

TRAVELS  
IN  
SOUTH AFRICA,  
UNDERTAKEN AT THE REQUEST  
OF THE  
LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY;  
BEING  
A NARRATIVE OF  
A SECOND JOURNEY  
IN THE  
INTERIOR OF THAT COUNTRY.

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BY THE  
REV. JOHN CAMPBELL.

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WITH A MAP AND COLOURED PRINTS.

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VOL. I.

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1822.

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been appointed Regent during his minority. He commanded an expedition against a nation called Motsemanyanai, near the Marootzee country, in which he and many of the people lost their lives. Kossie, not being circumcised, could not assume the government, but his uncle Maquotoo (not the oracle of that name) ruled on his behalf till he should be circumcised. His younger uncle Mungallee, who is a handsome looking man, despised Kossie on account of his small stature and mild temper, and concluded that his mental powers were defective. He therefore aspired at the sovereignty himself, and, on the death of a rhinoceros, he privately took the breast of that animal, which was tantamount to his declaring himself king. Kossie pretended not to observe it, but soon after, with the advice of some of the captains, he seized a number of calves, the property of Mungallee, which he carried off and lodged in his own cattle kraal, and placed himself at the door, daring Mungallee to take them away. Mungallee, finding upon inquiry that the friends of Kossie were more numerous and powerful than he had supposed, thought it prudent to overlook the capture of his calves. Ever since this occurrence the power of Kossie has not been disputed. He lately married a female named Sekantshai.

In the morning, while I was walking on the

N. W. side of the town, I counted eleven villages or districts, and in the evening, to the S. E., eighteen districts; several of these were not inferior in point of extent to the king's district, so that the population may probably amount to ten or twelve thousand, and their corn-fields are at least twenty miles in circumference. They have likewise many out-posts for cattle, at all of which there are inhabitants.

The Hottentots who guarded the oxen during the day shot a redbok, and those who went to hunt the rhinoceros killed two buffaloes and wounded a rhinoceros. One of the men [Jager] nearly lost his life by the latter. Two of those huge and ferocious animals came running towards him, when he tried to fire at them, but his piece would not go off; he then fled into a bush, and was furiously pursued by one of these formidable creatures, which tore up the ground with its powerful horn as it advanced. After having endeavoured to strike the terrified hunter with its horn, the rhinoceros was compelled, by the violence with which it ran, to leap over the object of its rage, who was thus enabled to effect his escape before the irritated animal could stop and turn round its huge and unwieldy body. A Matchappee wounded two, and, expecting at least one of them would fall, he followed them till

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nearly sunset, when he gave up the chase and returned to the town.

When the King was informed of the slaughter of the two buffaloes, it excited in him the most unfeigned joy; he said he meant to make me a present of an ox. As the road was too rocky for the waggons, he engaged to send pack-oxen in the morning for the carcasses of the buffaloes.

The Mashows calculate by nights, not by days as in Britain; they said it would take six or seven nights to travel to the Marootzee. While walking in the town some of the people addressed us by a word, which signified Dear Friends. A hungry Mashow ran off with the carcase of a redbok that had been shot, but some of our Hottentots pursued and caught the thief, and brought back the carcase.

Kossie and his uncle Mungallee made us a present of two oxen, as expressive of their gratitude for the promise I had given of my endeavour to obtain Missionaries to dwell among them.

A message came from the King to the people in the square near the waggons, requiring some men to come and assist him in punishing a criminal.

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ana Bushmen, a people greatly despised by all the surrounding tribes. Were Missionaries to collect them into a nation, they would consider it a favor to be instructed; while the Bootshuana and Morolong nations, having pride of rank, think they are doing a favor to the Missionaries, when they listen to their instructions.

Two hills were seen to the N. E., about twenty miles distant. At noon we crossed a small river, running to the westward, called the Musaree, the sides of which were so steep, that we found some difficulty in getting the waggons across it. Shortly after crossing the Musaree I had an opportunity, for the first time, of seeing the rhinoceros. It passed within two hundred yards of the waggons; a few minutes afterwards a man came with the information that they had shot one in the same direction in which it had run, so it probably was the same animal I had seen. On reaching the place where it lay, I was astonished at its bulk, being eleven feet long; six feet in height; four feet broad, or in thickness; three feet from the tip of the nose to the ears; length of the fore legs two feet; circumference of the upper part of the fore leg three feet; length of the hind leg three feet; and its circumference at the upper part three and a half feet; the circumference of the body about eleven feet. The skin was dark brown, resembling tanned leather, about an inch

