and young, in distress. But where were the watchmen planted all round the kraal the night before with wands and spears, immediately alongside the barricade? Well, there can be no doubt they were grievously to blame and as evidence that they have not escaped punishment, I may mention that the Government Agent visited them at an early hour this morning to give them "a bit of his mind," winding up, I believe, with a smash of "crochery" (!) (including chatties)—a great deprivation for Sinhalese "jungle-wallahs." I suppose, in fact, this was the cogent official way of saying:—"Now you may go away; you are useless and worse than useless; clear out!"

But, in defence of these poor fellows, let me say that their story has it that they were beset by wild elephants prowling round the kraal from the outside, so, and between two fires, they could not give their

attention to their charge as they should have liked. There are further explanations, however, namely that their chief Iddulmagoda had to listen to some sharp words the night before on account of the slowness of his people to effect a noosing, the threat finally being that the Government would not allow them to have a single elephant from the herd, since they allowed Prince George to leave without tying up one. The old chief said nothing, merely shrugging his shoulders; but it is quite conceivable that his people cared little about keeping strict watch and ward over the herd that was to be taken from them. Another reason for discouragement was the snooting of the big "cow" elephant: the beaters did not like it a bit:—"Here we have been driving in the jungle for weeks, and after we have brought his elephant 80 miles or so, to within as many feet of the gate of the kraal, you go and shoot it!" This is certainly not the native plan, and it is all attributable to the terrible haste made in the present proceedings in order "to catch the Princes." Another six hours must undoubtedly have brought in the mother as well as calf in safety.

Blame can be attached to no particular step, when the surrounding circumstances are considered; but undoubtedly Messrs. Saunders and Dawson ought to have been firmer at the outset, and have plainly warned His Excellency and his royal visitors that, while they and the Chiefs would do their best to secure the kraal in two days, still a margin of four or even five days ought to be allowed to secure success in this, the finest and most characteristic display of sport that can be seen in Ceylon. An elk hunt cannot for a moment vie with the sport in deer stalking which the young Princes can have any summer in their father's Royal Deer Forest at Abergeldie; but where again are they to witness a complete elephant kraal?

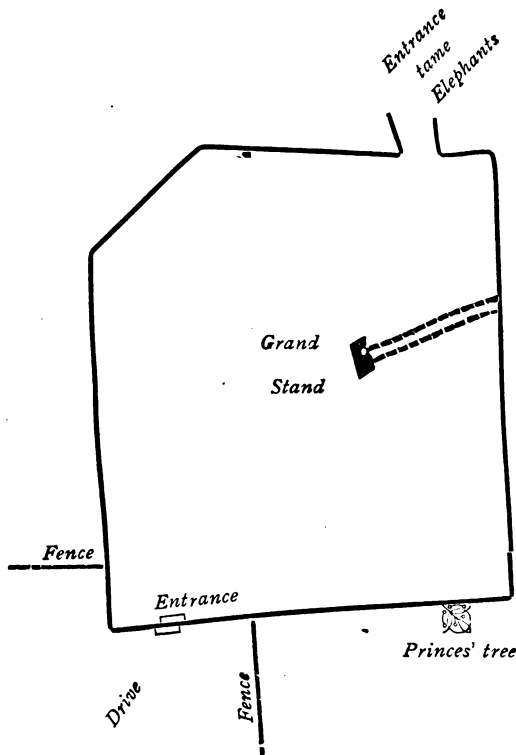
But this is a digression—one of many that might be indulged in, during the long weary hours of this most tedious of days, and as I have just heard that Mr. Saunders is starting an "express" for Colombo at 10 p. m.—the regular tappal having vanished with the Governor—I must hurry to a close, reserving details.

From an early hour Mr. Templer (who had so steadily accompanied Iddulmagoda's herd to the kraal) was out with Eknelligodde and the larger herd, now coming rapidly forward. Whether this Chief's circle of beaters had intercepted and added to their herd the 6 escaped elephants is a matter of doubt; but they certainly brought on as many as 12 elephants of their own, and beating up from early morning, the most perfect stillness being maintained in and around the stockade—due very much to the great number of departures!—about noon, the herd was reported well on in the kraal drive,\* and at 1 o'clock Mr. Saunders report was:—"Drive-in probable in a quarter-of-an-hour." From that time on to 5 o'clock, most trying, vexatious, disappointing, and yet most exciting, was the experience. I question, if ever before, in the history

\* The drive for a couple of miles round the range, down the gorge and on towards the Kraal till the stockade was reached, was most finely carried on: the cries of the beaters ever came nearer and nearer; but when the elephants sighted and scented the stockade, they stopped short at once.

of kraals, there has been so strange and mixed an experience.

In my pencil-sketch yesterday, I gave a wrong idea of the way in which Ekneligoda's herd had to approach the kraal. There is a ridge and valley behind the kraal valley, of the existence of which I was not aware. I have now procured a plan from Mr. Dawson, which very clearly indicates the position: the big herd came down the drive just as marked out on the plan: I am doubtful if you can reproduce it in type lines; but send it on in case "the printer" should care to make the attempt.



The herd had rounded the hill and faced the kraal about 1 p.m., as I have said. The cries of the beaters came steadily onwards so far, and progress, though a good deal slower, was made for an hour more. Most exciting was the scene then: the presence of the elephants was clearly visible, the tree tops waved, the bamboos cracked, and every now and then uplifted trunks rose over the bamboos and a rumbling of trumpeting—the simmering of baffled rage—added to the excitement of the few hidden and silent onlookers, as well as to that of the beaters. With Ekneligoda and Ela-wala, and the active young son of the former, in the beat, were Mr. Templer, and the hardy old shikarrie, Mr. James Munro of Sabaragamuwa fame, nearly all day. Messrs. Dawson and Ievers were also down a good deal. Between 2 and 3 the drive-in became so certain and imminent, that Ekneligoda and his immediate bodyguard or attendants (fine stalwart, swarthy fellows) left "the beat" to see if all was right at the Government Agent's corner whence the entrance could be commanded. This was below the Princes' "crownest," today alas! deserted. I wish I had time to

give you a proper idea of Ekneligoda, as he came up the path of watchers outside the drive, billy-cock hat and common cloth as usual, closely followed however, by his umbrella-bearer in gorgeous costume of flowered cowboy, big comb, &c. Evidently the Sinhalese chieftain when on the "corral" path likes to look like his work and to leave all outward show to his servants. Sure enough Ekneligoda had not been long at our end, when the elephants rushed as if for the entrance; but they stopped short, irresolute; they got into the open; some of them made a dash at the palisades of the drive facing us, and immediately, we all—a dozen Europeans, backing the watchers led by Ekneligoda—shouted and screamed and struck trees and fences to our hearts' content. This drove them in a mob to the other side, where at the palisade as well as far up the hillside, were a number of planters, besides the usual stockade guard. They soon made it plain to the herd, they could not break through there, and then was witnessed a sight probably never before paralleled—7 goodly-sized elephants standing in a semi-circle together, heads to the centre immediately in front of the entrance to the kraal!—and yet not making the slightest attempt to enter. The rest of the herd farther up the drive kept the beaters back by charging now and then;\* but evidently there was now an obstacle in the way, or such demoralization, as made it most uncertain what to expect of the elephants. The most likely explanation became evident with the recollection of the "dead elephant," shot the night before inside the entrance, and the track of blood which no doubt ran along from the barrier. On smell, elephants chiefly depend to warn them of danger. The scent of danger ahead was only too apparent. "Better perish where we are" seemed the thought of the seven companions in danger, as they stood rubbing each other sympathetically, rather than pass that truly bloody gateway and be shot behind it. Baffled again and again, and worn out by their exertions to drive the herd in, it became clear that Ekneligoda's men wanted help. This had been suggested to the chief already once or twice, and Mr. C. S. Agar, who had been summoned by Mr. Dawson to aid with his trusty rifle, at an early hour, had been eager for some time to join the drive, by discharging blank shots and inspiring the beaters to urge the drive on.† Mr. W. S. Murray at last conveyed the pressing request to Ekneligoda (who had again rejoined his people), for Mr. Agar and 20 or 30 European volunteers to join the ring, and, after an interval, it was granted on condition that no shot should on any account be fired at the elephants and no serious wound inflicted. Mr. Agar, rifle in hand, quickly followed Mr. Murray to the beat in the valley, and Mr. Saunders sending the call round, I speedily saw pass on from our side, Messrs. Thring, Talbot, C. R. White, the Admiral's flag-lieutenant (the Admiral had all day attended closely

