

foreign prince; this accident inspired the ungrateful slave with a wish to possess his master's treasures; and relying on the total ignorance of strangers, and the kindness every where shewn him by the jeweller, he declared himself the son of the deceased, and took charge of his property. The true heir, of course, denied his pretensions, and solemnly avowed himself to be the only son of the defunct, who had long before purchased his antagonist as a slave. This contest produced various opinions. It happened that the slave was a young man of comely person, and polished manners; while the jeweller's son was ill-favoured by nature, and still more injured in his education by the indulgence of his parents. This superiority operated, in the minds of many, to support the claims of the former; but since no certain evidence could be produced on either side, it became necessary to refer the dispute to a court of law. There, however, from a total want of proofs, nothing could be done. The magistrate declared his inability to decide on unsupported assertions, in which each party was equally positive. This caused a report of the case to be made to the prince, who, having heard the particulars, was also confounded, and at an utter loss how to decide the question. At length, a happy thought occurred to the chief of the

Judges, and he engaged to ascertain the real heir. The two claimants being summoned before him, he ordered them to stand behind a curtain, prepared for the occasion, and to project their heads through two openings: when after bearing their several arguments, he would cut off the head of him who should be proved a slave. This they readily assented to; the one from a reliance on his honesty, the other from a confidence in the impossibility of detection. Accordingly, each taking his place as ordered, thrust his head through a hole in the curtain. An officer stood in front, with a drawn scimitar in his hand, and the judge proceeded to the examination. After a short debate, the judge cried out, "Enough, enough, strike off the villain's head!" and the officer, who watched the moment, leaped between the two youths so suddenly, and unexpectedly, that the impostor, startled at the brandished weapon, hastily drew back his head, while the jeweller's son, animated by conscious security, stood unmoved. The judge immediately decided for the latter, and ordered the fraudulent slave to be taken into custody to receive the punishment due to his diabolical ingratitude; while the court resounded with shouts of applause at the ingenious trial.

## AN ACCOUNT

### A RHINOCEROS HUNT IN INDIA.

RHINOCEROS hunting has I believe, seldom been painted, though I have known several sportsmen who have had good opportunities of doing so; perhaps therefore, an account of a day lately passed in this noble but dangerous diversion, may afford some gratification to your sporting readers. On the 25th ult. our Shekarrics (or huntsmen), whom we had sent for information, brought us intelligence of a herd of seven or eight rhinoceros having taken up their abode in a large swamp in a village near Haragur, in the Nepal territory—on reaching the spot with our elephants, seven in number, and our shooting apparatus, we found that either side of the lake for about two hundred

yards was clothed with glorious jungle or brushwood for every kind of savage game; forming a cover of nearly ten feet in height. We had seven guns, chiefly double barrelled; five of the latter four ounce rifles. Soon after our party (four in number) had entered the jungle, the piping of the elephants, and the prints of rhinoceros' feet, shewed our game to be near; and indeed in less than a few minutes we started two young ones about the size of a full grown neel ghaz (a species of elk) and not unlike that animal in colour. The first fire killed one, and wounded the other severely, which notwithstanding went off at a smart elk trot, bowing in a most hideous manner. The

old ones were soon collected round us by the cries of their young, and three males of monstrous size, and frightful appearance, charged our line with the utmost impetuosity—two of our elephants gave way, receiving the charge on their hinder parts, and were instantly upset. Those that stood firm were not knocked down, but staggered several paces by the shock; my elephant was one that gave way, and my situation was far from laughable. The elephant often attempted to rise, but was as often laid flat by his antagonist, and at length with such force that I was thrown several yards into the lake, in a state of utter stupefaction—luckily falling on some willows I was saved from drowning. I was not sorry, on recovery, to find myself out of reach of the horn of my furious enemy, and of the shots of my friends, who, despairing of my escape, fired without ceremony. Their balls struck the monster's body in several places without producing any effect—though from four ounce rifles—at last a lucky one broke a large flake from his horn, and caused him to make off, turning through the thickets with astonishing strength and swiftness. We traced his footsteps for some miles, when being convinced that he had taken to the forest, we returned to look after the others, determined to search for him on a future day. On our way back, we found the young one we had wounded in the morning lying dead; both must have been very

young, for their horns were scarcely perceptible, and no scales appeared in their breasts or shoulders. It was now past noon, and we had little hopes of finding the others—when, on rounding a point of the lake, we roused them again, and after a chase of more than three hours, killed two, a male and female—they were not so bold now as we had reason to expect. They seemed to have lost their courage with their leader to whom they were very inferior in size, but still their dimensions astonished us not a little; the largest of them was above six feet high, and stronger in proportion than any elephant I ever saw; the day was too far spent to admit of our taking a sketch of them, at which we were much vexed, for hitherto I believe, they have been very unfaithfully represented. No elephants but males of superior courage should be employed in this desperate sport. We have another wild animal in this neighbourhood as little known as the rhinoceros. The natives consider it of the elk kind, but it has no characteristic of this or any of the species of deer I have seen or read of—the horns of the male are remarkably thick and short—in every other respect they resemble more an English brindled bull. They are exceedingly shy and solitary—seldom seen but on a bare inaccessible rock.

Camp, N.E. Frontier,  
May, 1815.

---

## DESCRIPTION

OF A

## NEW AND SINGULAR PLANT.

### Name.

The Bengal name is *Baram Chandali*.

### Genus.

It is similar in generic character to the *Hedysarum* of Linnæus, and may be ranked under that genus.—

### Species.

*Hedysarum Movens!* or an *Aschynomis Movens!*

### Root.

The root is biennial, consisting of long linear fibres with few branches.

### Stem.

This shrub generally divides nigh the

root into several (3 to 7) smooth stems, 3 to 4 feet high, and not thicker than a finger, sending off alternate, slender, virgate branches, covered with green smooth bark.

### Leaves.

The leaves arise from the stems and branches at one or two inches distance, alternate and ternate, with a hairy petiole one or two inches long, and two erect lanceolate stipule. The lobes are oval, smooth, pale green on the back, and the middle surface covered with a pale bloom, above. The middle lobe is three or four inches