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in thickness, and smooth without hair. It had two horns, the one immediately behind the other, the front horn was about fourteen inches long, the other considerably shorter, but those of the male are much larger. The sight of so huge a carcase to eat delighted the natives who were with us. Four different parties, who travelled with us, began instantly to cut it up, each party carrying portions to their own heap as fast as they could. Some being more expeditious than others, excited jealousy, and soon caused a frightful uproar. Perhaps twenty tongues were bawling out at one time, one of which by itself seemed sufficient to deafen an ox. Not a word was spoken in jest, all were deeply serious. Some severe strokes with sticks were dealt among them by the leaders of the parties, but in the midst of all this hideous confusion, a circumstance occurred which instantly produced universal silence and amazement. A Mashow happening to pierce through the animal's side with his knife, the fixed air from the swollen carcase rushed out with noise and violence, which spread terror, and commanded silence for perhaps a minute; they then resumed the same bustle and uproar. In less than an hour every inch of that monstrous creature was carried off, and nothing but a pool of blood left behind. Their rage and fury, during the struggle for flesh, gave them such a ferocity of countenance that I

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could recognise only a few of them, and actually inquired if these people belonged to our party, or if they had come from some neighbouring kraal.

From the time of our leaving Mashow we were unacquainted with the number of persons that were travelling with us, but this evening the company halted nearer to each other than usual. There were fifteen fires, around each of which were little companies, roasting, boiling, and devouring flesh with disgusting voraciousness. We counted eighty-nine persons present, including ourselves, but without the Marootzee party, whom we expected every hour to rejoin us from Mashow, and which would make the number more than a hundred.

A little before we halted, we saw two rhinoceroses running before the waggons. We wounded also a quacha, which was afterwards found dead by Pelangye and his men. They endeavoured to conceal this circumstance from the others. The fact is, they had overheard our Hottentots tell us the evening before that they had severely wounded a quacha, and that he must have died; but daylight being nearly over, they thought it too late to pursue him. Pelangye, a tall, powerful man, who was captain of the Matchappees from Old Lattakoo, clever, and possessed of much

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cunning, dispatched a party in search of the quacha after midnight, it being clear moon-light. They were successful in finding the animal lying dead, and, on cutting it in pieces, quietly brought it to their temporary inclosure, near the waggons, before the others were awake. However, the others soon discovered what had taken place.

After all had eaten heartily of the rhinoceros's flesh at the fifteen fires, a man from a distant part called aloud, so as to be heard by all, owing to the stillness of the night, "I smell quacha flesh, who has it?" Pelangye hearing the question, and probably knowing that the business was discovered, immediately answered "We have got it." "Where did you get it?" asked the same man with a loud voice. "In the field." "Did you give the Makooa-Shou\* [the white men] the bullet that was in it?" Had Pelangye acknowledged a bullet to have been in it, this would have proved that it had been shot, and ought to be divided as public property. Perceiving the artfulness of the question, he evaded it by simply answering, "We found it dead in the field." "Ay, ay, dead

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\* The Bootshuanas call all civilized persons, or persons dressing like them, or possessing articles like them, such as Griquas and Hottentots, Makooa; white men they call Makooa-Shou.



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in the field ! Did it die without a bullet ?” “ There was no bullet.” “ So we shall now find quachas dead in the field without bullets ! shall we ?” Here the conversation ended without a direct accusation, as the accuser had no proof to adduce that the quacha was shot, it having been cut in pieces in the field, and perhaps that part of the skin, through which the bullet entered, thrown away. However, all heard the conversation, and considered the transaction to be a nefarious one.

Our people, during their ranging for game, met various parties of children belonging to Bootshuana Bushmen, collecting gum from the mimosa tree to eat ; a sign of a scarcity of provisions, for, though the gum supports life, they have an idea that when taken in quantities it is injurious to their constitutions.

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## CHAP. XIX.

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### THE SABBATH—ARRIVAL OF THE MAROOTZEE, AND SUNDRY OCCURRENCES ON THE JOURNEY FROM MASHOW TO KURREECHANE.

MAY 1st.

**DURING** the night many lions were heard roaring around, and in the morning three were seen prowling very near the waggons. The shooting of the rhinoceros on the Saturday disposed all the people to rest with us on the Sabbath without grumbling,

Comparatively few would leave the flesh-pots to attend the morning worship at eleven A. M. ; however all the captains (six or seven) attended, but from what principle they, and not the others, I could not tell.

Walking to a little distance, I met eight or nine small parties of Marootzee from Mashow, who proposed to return with us to their native town. Though thirty-nine joined us, it was found that

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the real cause of their not proceeding to Lattakoo arose from the dread of being attacked by the Bushmen in that direction. They had not been able to prevail on any of the Mashows or the Tammahas to accompany them, wherefore they judged it more prudent to wait our return, and travel under our protection.

On meeting them they saluted me with the word *murella*; then pointing to the flatness of their bellies, called out "Hunger!" Perhaps they had eaten little at Mashow, being a time of scarcity, and had found less upon the road.