\* About 1-30 the tusker made a full charge: there were some visitors at the time with the beaters; later on, when a great many European volunteers had joined, a regular charge of the herd took place and 3 elephants escaped up a ridge along the centre of the drive being seen from the stockade, passing through the beaters. Altogether 4 charges were made on the volunteers  
 † Mr. A. J. Campbell had previously pressed to be allowed to lead 25 Europeans and 50 native beaters, guaranteeing success with the drive, but Ekneligoda then protesting, this was considered inadvisable.

on the proceedings with imperturbable good-humour and encouragement), and three or four more who, in their hasty descent through the scrub, I did not recognise. A still larger body—chiefly planters—passed into the drive round the opposite side of the kraal, including Messrs. J. A. and N. Campbell, Elphinstone, Stewart, Unwin, Wardrop, Wighton, C. Grant, Bennett, Whyte, F. Hadden, R. Morison, H. J. Reid, D. Donald, G. J. A. and W. L. H. Skeen, A. M. Forbes, Jas. Allau, F. Luker, J. Aymer, Inglis, F. A. Fairlie, A. Stevenson, F. Chapman, A. H. Roe, E. and A. Ames, J. Trump, E. Booth, E. Smyth, P. F. Hadow, and 2 midshipmen. There were some including Messrs. Dawson, Ievers, Elliott, F. M. Green and Phillips, who had been already in the drive. Most unfortunately, the volunteers had barely reached the circle of advance when the rain which had been threatening for some time began to descend in torrents—black and hopeless rolled the clouds over the devoted valley and the apparently ill-fated drive; the thunder boomed and the rain poured, and all seemed as if “harri-harri-hooi-ooi” was at an end. The cry was raised, again and again, but was positively drowned in the greater noise of the elements. From many points of view, this ill-timed rain seemed to doom the whole enterprise. It gave the thirsty elephants refreshment, a breathing space and fresh courage; night was coming on; the drivers could not stand their ground so close up to the herd all night; their camp fires must prove a failure;—and hope had sunk to zero! The dead elephant had apparently saved a score of living companions from being kraaled. I had taken refuge from the rain in a watcher's hut; but about 4.30, finding the rain soaking through and no appearance of clearing up; hopeless of a kraal and anxious to get on ten miles homewards after my boxes, I gave up the case as hopeless, and was confirmed in the view by the opinion of Mr. Saunders himself whom I met a little farther on. I started for Kraaltown in a woeful condition, pathways swept by torrents, the road down the hill at some corners a perfect river, and when the foot was reached, the “ela” in front of Kraaltown, which had hitherto been crossed at a low ebb, an impassable river. I arrived early enough, however, to be carried over with the help of two coolies and a Sinhalese servant, who rushed to our assistance when in a hole near the other side. I found Kraaltown pretty well deserted—and, with boxes gone, no “change” was available, though drenched to the skin. Eventually, I secured sufficient for a change by borrowing in four different quarters! I merely give these trivial personal details to shew what kind of an evening had come on, and what the experience of many others was; and still more what the state of the men at the post of honour and of danger was in the jungle-drive.

About 6 o'clock grand tidings came down with men, who, drenched to the skin already, thought little of wading or swimming the river. Gathering up the reports of half-a-dozen of the eye-witnesses or partakers in the final charges and drive, I now endeavour hastily to present a consecutive trustworthy account. For the elephants now, it was clearly a case of—

Officers on right of them,  
Planters on left of them,  
Beaters behind them,  
While all the herd wondered,—

or rather felt a much less pleasant sensation. Messrs. Agar, Thring and Talbot and their party lost little time, rain or no rain, in beating to quarters: they urged the drive-in again and again: shot succeeded shot: harri-harri became the rule; and the drive was one scene of excitement. Several minor charges to the line took place; but the rain and the advent of the Europeans sent the beaters to huddle under trees and clear out. It became evident that the Europeans could not work without a base line being cut out of the jungle and the natives must be got back. Inspector Marshall, Mr. Elliott, J. Fraser (of Benachie), H. Blacklaw, Dr. Renny, here did good service by forcing the natives in again to cut down a semi-circular path behind the elephants. Torches were also prepared, weapons improvised and all got ready to force the herd on. Mr. Saunders now appears to have, as a last effort, descended into the beat, and, while his volunteers were using every exertion to beat in, he got up a tree to catch the exact situation. I am guessing at this intention from what followed. On the stockade near the drive, at the angle joining the kraal, sat four planters watching the struggle, who had not yet joined in it. Mr. Saunders called on them to lend a hand, and they immediately passed in, led by Mr. W. G. Sandison. Arrived at the beat and immediately behind the herd, Mr. Sandison, who carried a short spear, looking round for a torch, the most trustworthy of all weapons of defence in dealing with wild elephants, spied Mr. Unwin alongside with a torch and arranged in a word that they should go on shoulder to shoulder, together. But Mr. Sandison's former companions—Messrs. H. L. Woodhouse, C. F. Wilkinson and Dupuis—not understanding the arrangement, pressed on between. Several others from the beating line followed. Sandison advanced right up to the elephant and with a prong sent it—a huge mother with a little calf—right on the herd, with a rush. Some of the main body thus charged sprang over the ravine towards the entrance, pressed on by Messrs. Wighton, Thring, Talbot and others of those abovementioned. Not so the wild mother and her calf, the tusker and two or three more: they only rushed forward, to wheel round and charge fairly back into the centre of the rank of Europeans, who, much in advance of the natives, were left without any support or indeed time to think of anything but how to escape the irresistible charge of the infuriated brute and her dam. The rank broke and the volunteers tried—but only tried—to get out of the way in all directions; for there was no room, and a bambu-batale jungle is not the place to escape through. Down went the men as if shot: Sandison lost his hat, Dupuis, Wilkinson, Woodhouse (who fell on his back), Wardrop, Bennett, Skeens, Grant, Unwin, Phillips, Morison, Hadden, Donald, Luker, and others of those abovenamed, were all in the scrimmage and more or less “down”—very “down in their luck” it must be confessed did a good many consider themselves to be: Mr. H. J. Reid lost his watch as well as hat; “the Laird of Logie,” who had done yeoman service all along, went down as if felled, and this was by far the narrowest escape, I learn from the others: for the calf fairly vaulted over his prostrate form!\*

\* Mr. Elphinstone tells me he threw himself down to avoid the butt of the calf as it came directly towards him. Mr. Stewart had a narrow escape, the

Intercepted by the native beaters farther out, it is said that the infuriated female and her calf once again returned in a rush through the adjoining ravine up to the entrance; but it is very doubtful if she went in. In, however, the main body undoubtedly rushed and here Messrs. Talbot and Wighton saw the last of them, following their heels, or rather soles, up sharp and fixing the barriers which were in danger of falling from the nerveless grasp of the native watchers who had rushed from the sides to the gate.

A few minutes before the gate was closed—on, certainly, a dozen elephants—a part of the barrier near the Princes' crow's nest was the object of a fierce charge by a huge brute—perhaps the "tusker" which Mr. R. H. Morgan, from one of the stands, rightly declared he saw inside. For a hundred yards, the barrier shook as if it were going to fall, and the charger got his forefeet through; but two or three Europeans led by Mr. H. Whitham rushed to the spot and drove him back.

So must close my narrative now: Mr. Saunders' express has come (11 p. m.), and I am able to add

big elephant stepping close to him when down. Very characteristic is the fact that when Mr. Reid found that his costly gold watch was lost after all was over, and proposed, when half-way home to offer a handsome reward to natives to find it; Logie objected, saying 'if you tell them some one will find and keep it—let us go back;' and he, F. Hadden and Reid returned to the spot and picked up the watch in the dark. What added to the misery of the "forlorn hope" were the pools full of mud hidden by the bambu: Mr. J. G. Wardrop went in white and came out as black as his boot from his helmet downwards: this gentleman shook for five minutes before he got over the dirt and the sensation—so said an eyewitness. As the men tumbled all round, torches, hats, spears flying about, and the elephants rushing, a charge of cavalry into a broken square in boggy ground could alone be compared to it. The tusker and two or three more elephants only charged as far as, not among the Europeans fortunately, or lives would have been lost and legs broken. The female went right on, calf behind, and came back, calf carefully placed in front of her. The greatest fright got was that of Dr. Renny, who, sitting on the stockade outside, was horror-stricken, seeing the charge, feeling sure limbs were broken freely, while he, the only doctor on the spot, was without an instrument! The Inspector-General of Prisons took an active part in bringing forward and urging the volunteers from the north side to enter the beat: 'he waved us onward with his white handkerchief (said one of the company) like a true general, but I noticed he did not follow us into the breach, although he gave us his blessing!' The fact is, Mr. Elliott, like all the officials who know the nature of bamboo jungle and of elephants at such close quarters, were astounded at Mr. Sandison's rapid advance, and the result, the Inspector-General told us (when the large cow, followed at certain distance by the tusker and herd) dashed through the planters, reminded him of Æneas's description of his shipwreck:—

