

TRAVEL AND COLONISATION.

THE DUTCH EAST INDIES AS A SPORTING GROUND.

WITH REMARKS ON THE BORNEAN RHINOCEROS.

WITH THE CITY continually going up that wild sport is almost becoming a yearly event and scarce an occasion...

Because they are not British possessions, the common idea amongst us, fostered by the press, is that the Dutch East Indies is a very dreadful place to go to...

If the reader please the map of Malaya* before him, he will see that the island of Pinang* is situated immediately opposite (Dutch) the north-eastern corner of Sumatra...

But I would recommend you to have a bamboo and palm-leaf house on piles, built on the borders of the forest in a suitable place...

Still farther down is Siak, a wild sort of place, with lots of elephants, and a few orang-utans...

Acheh, although as full of tigers and other carnivora as it can be, must be avoided so long as it is as unsettled as it is...

Padang is a considerable town, where every requisite can be obtained, except weapons and ammunition...

Before proceeding any further, let me give the necessary hints concerning the measures necessary for obtaining permission to stay in the Dutch Indies...

* Pinang, Malacca for betel nut. Penang is nonsense. * Pinang* in Sumatra is a nautical mile, in Java a "pau" is 1507 metres only.

yesterday, Dec. 26. The results of the first day were particularly favourable to English gunners, as there was only one Frenchman on the list of winners...

Andrew, the very good, Applechape Jockey, has not been allowed to re-engage in the profession to retire from his profession and set up as public trainer at Clairefontaine...

Wigginton intends starting nine horses for Nice on the day after tomorrow, to wit, Isolina, Saint Linn, Mistral, Porte Bourbon, Paquita, Vegetarian, Faisliah, Newark, and Diana Forget.

Paris, Dec. 28.

THE LIBRARY.

COCKCHAFERS VERSUS COFFEE.

Altogether grub including a Paper on the Grub Pest in Ceylon. Being the result of an entomological investigation by R. C. Haldane, Colombo: A. M. and J. Ferguson. 1881. 8vo, plates.

The author of the little pamphlet with the above, at first sight, somewhat whimsical title (for which he is probably not answerable), deserves every credit for his attempt to investigate a somewhat difficult subject...

So far as the grub goes, it is a most interesting and intelligible and appealing to the common sense of his readers. The system of planting has developed an abundance of food more suitable for the larvae of the beetles than their natural pabulum...

Mr Haldane has instinctively tried all the methods which have sufficed for keeping down the injuries occasionally inflicted by our European cockchaffer; but the luxuriance of tropical life is far too great for such a method...

One of the Burgeidina is represented, and the cone of the probably vegetable feeder, and are occasionally very destructive to plant life...

The natural enemies of the "grub" are referred to, and an instance of attack by a carnivorous beetle is recorded at p. 13. This, in all probability one of the great family Carabidae, is imagined (p. 31) to be a doubtful case...

CRICKET.

SURREY COUNTY CHALLENGE CUP.—We are requested to remind subscribers of Surrey County Cricket Club that the match between Surrey and Gloucestershire will be played on Saturday, Jan. 1, at the Rectory, Surrey County Cricket Club, Kennington Oval, London, S.E.

DEATH OF JEMMY DEAN.—This week's record of the death of this man is a martyr to asthma and rheumatism. On Christmas Eve, when a goodly circle of friends met round a table, he was in the enjoyment of a liberal and healthy life...

point of the association. Considerably more than a year has elapsed since then, and in the interval the organisation of the association has been vastly extended and has become more powerful...

We have every hope that the discussion which has followed upon the establishment of the Mansion House Fund will be beneficial rather than otherwise in the end, since it will lead people to regard the real merits of the case rather than the...

SPORTS AND PASTIMES IN FRANCE.

AT THE END OF LAST WEEK the weather abruptly began to get colder, and there seemed a chance that Christmas would after all be accompanied by its traditional attributes of ice and snow...

Therefore the attempt at winter has proved abortive, the weather is still very much the same, and the winter season is being lived through for the south by every train from the Paris-Lyon-Mediterranean Railway Station, and the Nice season will be earlier than usual...

caption fee on each head of game would assist towards the desired result. But there are other men to be had if Siam be not obtainable. Near Kayu Tanam there are plenty of deer (Cervus rusa), tiger, leopard, and now and then tapir. It would be feasible to have a tiger's head and a leopard's skin, which would be sure to bring a high price.

Neighbourhood there are frequently troops of the Samatran wild dog (Canis rutilans), and wild hog are everywhere plentiful. The natives have a small yellowish dog that is a very good hunter. It would be quite possible to get a tiger's head and a leopard's skin, which would be sure to bring a high price.