I was sorry to witness the want of feeling in our friend Munameets upon this occasion. He came into the tent and told us that one of the Marootzee had a battle-axe which he liked, or rather coveted; that the man was willing to part with it for a piece of flesh; that the flesh of which he ate belonged to his party, that is, to himself and his servants; he said he would give a piece of his meat, but he wished to have a piece of our's to add to it, in order to purchase the axe. Perhaps he and his few people had upwards of a hundred and fifty pounds of meat exposed to the air on the trees, before our eyes, when he made this request. We could not countenance him in taking advantage of the distress of the Marootzees. We gave them a portion of our

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meat, and some of the other parties, imitating our example, also gave them a little out of their abundance. We resolved that the Marootzee should have a good share of the next rhinoceros that might be shot. Our number now amounted to one hundred and twenty eight, all dependant on our powder and lead, and belonging to four different nations.

The legs and feet of the rhinoceros, being of a huge size, require to be cooked in an oven, and the following curious method is adopted for the purpose :---The ants' nests are composed of hard clay, shaped like a baker's oven, and are from two to three feet in height. Several of these were excavated by the people early in the morning, and their innumerable population destroyed. The space thus obtained was filled with lighted fuel, till the bottom and sides became red hot within. The embers of the wood were then removed, the leg or foot of the rhinoceros introduced, and the door closed up with heated clay and embers. Fire was also made on the outside over the nests, and the flesh was allowed to remain in it for several hours. Food cooked in this way is highly relished by all the tribes. Therm. at noon 74. Cloudy---distant thunder.

When we were visiting the people at the fires after sunset, a Marootzee, pointing to the upper

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2nd. Many lions were heard prowling around the waggons during the night; we departed at sunrise, half-past six A.M. There was a thick fog, which the rays of the sun caused to appear like the falling of extremely small rain. The grass was loaded with dew. We expected to breakfast on the banks of the Molopo River; but it is difficult to ascertain distance, when described by people who never heard of miles, hours, or minutes. Our direction lay due east; the soil was black; trees were thinly scattered over the grassy plain, and some of the grass was three and four feet high. At nine A.M. we reached the Molopo River, the last point from whence any intelligence ever came from Cowen, Donovan, and the soldiers of the Cape regiment, who crossed it fourteen years before. It was about ten yards wide, and in some parts two feet deep; the bottom was stony, but the water clear and well tasted. No trees grew on either side nearer than five hundred yards, but reeds were in great abundance. The natives said the source was but a little higher up, and its course due west. We halted on the northern bank, and were highly gratified with the water. This river has not yet found its way into the maps of geographers.

I observed the pack-oxen of the Marootzee were loaded with the undressed skins of animals,

Maketze, grandson of Makrakka, observed to me, when visiting his fire, that the flesh was very lean, he should like fatter flesh. He said so after being crammed, having eaten the whole day. A Mashow told me he was hungry yet. Not understanding what he said, I gave him the first word in his language that occurred to me, which was *munatee*, or *good*. The man and all the party were highly entertained at my mistake, and cried out *nama munatee*, meat is good !

A Matchappee from Lattakoo followed me while making these visits, and had something to say to every company. He told a Marootzee company that I was a great king, come from a far country to see them. Then they gave so significant a look after he had spoken, that it prompted me to inquire what he had said.

A company of Marootzee were eating boiled Caffre corn out of a wooden dish. The captain held the dish in one hand, and a spoon in the other made of the same materials, with which he ate. The rest of the company dipped their hands in the dish, and swallowed it as fast as they could. I tasted it, and found it good. They were pleased by my doing so. One party remarked among themselves, that we were kind people in coming to visit them at their fires.

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which they had purchased from the Tammaha at Meribohwhey. It was understood that these skins were intended as articles of barter with the nations to the eastward of the Marootzee, in the direction of the Portuguese settlements.

Munameets, who complained at the commencement of the journey of the jolting of the waggon, never afterwards ventured into it, but walked the whole way.

We left the Molopo at noon, (Therm. 72, broken clouds,) and entered upon a plain; for some time there were clumps of trees at a considerable distance from each other; then only grass, bounded by trees at a greater distance; occasionally we passed over pavements of granite, each flag having grass growing around it. When walking among the long grass, we were obliged to proceed with great caution, lest we should tread upon serpents, which abound in these parts. The chief danger from serpents in this country arises from treading on them while concealed by the grass; in which case they will instantly bite the unintentional aggressor. In allusion to such an occurrence, our Lord said to the seventy disciples whom he sent out to preach his gospel, (Luke x. 19,) "Behold, I give you power to *tread* on serpents and scorpions"---"and nothing shall by any means hurt you." Travelling in the plain



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without trees we had the first full view of our whole caravan. Waggon, men, women, children, oxen, and sheep, in different companies, extended about a mile. Forty-five loaded pack-oxen behind each other, occupied a considerable space. All the men carried assagais, and the women either children, or something else, on their backs, shoulders, or heads. On viewing them, I could not help wishing that all the Missionary Society had been present to witness so singular a scene; Hottentots, Matchappes, Tammahas, Mashows, and Marootzees, all exhibiting something different in their persons, dress, or implements, &c.