To heav'n aloft on ridgy waves we ride,  
Then down to hell descend, when they divide:  
And thrice our galleys knock'd the stony ground,  
And thrice the hollow rocks return the sound,  
And thrice we saw the stars, that stood with dews around,  
\* \* \* \* \*

The giant hearken'd to the dashing sound:  
But, when our vessels out of reach he found,  
He strided onward, and in vain essay'd  
Th' Ionian deep, and durst no farther wade.  
With that he roar'd aloud: the dreadful cry  
Shakes earth, and air, and seas; the billows fly  
Before the bellowing noise, to distant Italy.  
The neighb'ring Ætna trembling all around,  
The winding caverns echo to the sound,  
His brother Cyclops hear the yelling roar,  
And, rushing down the mountains, crowd the shore.

a couple of notes from the Government Agent, which, in a few words, indicate the exact position and prospects. The first is in answer to my enquiry about tappal provision:—

"The Kraal, Feb. 2nd.—Thanks for your kind congratulations. The credit of the final drive is due to some 25 gentlemen who volunteered to come down and reinforce the beaters, who after that heavy shower were quite despirited. We went in, some 20 Europeans and 20 natives, and after a most magnificent piece of sport, which those who saw say was worth all the journey and delay to sea, succeeded in getting 11 to 13 elephants in. Messrs. Elphinstone, Thring and Sandison were very nearly trampled down in a charge which was made by the whole herd. As soon as the elephants were in, and the gates up, they charged back again, and one elephant came to the place which was broken down last night, and placed his forefeet on the upper bars and tried to break the fence, but was driven back. Altogether it was a most pretty piece of sport, and very exciting. I hope they won't again escape during the night. The Admiral (who is the incarnation of good humour and most cheerful patience) saw the elephants come in and counted 11—others say 13: I think myself we have 13 safe. In great haste. I shall be starting an express to Colombo, and will tell him to call at your place for the letters of yourself and any others who may wish to send to Colombo."

"It has just occurred to me that you wished for information about what is to be done tomorrow. If the elephants are in the kraal, I shall try and tie some elephants at 7.30 before breakfast, so that those who have so kindly and patiently waited may see something before they are obliged to go. But, of course, the tying of the elephants will continue all day."

INTERMEDIATE LETTER.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

FRIDAY NOON.

[I sent you full despatches with detailed accounts of yesterday's proceedings by a special express started by Mr. Saunders for Colombo about midnight last night: I hope these will reach you safely or my five hours' work while the incidents were fresh to the memory will have gone for nothing.]

I take advantage of the offer of a gentleman starting for Colombo now to report the bare fact of a couple of elephants (out of twelve captured) being noosed and tied, up to this time. The twelve are made up of nine from Ekneligoda's big herd, and three of Iddamaligoda's "escapes." Three elephants, which escaped during the final drive by the Europeans last night, have been prowling off the entrance all night and are still in the neighbourhood. The whole process of pursuing, noosing, and tying has been seen to perfection. I wait a little longer in the hope of seeing the "tusker" tackled.

P. S.—News just came to me that the poor old "cow" elephant first noosed has been abandoned—left lying in one of the hollows, supposed to be dying of a broken heart. Quite touching is the way in which a little calf—her own, or the orphan of the one that was shot—keeps in attendance on her. No more just now. Beautiful day and everybody delighted: a large party of European ladies and gentlemen still here to enjoy the real business of kraaling, including the Admiral and Captain Hill of the "Bacchante."

## COMPENSATION FOR ALL THE DELAY :

EXCITING DAY IN THE KRAAL—NOOSING AND TYING—  
6 OUT OF 12 ELEPHANTS NOOSED—GREAT SPORT—  
SPLENDID WEATHER.

FRIDAY MORNING.

Yesterday morning while waiting for the early drive-in then expected, we spent some time with the four tame elephants belonging to Mr. Charles de Soysa, and by him, with commendable public spirit, ordered to the kraal in case their services should be required. One huge tusker, Siriwala, is supposed to be over 80 years of age, and therefore too old to be of much service in "noosing" and "tying" up wild elephants. But he will be useful in beating up and blocking the way of retreat, since his stately presence is of itself sufficient to inspire a wholesome terror in the minds of his comparatively puny compeers, and as elephants have been described as "halfe reasoning animals" they will no doubt keep at a safe distance from Siriwala's tusks. Much less attractive, though far more useful to his owner, is the small and tuskleless "Rajah" for which Mr. de Soysa paid double the price of old Siriwala. Rajah cost £100. He goes through a number of performances to perfection. The cuteness with which he looks after the equivalent of "threepenny bits" in the mud—blowing away the latter, and at last, when baffled in his attempt to pick up the tiny coin by the edge with his sensitive trunk, drawing it in by suction, was very striking. Once caught, he held it safely until, with upturned trunk, he delivered it to the keeper on his back. Mr. de Soysa turns his elephants to account in carting, ploughing, road-making and felling jungle in his Ratnapura and other extensive properties; and surely this last-mentioned is an occupation for which they are specially well adapted in the lowcountry, considering the way in which they send down trees with their heads, which would take some time for a Kandian to cut through. Why should not a "felling" elephant, more especially for lowcountry planters, be hired out like a portable steam threshing-mill at home? Before leaving this interesting family, we had the opportunity of assisting in photographs taken by Messrs. Skeen & Co.'s and Lawton & Co.'s artists—some of the groups being highly successful. I never knew how difficult it was to climb on the back of an elephant until I tried it: without the aid of the obliging beast itself in lifting up its limb with you standing on it, and in offering its large flapping ear to hold and pull by, it would be impossible to make the ascent. The tame elephants have ropes tied round their bodies fore and aft when sent into a kraal, in order that the noosers may catch a hold quickly and clamber on to the top in case of danger.

The elephants, however, chiefly depended on for aid in noosing and tying at this kraal were two from the North-Western Province:—One, the celebrated "Kiriya," belonging to Mr. Graham Jayetileke, accompanied by the still more celebrated nooser "Alutnuwara Rannahami"; the other "Walle" (blind of one eye) owned by the Seven Korales chief Halpe. A third, even larger and more powerful and in charge of an exceedingly daring and successful nooser known as "the breeches" from his wearing white inexpressibles to the knees, is the property of Ellawala, the wealthy

Ratemahatmaya of the Nawadun Korale, who shared with Ekneligoda the work of driving in, and of whose influence and position he is jealous in the extreme: or rather the jealousy is mutual.

I had a curious exhibition of this feeling this morning: the great fear last night was that some, if not the whole, of the dozen or more elephants captured would escape: if, it was argued, five or six broke out or got away, how much more likely for some at least of the dozen. But a very much stricter guard had been kept the second time. In the hurry of the Princes' departure and the disappointment consequent thereon on Wednesday evening, a good deal of confusion took place. It is stated that one respectable sub-chieftain, in going to his post with his company of a dozen men or so at one angle of the kraal, was assaulted by a couple of constables and turned back. Bare to the waist, no doubt a mistake was made about his identity, and the Kandian would neither offer nor take an explanation. "After so many days of hard work in bringing up the elephants to be treated like this," he said; "we won't stay, but go home;" and accordingly off he went over the hills. So runs the story as told to me—not an improbable one and one which would partly account for the weakness and inefficiency of the guard on the night of the escape. I was accordingly much relieved this morning to find that of the second capture, including the huge "tusker," not one had escaped, and being anxious to learn particulars of the arrangements made for keeping guard, on meeting Mr. Saunders I put the question to him as to the disposition of his chiefs and their men during the night. He turned to Ekneligoda and Ellawala, who were beside him at the time, and asked them which sides they took. The former at once said his men watched on the southern and eastern sides, but Ellawala sharply and promptly contradicted him, saying some of his men were on the south; and immediately the two shewed their teeth among sharp words about this mereest of trifles, until the Government Agent, peremptorily stopping them, turned the conversation by asking 'what about the three elephants that had not been kraaled with the rest—where were they?' They were close by, the chiefs declared, having come up to the kraal gate several times during the night, evidently to enquire about the fate of their fellows, or to answer their calls. A watch was kept over them, and probably an attempt will be made later on to capture them, as the Government Agent said to the Chiefs: "You are at liberty to do as you please with them." Ekneligoda declared that 13 had been kraaled (only 12 could be found later on)—10 from his and Ellawala's herd and 3 out of the 6 escapes belonging to Iddamaligoda's herd. He knew the latter because they always kept by themselves in the drive out of the way of the others.