Hunting is here a little unproductive, and the officials go out after elephant. But the forests are very dense, and game is not much disturbed. The hunter may have heard of the Samatran rhinoceros (Rhinoceros sumatranus), which is here in abundance. Bears are also numerous, and tapirs far from uncommon. Three kinds of deer, rusa, kidang, and the tiny mouse deer are plentiful.

There are many other minor stations in the neighbourhood, but the hunter is here in the think of it, and cannot do much better. From Bencomen some good sport might be got. There is a rough sketch of the topography of the country, and the telegraph wire connecting the two places. Tobing (High Tobing) is the first station out of Bencomen, but Lahat, the second station, is more wild. Herds of elephant are quite common, and are occasionally caught by the Samatran hunters.

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Near Palembang, on the east coast, the country is so flat, so are leaves and carnivores. There are many other minor stations in the neighbourhood, but the hunter is here in the think of it, and cannot do much better. From Bencomen some good sport might be got.

I cannot advise the sportsman to go to any other island of the archipelago, although he may occasionally succeed in getting some of the birds of the Paradise in Menado and other still more distant islands. It is not to be expected before March, the rains being too heavy and the forests too wet to give the dogs a chance. Even March is in some ways a trifle early. Then sport may be enjoyed for six months, and the Government will be glad that contrasts with many other countries that have been visited.

The sportsman will do well to take all his implements and shot with him, and to be prepared for any emergency. Making friends with an official, any amount up to five kilograms (10lb.) can be obtained. This "keeping in" with the officials is a great thing to be observed in the Dutch Indies. They always bring their best presents in the form of good articles.

inward vindictiveness. I saw a very good illustration of this in the case of Mr. Carl Book. This gentleman was a Dutch official in Sumatra, and complained at head quarters. This gave umbrage to certain officials who had been passed over by Mr. B., and he could certainly have done so, but that he would not wait about three months. They did not say "no," because Mr. Book held that he could make him from the Governor-General direct, but they could make him from the Governor-General direct, but they could make him from the Governor-General direct.

When I was in Sumatra I made the acquaintance of a Mr. Van Schelle, of the Dutch mining and topographical staff. This gentleman was a Dutch official in Sumatra, and complained at head quarters. This gave umbrage to certain officials who had been passed over by Mr. B., and he could certainly have done so, but that he would not wait about three months.

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A RIDE IN THE ARDENNES.

THE WEATHER was threatening enough, when at noon on Thursday I rode out of Spa, but certainly I did not expect the continuous heavy rains to which I was exposed for some days after I reached Bencomen. The scenery is very beautiful and living as the French people call it. This place is one of great resort for visitors, chiefly Belgians, and many of them come for the summer.

At the present time this waterfall, through the number of visitors attracted by it, and the fish in the river, are the principal means of the support of the inhabitants of Coo. The river is one which is of a very soft, and is very pleasant to the eye. This is owing to the fact that "all and every" are allowed to net by day and by night. In Coo alone twenty-five men are thus employed every night for nearly three months.

him. He quietly completed his loading and fired, the ball falling dead within ten feet of him. The ball had struck the jaw, and the animal was killed this year in this district.

On my way through the woods I saw numerous tracks of the footings of a boar, also several crows of the rook. Arriving at the summit of the range, I found a long stretch of gently sloping plain, so fertile and fertile, and so good head of black game.

Finishing the lower part of the slope, I was now approaching very swampy and treacherous, I made my way to some peats where they were loading their ox carts with cut heather and rushes. These peats were dry and hard, and I was able to pass safely over them.

It is situated in a comparative plain, surrounded by ill-drained lands, the more distant slopes containing many uncultivated and half-cultivated fields of a fine quality. Beside police and revenue office duties, the gendarmes are charged with the summing of the men called in for service, when there is danger of a strike, and a detachment of gendarmes is called upon. Each province (eight) is divided into cantons, over each of which is a captain.

Orthe. The town is frowned upon by the picturesque ruins of its ancient castle, which has a long and interesting history. It having been built on a height of strength from Roman times, its foundations are indeed, dating from a remote antiquity.

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TRAVEL AND SPORT IN JAPAN.

TO THE MAJORITY OF TRAVELLERS through the far East, the knowledge of the country and its resources is derived chiefly from the reports of the Japanese vendors, but a very interesting journey in the interior would entirely alter it. It is to those who can spare a little time in the country, or are in search of sport, that I venture to describe my journey through the interior of the Empire.