We passed two rhinoceroses, quietly feeding on the side of a low hill about half a mile to the left. I perceived, by means of my glass, that one of them was of an enormous size. The natives who were with us longed for their carcasses, but all our shooters were out of sight. However, one of the natives went to have a throw at them with his assagai; to induce us to halt, many of the people, particularly the Marootzee, assured us we could not reach water that night; but if we halted where we were, we should find water in the neighbourhood. We paused for a few minutes to witness the man's attack upon the rhinoceroses. He missed them, and fled for refuge to a large bush. On seeing this, the people went

willingly forward without expressing any farther doubt about coming to water; which indeed we found in about an hour, viz. at five P. M., and remained there for the night. A lie, as I have before observed, is esteemed as nothing, if thereby they can gain their point.

Some ravens hovered above us during the whole stage, smelling the meat with which a part of the oxen were loaded. We were in sight of a long range of hills, running from west to east; and over them we were told it was necessary to go before we could reach the Marootzee country.

Two of our Hottentots, who had been searching for game, did not return before it was dark, which made us feel rather anxious for their safety. Whips were smacked in every direction, the sound of which could be heard two miles off; a musket also was fired to let them know where we were; but there was no appearance of them till nine P. M., when they arrived with the horses. They spoke not a word, nor was a question asked by their companions till about two minutes after they had taken their seats by the fire, when they were asked where they had been. This apparent indifference is the Hottentot fashion, and it is only a fashion; for both parties are alike anxious, the one to tell and the other to hear. The Hot-

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tentots, when custom would allow them to open their mouths, told their story with much eagerness and fluency. They had searched for us three or four hours; had come in the dark upon a rhinoceros, who, from the suddenness of their appearance, was as much alarmed as they were, so that they mutually fled from each other.

We went forward at seven A.M., travelling over a rocky pavement. At nine A.M. we came to a lake of fine water, in which were reeds eight and nine feet high. A stream running in an *easterly* direction proceeded from it. We travelled for an hour on most dangerous ground for waggons, over rocks of iron stone, firmly fastened in the ground; many of them were a foot above it, with sharp sides and projecting points. I was very apprehensive that some of the wheels would be broken. The noise proceeding from the collision of the wheels against the rocks, began to abate in an hour. About ten A.M., though the ground presented the appearance of a close pavement, it became considerably smoother and easier for the waggons. At eleven A.M. we reached a refreshing fountain on the gentle declivity of a low hill, among tall grass, which we called Philip Fountain. After breakfast I examined this fountain. It proceeds from large loose rocks, completely shaded from the sun's rays, by a clump of evergreen trees of the

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CHAP. XXIV.

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RETURN FROM KURREECHANE TO MASHOW.

**T**HE day of our departure from Kurreechane was delightful, though it was winter. We were advised to cross the mountains by a different route from that by which we came. It was about six miles more to the westward, and though not so full of fine scenery, was much better for the waggons. At four P. M. we halted by the side of the river, which we had passed the day before our arrival at Kurreechane.

About sunset a large male rhinoceros was observed by one of the Hottentots approaching the water to drink. After drinking he came towards the very bush in which the Hottentot was concealed; this allowed him to take a good aim, and he shot the animal through the heart. The rhinoceros ran under a tree, and, after standing a little

time, fell down and expired. The carcass was left to be cut up in the morning, but the intelligence gave general satisfaction to all the people who followed us.

13th. In the morning I went to the place where the carcass of the rhinoceros lay, and reached it about half past eight. The oxen grazed around during the process of cutting up the animal. Much blood was lying about, and a quacha that had been wounded was found dead near it. Though a male rhinoceros it was not so large as they generally are. It measured in length ten feet and a half, the circumference of the body was twelve feet, the eyes were placed about fourteen inches before the ears. At eleven A. M. the carcass being cut up and fastened on the backs of oxen, we went forward to get over a second row of hills. Thunder and rain came on while we were ascending the pass, and increased as we approached the summit; the heavy fall of rain obliged us twice to halt, but the ground being rocky did not become slippery, else our oxen could not have proceeded. At four P. M. we entered upon our former track, and halted near Philip Fountain. The rain fell in torrents, and the thunder rolled from one end of the heavens to the other. Happily there was an old Marootzee cattle-place, and a few low huts left standing, which afforded some shelter. A rhinoceros

was wounded not far from the waggons, but got off.

It was as dark, cold and gloomy as any winter night in Britain, and torrents of rain continued to fall till about nine p. m. when the clouds began to break and the stars to appear. Our Matchappees and Mashows, though they had plenty of flesh, were very dull, not a whisper was to be heard among them. No kind of weather is more depressing to this people than rain. The sight of them excited pity; they reminded me of the appearance of the poultry in England during rain.