While preparations were being made for the noosing, and a goodly assembly of European ladies and gentlemen with thousands of natives were pressing in to the royal upper and lower stands, to Byrde's, Munro's, de Soysa's and other stands, as well as all along the palisades and ground overlooking the spot—many planters and others occupying vantage points in trees,—I proceeded round the kraal to inspect the 'drive' and the scene of last night's extraordinary charge. On the way I encountered two chiefs—brothers or cousins of Ekneligoda—of whom I had not previously



heard. One was a particularly striking-looking Kandian, over 6 feet high, straight as an arrow and "bearded like the pard"—quite on a par with his countryman, Inspector Gooneratne, who is, I suppose, the handsomest man in the Ceylon Police Force though a Sinhalese, and who tells me that the men of his district—Kalutara—have long been reckoned the tallest in the island. With the junior Ekneligodas was the intelligent Kachcheri Mudaliyar of Ratnapura, who was anxious to know the full name of "The Laird of Logie"—Mr. Elphinstone—"for" said he, "an entire stranger to us, he sent all the Chiefs a handsome present in refreshment, last night, after the close of their long and tiring labours." Just like Logie, the most thoughtful and unselfish of colonists; and very ready were the chiefs to make a note of the name "GRÆME HEW DALRYMPLE ELPHINSTONE" as I gave it to them.

I had the benefit now of being guided by two eyewitnesses of last night's charge, and surveyed the scene with a full knowledge of all the circumstances. There can be no doubt that the incident deserves an important place in the records of Ceylon kraals, and that the men engaged not only deliberately entered on a service of great difficulty and some risk, but that in the attack led by Mr. W. G. Sandison and the subsequent charge back, they had as severe a trial of nerve and ran as much risk of wounds and even loss of life itself as many "a forlorn hope" in real warfare. I notice that a good many writing and speaking of last night's work condemn the native beaters because they refused to do what the Europeans effected; but this is a very inaccurate and foolish mode of criticism. The natives knew the actual danger of the situation from long experience—the Europeans did not. The beaters, knowing that a charge or succession of charges would be the result so soon as the "Durais" or "Mahatmayas" went in with fire and spear, cleared out of the way as fast as possible. The more men in the way in such a case, the more havoc; and finally we would ask how many of the volunteer beaters and of 'the forlorn hope' would repeat their work under the same circumstances were the opportunity offered to them? We think the men who came out saying they had got a lesson which would last a life-time, how they ventured again to attack a herd of elephants, were those who took the right view, and instead of depreciating the work of the beaters who had been driving for weeks together, when the elephants were *fresh*, and not half starved and worn-out, the opinion of the volunteers at least respecting their endurance and pluck ought to be heightened.\* No wonder though Mr. Dawson should say that he wished the visitors who ridiculed the slow work made on Tuesday and Wednesday, had come down to see the character of the jungle through which the work had to be done, or allowed the Princes to come. The small cane-like bamboo grows so closely together as to be impenetrable: the only paths are those made by the elephants or which are cut out by the beaters. The bamboo when levelled by the elephants, is as slippery as ice and the rain had rendered it, if possible, more so.

Let me now describe the spot. The last part of "the drive" between the stockades is about 150 yards across: it was covered with the densest bamboo jungle; it consisted of two hollows or ravines with a ridge between, and all inclining towards the entrance to

the kraal. From the entrance to where the European volunteers took up their position could not be more than 250 yards, the elephants being between. It will be readily seen therefore that the ground was as difficult a place to work in as ever an old campaigner or sportsman encountered. I write now with fuller information on the whole subject and have no hesitation in saying that men have gained honors and been the subjects of many columns of "special correspondence" for encountering considerably less risk.

The heavy torrent of rain which fell during the thunderstorm beginning about 4 p. m. on Thursday had greatly refreshed the elephants, made the jungle far more difficult to work in and therefore, undoubtedly the Sinhalese, if left to themselves would have given up work, and have returned to their nearest hut cordon giving the herd more latitude and lighting watch fires for the night, so soon as the rain had ceased. There would therefore have been no capture that night, but very possibly an energetic and mayhaps successful attempt to escape into the outer beat, when of course the two days' work would have had to be done over again. When I left the scene and passed the Government Agent at 4-30, Mr. Saunders expressed himself as hopeless of success. All the more praise therefore to those who, in the face of so much to discourage them and damp their spirits, faced a great danger though only partly understood, and came off victorious.

Returning to the Grand Stand, now well filled, it was evident that the four safe working tame elephants and the two or three of the reserve force had commenced active operations. They were mounted by from 2 to 3 noosers each, while several assistants with spears and ropes followed behind at the sides of the elephants, under which they occasionally ran when there appeared to be any danger of a charge. The wild elephants were in a state of great perturbation rushing from one side of the kraal to the other, occasionally resting under the few patches of jungle that still remained, going down into the hollows to throw water and mud over their backs—spurting each other with water seemed to be a favorite occupation—and it was a most amusing as well as touching sight to see the little calves do this to the tame elephants when near them once or twice as if to appease them and make friends. Clear views of all the herd were now got and the elephants could be counted. The "tusker" is a huge fellow in bulk more than in height: he has lost half his tail, as if it had been shot off, and his tusks are most unusually far apart in the way they stick out, and they also seem to have had the points broken off. He never seems to lead the herd, but rather to follow after. Nevertheless, Mr. Jwin is sure it is the same animal that came to the kraal at midnight, and was shut in and afterwards let loose. This was in a manner proved by the frequency with which he made for the western gate today in his wanderings, in the hope, no doubt, of getting out once more. One only did he try to charge the palisade, but before he could get as far, the pointed sticks and spears of the watchers and the shouts of thousands of spectators drove him back. After the tusker came one large 'cow' and five more medium-sized elephants; three well-grown calves and two puny diminutive little things whose dusty, tired appearance excited much pity, more especially from the ladies and a few children present. The tame elephants and noosers were now at work amongst them, trying to break the herd into detachments, to segregate one or more, so as to get a chance of surrounding and noosing. Very troublesome and difficult is this operation: occasionally it is done by good luck in the minimum of time, and again hours may be spent over it. As it was, after what seemed a long time to the onlookers, (relieved, however, by some exciting and still more amusing passages) two, or indeed three, got noosed (almost instantaneously. Save with the

\* There can be little doubt that if the natives were left to their own time and ways, the whole 23 elephants of the 2 herds would have been kraaled.

little ones there was no attempt by the herd at fraternizing or even recognizing the tame ones. The sight of men on their backs seemed to put an end to all thought of such a thing, and they steadily avoided a meeting as long as they could, dodging up and down, in and out and round about, until one time too many they came across through a hollow, and the Philistines—in the shape of Ranghamy and Ellawalla's man of "the breeches" was among them. A slight attempt at a charge or fight was quickly repressed with a few blows from the spears, and a thump of the head of the tame elephant; \* the "tusker" sheering off, showing no inclination to interfere; but not so with the little calf, who, when two of the larger elephants got jammed up and a noosed rope cleverly placed on a leg of each, was tied about them, cried out and would not be comforted or induced to leave. "Breeches" and Ranhami were now in for serious work; their prizes struggled with elephantine strength; one especially—the mother of a calf—could not be moved from the spot, and in rage and despair at last fell prostrate, never to rise again! The struggle was a short but severe one, and the natives at once recognised it was a case of "broken heart." The poor brute lay panting for an hour or so afterwards, then heaved a deep sigh, and at last all was still, save that the little calf would not leave her side for a long time, and that once or twice the rest of the herd in passing the spot, attempted to heave up their companion. Far more touching however was the sight witnessed by Mr. D. Mackay while near the cow shot by Messrs. Munro and Macartney, in the approach of its calf and two other elephants, the latter of which made a persistent endeavour to raise their companion, while the little one tried once more to obtain sustenance by sucking its parent.

To return however, to the second large elephant noosed: he was a plump, vigorous medium-sized fellow and resisted most determinedly the moving, pushing and dragging of him halfway across the kraal and the final tying to the tree. This in fact was only accomplished when Ranhami and "Breeches" got him jammed up between their elephants, which, evidently fully understanding what was wanted, pressed so hard and so guarded the ways of exit with their trunks that their captive had perforce to remain perfectly still. All this was a most interesting, instructive sight, and then, when the tying was done, the hind legs only being securely clasped in several folds of strong rope which again were drawn several times round a tree immediately alongside of the Grand Stand—how the poor prisoner writhed and twisted, using all his prodigious strength to break away the rope or pull the tree down, running round and round in despair of an outlet, pawing the earth, stretching himself with eel-like contortions, and then in hopelessness of any release and under the agony of his disgrace, like a true oriental, throwing up clouds of dust over his head and back with his trunk! Very soon, another of similar size and appearance was noosed, and dragged up a long way to a tree facing Byrde's Stand, and one of the active bull-calves being simultaneously caught, very quickly the fun became "fast and furious." This little calf gave more trouble than the two big ones: the noosers left him as soon as one leg was confined to a tree, and less experienced hands got the job of tying a rope round his neck and shoulders so as to keep him quiet and secure. But how the fellow resisted, struggled, twisted and threw the rope off. The noose had to be passed over his head as well as trunk, but the latter was sent out at all impossible angles, so that no rope could be got round it. At last, Messrs. C. Agar and Munro descended to the rescue, but they

were baffled again and again; as soon as the rope was round, it slipped off; they were charged and had to fly back; the little fellow bellowed like a bull; he blew at them, he would not be tied, and not until some one seized the trunk and held it, was the rope got round and a secure shoulder knot made. This done, the calf set up a regular series of bellows, making more ado than all the others put together. Great was the amusement afforded by this capture, and again and again was the wish expressed throughout the Stand that the Princes had stayed for this day's experiences which well repaid all the trouble and delay. But some greater fun was to follow; another calf, plump and strong, had been noosed as well as a third big elephant, and were being pulled towards two suitable trees when one of the noosers getting an ugly shove from the calf inflicted a wound on his forehead which drew blood, but nothing much. Almost simultaneously Mr. Saunders sent orders to release these two captives at once and noose "the tusker," as many had to leave and the day was now wearing on. No sooner was the calf released than he charged right and left with trunk uplifted, bellowing as he went and carrying all before him among rows of native beaters and a number of planters and others who had now descended into the kraal near the Stands. The scene was comical in the extreme: there was just the least spice of danger to add zest to it, but the little fellow turned at the show of a pointed stick. It seemed as if he said: "You have given me a great fright; now I'll do my best to give you a taste of the same." White clothes especially seemed to provoke his anger: one or two gentlemen in white coats were followed again and again: one of them, Mr. E. Smyth, between laughing and dodging and keeping off his mad but 'cute little antagonist had quite enough to do, and the spectators roared at the fun. Tired out at last, the little fellow with a loud grunt made for the tame elephants and ranged himself alongside, as if with his friends. He did not seem to care about the wild herd now: he was a civilized elephant and followed the tamers wherever they went. At last he found out Soysa's "tusker" standing on one side, and, charging under him, created a tremendous uproar, for the tusker didn't like it a bit, and trumpeted out what seemed to be "You mind your own business, you young rascal, or I'll settle you." Nothing, however, could quiet this "irrepressible" altogether: at odd moments he would make a charge on his own account right across the kraal, and there can be no doubt that he greatly disturbed the rest of the noosing, so that it was a pity he was let loose, save for the amusement he gave to the company. The wild "tusker" would not be caught; he showed no fight, would shirk a broadside, slunk aside and dodged, and yet it became evident the tame elephants and the noosers did not care to get too near him. The fact is he is too old to be trained, and is of no service at all save for his ivories which can be got by shooting.

"Cured of sores" is the expression used to indicate a tamed elephant. Mr. Glenny of Haldummulla, backed up by a number of gentlemen, offered R100 to the first man who put a rope on, and Mr. Sbarpe, Government Agent of the North-Western Province, went into the kraal to harangue his men of the Seven Korales in the vernacular and to spur them on, but although there were some more energetic attempts, close quarters were not come to. \* A proposal for Europeans to beat the tusker into a corner did not find favour after last night's encounter, and at last it was decided to close

\* The absence of large heavy trees in the kraal suitable for tying, such as are so common in the North-Western province, was very much noted: the jungle at Labugam, even its best, being very light, and therefore all the more troublesome to beaters and noosers. The kraal stockade itself, too, was not backed by the supports which distinguish those built in the Seven Korales.

\* There was however one regular charge which 'Kiriya' resisted with a downright blow, while his rider struck out with spear; hearty applause rose from the stands, and the tame elephant turned right round, as if to enjoy it and to salaam to the approval!

the day's proceedings, and most of the visitors left, the writer among the number. Enough had, however, been seen to warrant all who waited over Thursday, in pronouncing the Kraal a success so far as seeing the various operations connected with one; a notable success in affording a more than usual amount of sport and comical fun, as also in raising at moments feelings of sympathy and pity; an extraordinary success in the unprecedented work done by European volunteers: 'the forlorn hope,' the sudden charge, the marvellous escape, and the crowning victory in the forcing in of a dozen elephants into the kraal on Wednesday night.

In the name of all who waited over Thursday I feel sure that thanks and congratulations may be offered to Messrs. Saunders, Templer and Dawson, for their unwearied labour, under their more than common anxiety and worry; to the chiefs Iddamaloda, Ekneligoda, Ella-wala, the Kachcheri Mudaliyar; to Ranhami and "Breeches" and the owners of their elephants, Messrs. G. Jayatilika and Halpe as well as to Mr. de Soysa; and to the 2,500 to 3,000 beaters and watchmen employed. These often had to go without food for long spells, because no rice could be had in the places they passed through; all their reward from Government is the food given to them while in the field, and all they ask now is exemption from the poll-tax of R1.50 per man for this year! This very moderate request we trust will be granted.

Nor should we forget those who provided for the comfort of visitors:—chief of whom, Mr. C. Byrde received well-merited thanks from a large number of ladies and gentlemen; Mr. Wheeler, also did a great deal although his enterprise was but poorly repaid, we fear; Mr. Moncoutier, whose arrangements for the officials at Hanwella and in upper Kraaltown were highly approved of, among the rest his Ceylon champagne (king coconut milk and champagne mixed.)

The shadows of evening were falling as we left Kraaltown, but I need say nothing of the journey back by night. Only it reminds me again of the considerable amount of "roughing" experienced by the planting visitors, the working officials and others: many went without food all day long, many watched all night, few slept over 4 hours nightly, many worked like heroes among the beaters, while "the forlorn hope" risked their lives among the elephants. Am I not right then in saying that many a short campaign has inflicted less of hardship and risk on those engaged in it?

The only regret now is that the Princes did not wait another 48 hours: the compensation is that the gallant, good-humoured Admiral Gore-Jones, and Commander Hill of the "Bacchante," with a very large number of visitors, both ladies and gentlemen, were there to see the sport out; that Capt. Hill can tell "the story" to the Princes as an eye-witness from first to last; and that the GOVERNOR, if so inclined, can obtain sets of admirable photographs from Messrs. Skeen and Lawton, which will afford accurate representations of the various occurrences after they left to the young Princes.\*

How many more of the six or seven wild ele-

\* Whether His Excellency could have kept the Princes longer or not if he liked, is a moot question: certain it is that Sir H. Robinson kept a more important Prince (the Duke of Edinburgh) several days at the Kurunegala kraal almost against his will. One story has it that Sir James Longden was not very well; another that provisions threatened to run short; another that the Princes' tutor wanted them specially to see Nuwara Eliya and its scenery. But all this together is no sufficient excuse for not keeping the Princes two days longer at the Kraal, and so completing the most notable of all experiences obtainable by visitors to Ceylon. The Governor would doubtless prefer a Kandian King's Kraal when the elephants were driven right to the esplanade and the monarch moved from his 'palace' to the 'Octagon' to witness the tying of the captives.

phants I left running about the kraal were noosed today (Saturday), and whether the "tusker" was tied, I have yet to learn, but my part as narrator is over, and I can only say I am not likely ever to forget

THE LABUGANKANDA KRAAL IN HONOUR OF PRINCES ALBERT VICTOR AND GEORGE IN 1882.

#### THE PRINCES ELK-HUNTING.

The trip to Nuwara Eliya has scarcely been so successful as it was hoped and expected it would be. The Princes and party lunched at Mr. de Caen's bungalow on their way up the Pass on Thursday, and dined at Queen's Cottage in the evening.

Last night at the Nuwara Eliya Club Prince Albert Victor said, after dinner, that he and his brother were much obliged to the planters for their kind hospitality.