Pelangye having rather recommended our going to Makkabba, in consequence of his invitation, had been teased by Munameets and others, as a friend of what they called the *rogue* Makkabba. Perceiving that his conduct affected his political character as a captain of the Matchappees, he had been trying to regain it ever since, by telling us, in the hearing of the others, that Makkabba was a great rogue, and every thing that was bad. I believe his only reason for wishing us to comply with Makkabba's invitation was his expectation that he would give us an ox to kill, and he should have a share of it. Though the journey should have cost *us* our lives, nevertheless I believe he would have enjoyed the flesh, and not have regretted bringing us there, espe-

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cially if the Hottentots had survived to shoot game on the way home.

Two of the Matchappees, not having tobacco-pipes, adopted a curious contrivance for smoking. They dug a hole in the ground the shape of a basin, in which they formed, with their fingers, a round passage, down one side and up the other, in the shape of an inverted bow, this they arched over with clay, and filled up the whole with earth, leaving open the two ends of the passage; then placing their tobacco, [or rather wild hemp] with a lighted cinder at one end, and putting their mouths close to the other, they sucked out the smoke. Necessity is the mother of invention in all lands.

14th. The rain having subsided, and the morning pleasant, we went forward at nine A.M. Therm. at noon 56. A flock of several hundred quachas,\* travelling towards the south, passed on our left, with their leader about a hundred yards a-head of them, whom they implicitly followed. Those who hunt the quacha generally endeavor first to kill their leader, which puts all the rest into such confusion that they know not what course to pursue. A Marootzee from Kurree-

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\* Or wild asses, with striped skins like the zebra.

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chane, who joined us, said he passed as many in the morning, travelling in the same direction. They thus migrate every winter, from the high lands in the north to the neighbourhood of the Malalareen, where the land is lower and the winter milder.

We met a party of poor people from Mashow, both men and women, with four pack-oxen. They were travelling to the nations in the north, seeking for employment in thrashing out their corn. They travelled in the track of our wag-gons, when going up the country, which would in time become a beaten path, and save much inconvenience to succeeding travellers. We passed two rhinoceroses, feeding on the side of a low hill to the right, the same probably we had seen in that place when going up. The one was a huge animal, the other considerably smaller. Some of our people approached very near to them with their muskets, but the animals retired. Though the rhinoceros be one of the most ferocious of animals, it possesses some fear of man. There is a brown bird, about the size of a thrush, called the rhinoceros' bird, from its perching upon those animals and picking off the bush-lice which fix on him, and from which he has no means to extricate himself. This little creature performs the same kind service to the elephant.



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At three P. M. we reached the banks of the Moloppo, where we intended halting until Monday. All were soon employed in felling young trees for making inclosures round the fires to protect themselves from the cold night-winds. In little more than an hour the place assumed the appearance of a village, from the temporary huts as well as the inclosures they had erected, and from the number of fires they had kindled. The Hottentots having caught the spirit of the Matchappees, also erected fences around them to increase their comfort, a custom unknown to their nation, and never before done by those who journeyed with me. A Hottentot would creep under a bush to sleep in a cold night, but to cut down bushes to render himself comfortable either never occurred to his mind, or else was an effort which he had not sufficient resolution to make, rather preferring to endure cold or wet the whole night.

15th. Being the Sabbath we rested and had different meetings with the people for worship. Having gone down to the river to drink of its pure water, a lion shortly afterwards occupied the same ground I had left.

16th. Pelangye, Munameets and Maketzee came for the first time into the tent, to ask a few questions, in order to obtain information, but the Bootshuana interpreter being out of the way,

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we could only understand a few of their inquiries. They asked what my name was, as they had forgotten it, being accustomed always to call me Moonaree, a corruption of the Dutch word Mynheer. They could not repeat my name in any other way than *Camelo*. Having no word in their language ending in *l*, they could not pronounce it without the addition of another letter. All of them attempted it several times, but each added either *o* or *u*. We mentioned to them Mr. Philip's name, which they pronounced *Silp*, having no sound of the *f* in their language. They then inquired if the King of England kept cattle, if there was much game in England, and plenty of rhinoceroses, elephants, cameleopards, quachas, knoos, &c. They were surprised to hear there were none of these, and that the only animals hunted were hares and foxes. It must have appeared inconceivable to them, how the inhabitants could subsist in such a land, for huge animals, in their estimation, form the glory of a country.

Yesterday, in the morning, Munameets told us there would be a new moon that day, and we saw it immediately after sunset, but how he knew it we could not learn from him.

It is said that all the nations known in South Africa, when travelling, perform much longer

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stages in a day on their returning than when going from home, a good criterion for judging of the state of their feelings.

Munameets inquired if beads came out of the Great Water? If many kept slaves? If the king of England's town was as large as Kurreechane? If the person who ruled at the fair, where Jan Hendric and Malalla went for clothes and beads, was the king of England? meaning either Mr. Stockingstrome or Mr. Baird (the landdrost and deputy landdrost). If the people of England wore skin cloaks?