Yesterday an attempt was made to get some elk hunting, but no elk were to be seen, although six couple of dogs evidently tracked one and are staying with the carcass, as the dogs have been missing since they were taken out yesterday. Lawn tennis was indulged in for some time, but Prince George was determined to have some sport, and, in company with Mr. Le Mesurier, managed to shoot a snipe. A buffalo, said to be a wild one, was also shot, but it is not positively asserted that the animal fell to the Prince's gun. The party left for Colombo early this morning, the younger Prince riding one of H. E. the Governor's horses down the Pass. Luncheon was partaken of at the Gampola resthouse. It is questionable whether Prince Albert Victor will be present at the ball tonight, as he was very tired before reaching Colombo this evening.

#### THE PRINCES AT GAMPOLA.

GAMPOLA, February 4th, 4.14 P. M.

The Royal party arrived from Nuwara Eliya at 12.10, Prince Albert Victor driving a pair in the mail coach, followed by Prince George and suite. Mr. Stewart's horses suited the occasion admirably. The party breakfasted at the resthouse, which was tastefully decorated. Crowds had gathered to welcome their Royal Highnesses. The return special train left at 1 o'clock amidst loud cheering. Messrs. Gibson and Templer, the stationmaster, telegraphmaster, and Abraham Muhandiram deserve praise for the loyal manner in which they joined together to make everything look gay and happy.

#### THE PRINCES AT NUWARA ELIYA.

After leaving Helbodde and halting for a short time at Rambodda in order to enjoy the beautiful scenery and the waterfall, which was in good form, the Princes and their party proceeded up the Pass. His Royal Highness Prince Edward drove up in a carriage and pair accompanied by Mr. Ravenscroft and Mr. Campbell, whilst Prince George rode up in company with Mr. Dalton, Captain Hayne and Mr. Hope.

The afternoon was cloudy and cool, and the summit of the Pass was reached by five o'clock, a number of the residents and visitors from the surrounding districts going out on the road to meet and escort them in. The party dined and slept at Queen's Cottage.

Before daybreak they were up and out: the morning was cool and bright, and a deliciously crisp air swept across the plain, as they made for the appointed spot, the skirts of the jungle just below Pedro, where Mr. Lutyens' strong pack was ready for work. The idea of trying the Elk plains had been abandoned, after some consideration, as not offering sufficient inducement in the brief time available. With the hounds were Messrs. Roper, Sampson, Gordon Cumming, Macintosh and Garforth, and immediately the Princes

reached the spot the hounds were put in and at once found an elk, running him along the range above the brewery and Lover's Leap. At one time he nearly broke just where Prince George stood waiting in the open with Messrs. Ravenscroft, Le Mesurier, Hubbard and Hearn with the seizers in hand. To their great disappointment, however, he turned and went up the range, and it is believed was run into below Pedro on the Rambodda side, as nothing more was seen or heard of him, and thus a fine chance was lost.

In the meantime a large party had assembled at the Kachcheri, where Prince Edward passed the morning in playing Tennis. Later on the younger Prince moved on to the Moon Plains in order to see the pariah pack draw the jungle on that side, but unfortunately with no better fortune. The forenoon passed, and the Princes proceeded to Mr. LeMesurier's quarters to inspect and admire his splendid elephant trophies, as magnificent as they are numerous. Later in the day Prince George enjoyed an hour's sport on the Nuwara Eliya snipe grounds, where he had very fair sport, considering the lateness of the season.

In the evening the Royal party dined at the Club, where about thirty members had the privilege of meeting them and spending a very pleasant evening. After the usual loyal toast, "the Queen," Prince Edward, in few well chosen words, thanked the members of the Club and the inhabitants of Nuwara Eliya for their very kind reception, at the same time expressing a hope that on some future occasion, he might have the pleasure of once more visiting them. The health of the royal guests was then drunk with "Highland Honors,"—"for they are jolly good fellows,"—and shortly afterwards they drove back to Queen's Cottage, leaving for Colombo on the following morning at half past 6 o'clock evidently well pleased with their mountain trip. Nothing could have exceeded the fineness of the weather on both Friday and Saturday.

### THE FINISH AT THE KRAAL

may be said to have occurred when "the tail piece" was presented to one of the Princes and their Royal Highnesses turned their backs on elephants, which had shewn more bumptiousness than loyalty. The *hoi polloi* who remained, however, were treated to more last scenes of the drama, including the unexpected, and, we should say, the unprecedented incident of the liberation of the imprisoned herd by that same eccentric tusker, who, not being able to secure slavery or death for himself, bestowed liberty on his fellows—whether actuated by pure "cussedness" or the highest form of elephantine benevolence and patriotism, who can say? There must be something uncanny about that marplot elephant and his doings. To explain such difficulties as that of a priest making a fool of himself by an exhibition of the silliest vanity, and another falling in love with a preposterously fat woman, while properly he ought not to be able to tell whether a woman had flesh on or merely walked about in her bones, as Sydney Smith proposed to do in the sultry weather,—to explain such anomalies, Buddha had always ready the easy reference to a previous state of existence, when

the one priest was a peacock who on the day of his marriage to the golden goose, made as great a display of himself as Judge Berwick makes of himself when Europeans happen to step into his court; while the fact of the other priest having found his affinity in the fat "vrow," was traceable to his own previous-birth position as an obese pig. Why should not the reverse process take place, so that the sagacious tusker of the memorable Kraal of 1882 may be the avatar of a practised elephant snarer! The last we heard of him was that Messrs. Walter Agar and James Munro were in hot pursuit of his tusks and tail. Another unexampled incident, we should say, was that of the lady who went into semi-hysterics inside a kraal where one wild elephant, it is true, lay dead, but where half-a-dozen were at large and ready to charge their human enemies, as they proved. Amongst those who by his example, encouraged this lady to place herself in a position of so much danger, must be ranked, we fear, our correspondent. He is usually distinguished for Scotch caution. He has "given hostages to fortune" for he is the husband of a wife who is all that a wife should be, and the father of a family "just perfect." Where he ventured the lady thought she might venture. But although she might suppose that his life was assured, she could not have had before her mind's eye the fact that he was THE SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF A NEWSPAPER! bound to do or die in "the pursuit of knowledge under difficulties"—so much so that accompanying a forlorn hope into "the imminent deadly breach" would be as wise and as safe as accompanying the representative of a newspaper where information was to be obtained, even at the mouth, not of the cannon, but the elephant. But all is well that ends well. The same "little cherub" we spoke of was present to "keep watch for the life of poor Jack," and we are glad he took care of the venturesome lady also. The liberty so curiously bestowed on the captives by the mysterious tusker could not have been of long duration, for our latest intelligence is that eleven elephants were inside the kraal, including, no doubt, some of the "We are seven" herd. We should like to know the final fate of the bereaved calf, the plaintive cries of which, some of the visitors believe, attracted the tusker-deliverer to the kraal. It might have been as well if the Princes had given another day to the Kraal, for telegrams received as we write, indicate that they were playing tennis in our sanatorium, while the elk which ought to have come to their knife, was retiring in the opposite direction. "Things is contrary," as the old woman said, when the wind was in her face both going and returning. We are, of course, glad that our royal visitors have seen our beautiful sanatorium, lying under and amongst our highest mountains, but sambar deer are but deer on a large scale. An elephant "kraal," as we call it in Ceylon (keddah, in India), is a spectacle on

a scale grand enough to be exhibited before a Roman emperor and a Roman audience, such as used to crowd the Coliseum when it was in all its glory. Such a sight can rarely be seen more than once in a life time, and we are sorry the Princes did not see THE FINISH.

### “ IN HONOUR OF THE PRINCES.”

(From the *Ceylon Observer*, February 6, 1882.)

HANDSOME DONATION OF R1,000 TO THE COLOMBO FRIEND-IN-NEED SOCIETY BY MR. SAMPSON RAJAPAKSE, J, P. & C.

We have received today from the above-named gentleman a cheque for R1,000 as a donation to the funds of the deserving Colombo Friend-in-Need Society, to commemorate the visit to Ceylon of the two Royal Princes. It will be remembered that Mr. Rajapakse on the occasion of the visit of their royal Highnesses the Duke of Edinburgh and the Prince of Wales endowed “scholarships” and “exhibitions” in local colleges in honour of these events. So much liberality and public spirit deserve prominent mention and long may Mr. Rajapakse live to make so good a use of the wealth with which he has been endowed. The help to the Friend-in-Need funds comes at a peculiarly opportune time, and we have no doubt, a special vote of thanks will be passed in Committee to the donor.

### THE ELEPHANT KRAAL OF 1882.

GATHERING UP THE FRAGMENTS—THE CONCLUSION.

One incident of the charge was forgotten, namely, the narrow escape of Mr. Stewart, a visitor to the island, who, when he fell, along with so many more in the retreat, was nearest to the big female elephant, which passed very close to him, one foot according to an observer, being nearly on Mr. Stewart's prostrate form.

We ought to have noticed the presence of the Hon. the Tamil member of the Legislative Council at the kraal, who, on one day, at least, roughed it away out on the hill-side with a number of planters. Many of the people counted among the thousands present came from long distances—from Kurunegala on the one side, and the far South on the other, indicating the great interest of the mass of the Sinhalese in the sport. There could be no doubt of the interest felt in their work by the Chiefs and beaters, apart from the expected presence of royalty and vice-royalty. To get an occasional outing on the “corral” path with elephants is evidently a welcome break in the monotonous life of the Kandyan cultivator. Some of their brethren from the big town found the life even of visitors in jungle-quarters rather trying, as for example :—

Conversation overheard by a planter smoking in his verandah one evening, of TWO NATIVE GENTLEMEN walking past to their bungalow a little farther on :—

FIRST :—This won't do : I've done up !

SECOND :—“ Oh no ! I feel born to the life ! ”

The life generally was most pleasant as a change

from the city, and from the comparative seclusion of coffee plantations. That so much trouble should have been taken for the prospect of a visit of less than three days is quite wonderful. “A week for the kraal” should be the very minimum on any future occasion. One feels quite sorry to think of the very temporary use to which the really handsome and comfortable talipot country-house fitted up for the Governor and Princes was put : the ridge on which this was placed along with a number of other official residence, was a most attractive and healthy spot, intersected with convenient paths, pleasantly shaded, all the large trees having been left and with splendid outlooks over the low-country up to the Adam's Peak range. To vary the monotony while waiting for the kraal there ought to have been some means of getting up an evening entertainment at which the princes and all the respectable visitors could have attended : a concert, or amateur theatricals could readily have been given in a room which the ingenuity of the architect of Kraaltown, was equal to making commodious enough. Some of the visitors had good snipe shooting in the neighbourhood while the “drive” was going on.

A few objections were offered to the situation of the kraal itself—one being that the elephants had to be driven up to the valley in which it was placed, but it seemed to us very well chosen, so far as its immediate surroundings were concerned, and no doubt the Chiefs themselves were consulted in the election. The steep sides of the hills rising almost from each side of the kraal afforded a splendid outlook to the thousands of spectators who added much to the animation of the scene with their parti-coloured garments and bright colours. We heard that the material of the houses and huts is to be utilized for the Labugama waterworks close by in housing overseers, labourers, &c. We missed the fine waterfall on the Labugama side of the kraal, the road past it—on which Mr. Wheeler proposed placing a refreshment room—having been superseded by the shorter path up to Kraaltown afterward opened. A couple of gentlemen who came to the kraal via Kotte and Bopé were glad to find that the Surveyor General's map published by us was wrong in one particular, namely that they had a driving instead of a bridle road from Bopé almost to the site of the reservoir to be. We should not omit reference to the delightfully situated and very comfortable temporary hotel put up by Mudaliyar Amarasekara with so much spirit, (to take the place of the resthouse temporarily closed to the public) about two miles beyond Hanwella. The situation on a high bank overlooking the Wakoya, with paddy-fields in full growth and tenderest green beyond, backed by the forest of palms, was most gratefully refreshing to the eye of the traveller. Many expressed the wish that this resting-place were some miles nearer the kraal so that they could have made it their headquarters.—The latest and last news of the kraal is contained in the report of a correspondent writing on Saturday evening :—

LABUGAMA, 4th Feb. 1882.

Most of the visitors having left yesterday, the attendance at the Kraal this morning was very small. Ten planters were the only European spectators.

Sport commenced by recapturing two of yesterday's “tie-ups” that had broken away during the night.

One had chewed his rope through; the other had broken his ropes, assisted probably by the tusks of the tusker. Two more small-sized elephants were noosed by Siffño Appu, and then the whole "bag" was put up to auction, fetching from R60 for the orphan "punchi" to R340 for one of the largest.

An hour or two was spent in trying after a calf, but it escaped all the attempts to put the noose on, its mother turning on the noosers several times.

At 2 p. m. all the noosers had retired, and, the watchmen being removed, the large elephants were left to themselves—a liberty which they soon took advantage of. Led by the tusker, they approached the stockade and made several efforts to butt it down. These being unsuccessful, the tusker stood up on one of the lower bars, and, with his tusks, smashed the top bar, and then with his feet smashed down the lower bars. Through the gap thus made, the whole herd encouraged by a few "hari, hari, aliyas" from the spectators, bolted into the jungle to return to their homes sadder, thinner, and wiser elephants.

From another quarter we learn that an attempt was made to drive the tusker into a trap set for him, but without success. The question is whether he should not have been shot? He would seem to be just the sort of animal to prowl about and do harm to native fields and gardens. That elephants do much mischief in that way must never be forgotten. Among the buyers of the elephants caught were Mr de Souza, Maha Mudaliyar Bandaranayaka's son, and a chetty dealer. Mr. C. S. Agar took one little calf. It is gratifying to learn how old sportsmen not present at this kraal, have enjoyed the account of the exciting sport on the last two days. One gentleman, who has seldom been absent before, and who has often written about kraals and sport in our jungle, declares he could not rest until he had read "all about" Thursday's and Friday's proceedings twice over!

THE PRINCES' BALL, or rather the Ball in honour of the Princes, at Queen's House, on Saturday night, was, apart from the unfortunate absence, from excessive fatigue, of Prince Edward, a pleasing success. Amongst the large number present, naval and military uniforms were conspicuous and gave additional brightness to a scene already bright and fair. The joke was that on this occasion the noses of the regulars were put out of joint by the volunteers, who shewed in great force. If they held their heads a little high they had the excuse, not only of stiff drill, but of the consciousness that the royal father of the royal princes in whose honour the entertainment was given was *their* Colonel! But the regulars took the disjoining of their nasal organs very goodnatureedly, and harmony as well as sweet strains of music prevailed, to the exclusion of any jarring chord. A gentleman present told us that the tiger and the lamb had come to Queen's House in one carriage, meaning by the tiger the Commander of the military forces in Ceylon, and by the lamb the rather militant chief pastor of the Anglican Church. He wished us to work out the joke, but we do not see it. Had the two dignitaries waltzed together "in linked sweetness long drawn out" the case would have been different. A greater joke to our mind was to see a certain district judge trying his hardest

to look modest as if he were not thinking: "This crowd of mediocrities do not seem to be aware that the greatest lawyer of this or any age has honoured them with his presence."—It is but fair to the Governor to remark that invitations to the ball were printed for 2nd Feb. more than a month ago, and the change of date was printed on the envelopes of the invitations issued.

#### THE BALL AT QUEEN'S HOUSE

on Saturday night was well attended, and very successful. Capt. Hayne, A. D. C., and Mr. Adrian Hope, P. S., had made all needful arrangements for the comfort of guests, who were present to the number of over 400 by 9 p.m. At 9.15 Prince George arrived, accompanied by Capt. Gwatkin, A. D. C. Prince Albert Victor, being tired, did not attend the ball. Prince George was received by H. E. the Governor, and dancing commenced at once, the Prince dancing the first quadrille with Lady Longden. Amongst the other ladies who had the honor of dancing with the Prince were Lady and Miss Lefroy, Mrs. Bruce, Mrs. Gwatkin and Miss Vane. At 11.45 Prince George took leave of H. E. and Lady Longden with Lord C. Scott and Capt. Durrant and was accompanied to the Wharf by Capt. G. L. Gwatkin, A. D. C., and Mr. Hope, P. S., where he embarked. The ball broke up punctually at 12 o'clock.

The church service was conducted on board the "Bacchante" on Sunday morning by the Bishop.

The "Bacchante" and "Cleopatra" sailed this morning at 9.30 o'clock.

*To the Editor of the "Ceylon Observer."*

#### THE PRINCES' VISIT TO KANDY.

February 4th.

DEAR SIR,—In your account of the Princes in Kandy, in the *Observer* of 1st instant, you say, in a foot-note, that the Rev. Mr. Dalton gets the credit of having said that he never saw such docile asses as the planters who dragged the Princes' carriage to the Pavilion.

No doubt the story originated in this way. When the Princes stepped out of the carriage, at the Pavilion, the Rev. Mr. Garrett in a short speech said their highnesses had requested him to thank us on their behalf for the energy and enthusiasm we had shewn, and that they never had the pleasure of being dragged by better *donkeys*. Hardly any one present knew Mr. Garrett, and therefore took him for the Rev. Mr. Dalton.—Yours faithfully,

ONE OF THE DONKEYS.