Being awake part of the night, I heard wolves and jackals all around, but our dogs had got so accustomed to them that they did not bark. We left the banks of the Moloppo at seven, and at eleven A. M. halted near the Musaree River, where our people wounded a rhinoceros, which was pursued and stabbed by the Matchappees. This greatly increased their stock of provisions, and caused a merry day. We departed again at five, and halted at seven P. M.

17th. We saved two legs of the rhinoceros that had been killed the preceding day, to present to the King of Mashow and his principal chiefs. Maketzee complained, in the evening, that, in consequence of our doing so, he had hardly got any

flesh; but this morning, a little after sunrise, some of his servants passed, so loaded with its flesh, that they were bending under the weight. Maketzee did not expect we should have seen this. They had staid behind, and meant to have passed us with it to his wife before daylight. He was evidently ashamed at the discovery.

We departed at eleven A.M., and travelled among long grass, where there is seldom small game, because in such situations they cannot readily see the approach of their enemies. Three lions were seen near the waggons. Therm. 60. At four P. M. we halted at the same place we had done the evening after leaving Mashow, where we had so much rain. The spot on which our waggons had stood appeared like a quagmire newly dried up.

18th. The Matchappees, on taking up the skins on which they had slept during the night, found a snake, which they instantly killed. Several of our followers, with their pack-oxen loaded with rhinoceros' flesh, went forward, before us during the night, towards Mashow, as it is not customary to carry provisions into the towns in the day-time, because the applications for a share of them would be far too numerous to be complied with. For the same reason, they seldom take a meal till it is dark, so that a stranger coming

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among them would almost suppose that they lived without eating.

Conversing in the tent with Munameets, Pelangye, Maketzee, &c. about Makkabba, the king of the Wanketzens, they mentioned, as a wonderful trait in his character, that he never slept in the day-time. When I told them that the people in my country did not sleep in the day-time either, they laughed, and said they had observed me several times a-day, at Kurreechane, go to my waggon, as they supposed to sleep. When I retired from the bustle to write in my journal, I was obliged to make every thing as close as possible, to prevent molestation from the spectators, who constantly beset the waggons; and probably it was owing to this mistake, which generally prevailed, that I enjoyed so much quiet when I withdrew to the waggon.

At seven we went forward, and soon travelled among the trees which we had found so completely stript of their leaves by a hail-storm. Though it was winter, they were again sprouting, which considerably removed the gloomy appearance they made when we were going up the country. The young grass was also shooting up, which gave the country the appearance of spring. On viewing this scene, Cornelius, my Hottentot driver, told me that once, on the confines of

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Caffreland, he had seen a shower of hail-stones, many of which were larger than a pigeon's egg. These not only injured the trees, but killed many of the ostriches, which were found dead after the shower had passed over.

About ten A. M. we passed two villages belonging to the Bootshuana Bushmen; at the last of them we halted for a short time. There were about seventy huts, but only nine women and a few children at home, all of whom, except three women, concealed themselves at first. These stood leaning with their backs against a hut, silently viewing us. They were complete exhibitions of starvation, and seemed to be under considerable apprehensions for their safety. One of our people asked if he might bring them a little rhinoceros' flesh; we immediately dispatched him for some to the waggons. On cutting off two or three pounds to each of the three women, I never witnessed so sudden a change from the lowest depth of depression and agitation to the most extravagant joy. A criminal receiving a pardon under the gallows could not have expressed his delight in a more animated manner. The sound which they made immediately brought the others from their concealment, who rushed towards us and begged some flesh also. We gave to each a piece of flesh and a little tobacco. They danced for a few minutes, and then proceeded to light

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their fires, in order to cook the flesh they had so unexpectedly received. Their black fingers appeared as hard as bones, and were probably rendered so by digging roots out of the ground for food. Their men had been absent on a hunt for three weeks, and of course the situation of these poor females must have been very distressing.

It is very probable that a Missionary sent to this scattered people would be able to collect them together, form them into a nation, and teach them to cultivate a portion of those millions of rich acres by which they are surrounded; a deed which would deserve the thanks of the whole human race. The Tammahas were once in the same state; but by some means or other, which I could not learn, they were collected into a nation, and now their land abounds both in corn and cattle. These Bootshuana Bushmen must be very numerous, from the numbers I fell in with where there was no beaten track, and because from hence it may be inferred that, in whatever direction we had chosen to travel, we should have found an equal portion of their villages. They speak the same language with the surrounding nations, by whom they are despised merely on account of their poverty. Having been so long dispersed, and living in a straggling way, they must be destitute of those

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national prejudices against the Gospel, arising from bigotted customs, and sanctioned by the approbation or compliance of their forefathers. They would probably consider it as a favor if a Missionary were appointed to reside among them. "Unto the poor," it is said in the Scriptures, "the Gospel was of old preached;" unto a poorer race of men than these, in every sense of the word, it never was preached. Like most of the Bushmen to the south, they literally possess nothing. But the man who could cheerfully submit to live among them, however beautiful their country, must have this qualification---"The joyful hope of a blessed immortality," which makes a man happy anywhere.

About a mile and a half beyond the village we came to a pool of water, which would, at least, afford drink to our oxen, where we halted. While at breakfast a Mashow man who had travelled with us to Kurreechane, but had remained behind, passed in a violent hurry with some pack-oxen.

From his account it appeared that the Boquain nation were on their way to attack Kurreechane at the time we left it. On the plain to the eastward of the town they were arrested in their march by the same rain we had experienced the day after our departure from the city. During



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this halt they were discovered by Kassanna, king of Doughooboone, whom we saw at Kurreechane, on his way back to it, and who is united in a league of friendship with the Marootzee. On making the discovery, he immediately hastened to the Marootzee cattle-posts, and spread the alarm, and then proceeded to Kurreechane, where he gave information of the approaching enemy. On which all was alarm, bustle, and confusion. In the mean time the Mashow very prudently loaded his pack-oxen and fled. Such was his speed, that he had travelled at the rate of fifty miles a-day, and so great the dread which he felt of the Boquain nation, that he would not even halt and proceed to Mashow with us, but after telling his story, went forward as fast as he could.

These Boquains, in consequence of their having possessed much cattle, have been so often attacked by the covetous nations around, that they must have become a warlike people, and may in their turn be a scourge to others.

All the interior nations are so dependent on their cattle for subsistence, that to deprive them of either the whole or a part must make them almost desperate, and render them formidable enemies. It is scarcely necessary to observe,

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that they never trouble their heads about the morality of things.

We departed at noon, (Therm. 68,) and, on approaching Mashow, were surprised to find none of the corn cut down, as the Marootzee had begun their harvest before our arrival at Kurreechane, this perhaps might be owing to some difference in the soil and climate, or to a greater quantity of rain having fallen towards the end of the season in the Mashow than in the Marootzee country.

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CHAP. XXV.

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RECEPTION FROM THE KING AND HIS PEOPLE—  
DISCOVERY OF A PECULIAR SPECIES OF RHINOCEROS—CONVERSATION WITH THE KING  
ABOUT RECEIVING A MISSIONARY—ROBBERY  
BY THE WANKETZEN AMBASSADORS.

**WE** entered Mashow at five P. M. The Hottentot Jager, having remained behind with some of the natives to search for game, arrived a little after us, with the pleasing intelligence that he had shot two rhinoceroses and wounded two. Kossie the king and several of his chief captains gave us a friendly reception, as did many of the inhabitants, who soon encircled our waggons. The first inquiry of many of them was, whether the Marootzee had given us any oxen for our support while at Kurreechane? When Kossie was in the tent in the evening, Pelangye told him that Makkabba had sent us an invitation to visit him, but that we had not gone: on which he turned

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to us and said, it was well that we did not go. Several of the people brought us milk, others a little corn, and Munameet's people some rich honey-comb which they had found in the field. The King was present at the evening worship.

19th. A Mashow rain-maker had just returned from the Wanketzen country, where he had been for some time. While there he saw two expeditions go out against some neighbouring nations, in both of which they were successful in capturing cattle. On the first they killed nine men, and on the last three. Two messengers had also arrived to invite Kossie to join Makkabba on a new expedition, which he declined.

During our absence from Mashow two rhinoceroses came into the town during the night, when the inhabitants assembled and killed them both. The rhinoceroses, shot by Jager, on the preceding day, having been cut up, were brought, the one in a waggon, the other on pack-oxen. We divided one among Kossie, Munameets, and Pelangye. They brought also the head of one of them, which was different from all the others that had been killed. The common African rhinoceros has a crooked horn resembling a cock's spur, which rises about nine or ten inches above the nose and inclines backward; immediately behind this is a short thick horn; but the head they brought had



*Head of a Unicorn, killed near the City of Mashou.*

*London, Pub<sup>d</sup> by P. Wastley, Stationer's Court, 1822.*



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a straight horn projecting three feet from the forehead, about ten inches above the tip of the nose. The projection of this great horn very much resembles that of the fanciful unicorn in the British arms. It has a small thick horny substance, eight inches long, immediately behind it, which can hardly be observed on the animal at the distance of a hundred yards, and seems to be designed for keeping fast that which is penetrated by the long horn; so that this species of rhinoceros must appear really like a unicorn when running in the field. The head resembled in size a nine-gallon cask, and measured three feet from the mouth to the ear, and being much larger than that of the one with the crooked horn, and which measured eleven feet in length, the animal itself must have been still larger and more formidable. From its weight, and the position of the horn, it appears capable of overcoming any creature hitherto known. Hardly any of the natives took the smallest notice of the head, but treated it as a thing familiar to them. As the entire horn is perfectly solid, the natives, I afterwards heard, make from one horn four handles for their battle-axes. Our people wounded another, which they reported to be much larger\*. Two redboks were also shot.