#### CLOSING AND SUCCESSFUL SCENES OF THE ELEPHANT KRAAL OF 1882.

The Kraal—the closing scenes of which, full of animation heightened by very considerable danger and distinguished by good-humoured endurance of exposure to elemental discomfort and deprivation of food and changes of clothing, were so fully and strikingly detailed by our Special Correspondent in Saturday's issue—will continue to be known in history, no doubt, as THE YOUNG PRINCES' KRAAL. But for the over-

shadowing presence of royalty, however, we suspect the application would be THE ADMIRAL GORE-JONES' KRAAL. The Princes, unfortunately, left before the real sport, in regard to which the disappointment was still more complete, although the younger Prince did shoot a snipe, and an unfortunate, or shall we say privileged, buffalo met his fate in the presence of royalty. We hope the Princes found amends in the grand scenery of the Ramboda Pass and the bracing air of Nuwara Eliya. But the Admiral, with the Commander of the "Bacchante" and other naval officers, stuck to the Kraal with the tenacity and perseverance for which British sailors are distinguished, and they had their reward. The Admiral is emphatic in the declaration that he "never enjoyed anything more during his life." At this no one who has witnessed a finally successful elephant kraal, success atoning for all *contretenps*, will feel surprise. The incidents of the enclosure and final capture of the huge animals are so striking, so interesting,—in some cases ranging from the extremely amusing to the intensely pathetic. On this occasion, as on others the sublime putting forth of energy in defence of liberty and life by the larger elephants was parodied by the pettish charges and plaintive bellowings of the calves, while an instance of death from a broken heart, such as Tennent so tenderly described, was not wanting. It will be seen, too, that much of the delay in the closing operation of forcing the elephants into the kraal, even in the face of the unprecedented aid of a perfect corps of European volunteer beaters, was due to the sagacious horror of the blood of a slaughtered brother evinced by the beleaguered animals. Our correspondent has shewn, too, that if the European volunteers shewed themselves brave to rashness the elephants shewed fight after a fashion which gave the full excitement of danger to the mimic warfare, between the animal lords of the forest and "the lords of creation." Very human-like, in many respects, was the conduct of the elephants: witness the salaaming of the tame one in response to the applause of those who witnessed his attack on a wild brother. Very touching is the account of the wee wild elephant attempting to conciliate the tame ones by sprinkling them with that element which is so grateful to their kind, that amongst the other disastrous effects of the fierce rain-storm it is truly stated was the lessened tendency of the wild elephants to enter the kraal. In all kraals care is taken to have a pool of water, the sight of which generally lures the worn and wearied herd to their fate. In this case the driven elephants were refreshed in the crisis of their fate, as the European volunteer beaters experienced when they made "a strategic movement in the face of the enemy" which was accompanied by much loss of dignity (not to speak of the dropping of a gold watch) and

came nigh being attended with loss of life. Amusing it is too that individuals from the separate herds of elephants kept as much aloof from each other as if they had been Jews and Samaritans who have no dealings the one with the other; reviving associations of via Southampton and via Marseilles passengers of the now olden time, who kept aloof from each other during whole voyages from Suez to Ceylon or India, because they had not been formally introduced to each other. If the elephants imitated some of the characteristics of humanity, the human beings engaged in their capture shewed "a good deal of human nature." Native chiefs of neighbouring districts are not famous for brotherly feeling and harmony of action, and in the case of the Sabaragamuwa (Saffragam) chiefs Iddamaloda and Ekneligoda, feud was likely to be intensified into virulence by a well-known family "alliance," which, whether "holy" or not, ended unhappily. At one time "the stars in their courses" seemed to fight against the success of the Kraal. February is usually our driest month in Ceylon, and although we know that if rain is to be expected anywhere at any season it is within the influence of the Peak ranges,—and Labugama fulfils that condition,—yet we certainly could not have suspected the occurrence of the abnormal rain-storm which placed *hors de combat* the native beaters, already worn-out by their long-continued struggles through a bamboo undergrowth, dense as "cane brake," or what is known in Tasmania as "horizontal," and slippery as ice. British pluck then came characteristically to the rescue and secured the final success of the Kraal, by rashness the result of ignorance as well as innate daring. Dirt as well as danger had to be endured, for such was the effect of the deluge of rain in converting soft soil into slush, that of one European the affecting record is that "he went in white and came out black." But *that* black we are glad to believe is as little of a *fast* colour as the dye in many silks, which leaving Europe with the lustre of jet reach Ceylon as rusty if a weathered plate of iron had been in contact with them. Excellent photographs were taken of the varied scenes, picturesque, pathetic and humorous, which will be cherished as souvenirs of the kraal. To shew how the incidents of kraals essentially repeat themselves, we have merely to recall the fact, with reference to the breaking of native crockery at Labugama as a punishment for misconduct in the beat, that a native gun was smashed for a similar reason at the Kuruegala kraal of 1866. On that occasion we had to wait not two days but more than a week before a drive in, followed by successful noosing, could be effected. *Festina lente* must be the motto of successful kraalers (or *crawlers*) of the ponderous elephant. No doubt he is a useful feller of forest, but as his feed costs, generally, at least 5s per diem, we fear he would not take a contract at a

rate which would cover lopping, heaping and burning and yet not exceed the usual total of R20 per acre. It would be very interesting, however, if Mr. de Soysa favoured us and the public with details of the industrial operations of his elephants and the cost in money. Twice only, we think, during our residence in Ceylon have we seen elephants engaged in ploughing: once on a portion of old Sinhapitiya coffee estate (the first opened in Ceylon) near Gampola; the other time in preparing for the culture of guinea grass that portion of "the Galle Buck" immediately behind the old lighthouse and Queen's House. How little was it then imagined (more than forty years ago) that where elephants drew the plough and where guinea grass grew there would railway trains run laden with masses of gneiss from a quarry at Mahara, conveyed to a grand breakwater off Colombo, between cemented platforms covered with grand beton blocks made for the purpose of crowning and binding the *pierre perdue* superstructure, which has even now converted Colombo into a harbour giving shelter not to the ships of commerce alone but to those of the royal navy of Britain.

The "fair women and brave men" from far-off countries and differing climes, for whom "Kraaltown" arose in the jungle, and who for a few days made it the abode of active thought, warm emotion, fluent (sometimes emphatic) speech, hilarious laughter varied by querulous complaint, and the voice of song, loud and cheerful and echo-awakening, if not always harmonious as the *vox humana* of an organ played by a master-hand, have dispersed, and soon "the last man," as he pensively surveys the scene of scattered cadjans, torn talipots, broken crockery, and abandoned bottles, may say or sing:—

I feel like one who treads alone  
Some banquet-hall deserted;  
Whose lights are fled, whose garlands dead,  
And all but he departed.

For pearl fisheries and captured elephants, Ceylon was and has been famous "before antiquity had well begun," and even since, and the characteristics of teeming human life and activity and noise,

to be, at intervals, succeeded by desertion, desolation and silence, are common to both. But from adverse conditions of climate, distance, means of communication and the perhaps less exciting incidents of the "harvest of the sea" and "the feast of shells," we do not suppose that for hundreds of non-official Europeans who have flocked to elephant kraals, there have been more than units at the scene of the pearl fisheries. And, in the case of the rare exceptions, we do not suppose the mind of even one has been agitated with the thought: "Here are favorable conditions for European residence and enterprise." Very different was the case, we suspect, with many visitors to the late kraal in the neighbourhood of the great reservoir, soon to be connected with the capital of Ceylon by a chain of pipes conveying the mountain-born water-supply,—fresh and clear and pure, for the use of a large and rapidly increasing population. To the reservoir there *must* be good means of communication, and all around it are well-watered hills and valleys, with soil and climate suited for the culture of those "new products"—Liberian coffee, cacao, cardamoms &c.—which are justly objects of so much attention to old "chums" as well as new arrivals. The conditions we have mentioned, we feel perfectly certain, have been carefully noted, by many a planter present at the kraal who "though on pleasure he was bent" had yet "a frugal" or rather a far-seeing mind and whose song on departing, addressed to the hills and valleys and streams, was:—

"Ye have not seen the last of my coolies and me."

From evanescent "Kraaltown" of 1882 and the presence at its scenes of so many cool, calculating and experienced as well as brave and jolly planters, will we venture to predict, arise a new and important planting district, which by anticipation we shall name

#### THE LABUGAMA PRINCIPALITY!

in honour of the British Princes who "came and saw" and "conquered" the good-will of the royal mother's subjects, if they did not see quite so much of the conquering of the elephants as we could wish.



Digitized by Google

















































