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\* The head being so weighty; and the distance to the Cape so great, it appeared necessary to cut off the under jaw and

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Therm. at nine A. M. in the waggon - 44.

Do. at noon in - do. - - 74.

20th. There was a poor Mashow lad, about fourteen years of age, who, from want of food, appeared like a skeleton, to whom the Hottentots had now and then given something to eat; his father came and offered to sell him for a little flesh. Pelangye, at the same time, offered to sell me his daughter Tattenyanne for some rhinoceros' flesh, though from his treatment of the girl I could perceive no dislike he had to her, but his love of eating appeared far to exceed his affection for any other object.

After worship in the evening we had a meeting with the King and his brother, in the presence of Munameets, Pelangye, &c. and mentioned our intention of leaving Mashow on the morrow. We wished to know whether he and his people, after having had time to reflect and consult

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leave it behind; (the Mashow who cut off the flesh from it had ten cuts on his back, which were marks for ten men he had killed in his life time.) The animal is considered by naturalists, since the arrival of the skull in London, to be the unicorn of the ancients, and the same as that which is described in the xxxixth chapter of the book of Job. The part of the head brought to London, may be seen at the Missionary Museum; and, for such as may not have the opportunity of seeing the head itself. the annexed drawing of it has been made.



TRAVELS  
IN  
SOUTH AFRICA,

UNDERTAKEN AT THE REQUEST  
OF THE  
LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY;

BEING  
A NARRATIVE OF  
A SECOND JOURNEY  
IN THE  
INTERIOR OF THAT COUNTRY.

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BY THE  
REV. JOHN CAMPBELL.

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WITH A MAP AND COLOURED PRINTS.

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1822.

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## CHAP. II.

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DEPARTURE FROM MERIBOHWEY—DESCRIPTION  
OF SCENERY—TWO RHINOCEROSSES KILLED FOR  
THE TAMMAHAS—INTERRUPTION AND DISTRESS  
FROM THE WEATHER—SURFACE AND SOIL OF  
AN EXTENSIVE PLAIN, &c.

**W**E left Meribohwey at eleven A. M., pursuing a course more easterly than that by which we had come up the country. As we passed the lake about a mile from the town, we filled all our water vessels. This lake may be about five or six miles in circumference. Its beauty is concealed by the tall rushes that grow every where in it, and afford shelter to a great variety of aquatic birds. For three hours we travelled over a plain, open country, which was succeeded by a wood of mimosas, which we passed through in half an hour; a plain then opened upon our view, over which we travelled till four P. M. When reaching a pool of water among some trees, we halted.

We were shortly afterwards joined by two of our men, who with some Tammahas had left us at sunrise, in order, if possible, to shoot a rhinoceros for the Tammaha king, captains, &c. at their anxious desire. These men related that, immediately on their arriving at the field, where the rhinoceroses were expected to be found, they discovered five, two of which they shot, and wounded a third. These they left with the Tammahas to cut up, and to convey the flesh complete to their masters. Instead of crossing the country to meet us at the pool of water as had been agreed upon, they returned to Meribohwhey, in hopes of arriving before our departure. On their way thither they met Mahalalewhey the chief captain, who eagerly inquired if they had shot any thing? When informed that two rhinoceroses were lying dead on the field, he asked if they were going for the waggons to carry them off; they told him they were desired to shoot them for the Tammahas, and that we did not wish for any part of them; upon hearing this he leaped and danced for joy, saying, these men are great captains! and then hastened forward to the place where the animals had been killed. Such an act of munificence as the entire gift of two rhinoceroses was probably unknown in that country.

Our Matchappees no sooner heard of the suc-



cess of the shooters than they regretted exceedingly they had not accompanied them, and brought off some of the meat; having, through their own imprudence, hardly any thing to eat. They discovered their vexation by reproaching the Tam-mahas as a dastardly people, alleging, that though abounding in corn, they did not give us a handful while there. However, I was glad at the success of our huntsmen, as it would leave a very favourable impression on the minds of the Tammaha people in our behalf.

The country over which we had travelled during the day seemed to incline towards E. and S. E. so as to convey the waters towards either the Yellow or Malalareen Rivers, instead of the Krooman to the S. W. There was much thunder in the afternoon and evening, first in the E. and afterwards in the W., threatening rain. Therm. at sunset, 60.

24th. Rain began to fall a little after midnight, and continued to descend in showers till sunrise, when the appearance of the atmosphere indicated its continuance. At any rate we could not have proceeded on the journey in the morning, the horses having strayed during the night, owing to the neglect of the attendants in making them fast. Several persons were sent in search of them. The Matchappees having no food were much