

later in the *action* of a dedicated life. This 'retreat' preparation in the Himalaya was woven into the fibre of his life, and gave background, proportion, significance, quality, to that maturer time when he girded himself to serve the poor in the cramped and crowded isolations of London. You must not leave it out in your estimate of him.

The Maharajah of Cooch Behar had been a guest at Escrick, and experienced English sport there, and English hospitality, so that some part of 1880 was spent as a guest in that State. In spite of the tremendous attraction of honoured 'guest' life in India, among governors, soldiers, and princes, he still found time to visit the gaols, e.g. at Lucknow and Bareilly and combined attendance at often unattractive churches, with regimental dinners, and riding with the Ganges Cup; watching all night over water holes, with a study of Butler's *Analogy* and William Shakespeare. Here was all the insatiable energy of twenty-two, and yet at the core always that golden clue, 'the secret of God upon his tabernacle'.

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In December, 1879, he reached Bombáy. The following are extracts from his rough scribbling diary of the time:

*1st January, 1880. Lucknow.*

*3rd. Got up at 5 for a shoot at a place called*

Sanoda, taking Carr's chuprassi and canoe with us. After great efforts secured 4 head, viz.: 1 duck, 1 quail, 1 snipe and 1 hare—and so returned by 8 p.m.

*4th. (Sunday.)* Geoff Dawney started early for Ajain intent on a shoot with one T. Self abstained owing to scruples, and went to church.

*15th. (Cawnpore.)* Left at about 6.30 a.m. for pig-sticking at Nuzut Gurh. . . . Crossed Ganges—foul river, full of dead Hindus and quicksands. Returned to Cawnpore. Mounted by Slater—who sent us two quadrupeds each—nice chap Slater.

*17th.* After dinner to see a performance of 'Milky White' and 'The Conjugal Lesson' at 13th Huzaar Barax by London Co.

*18th. (Sunday.)* Went to church in morning, when a few prayers were read in a hurry by the Principal of the Martineer Coll.

*21st.* Self very seedy . . . arrived Aligurh. Duly met by Dr. Hatchell, who took us to his house, treated us (gratis) to pills and dinner, and sent us off by 12.30 train to Delhi.

*February 17th. (Nauparah.)* Went out to drive jungle for cheetah. In 2nd drive I let slip only chance during day: as a fine male cheetah jumped over the thorns 2 yds. from where I was standing and was so surprised at seeing me that he fell at my feet, for I on my part was so surprised that I omitted to

hit him when he was down and failed to do so on his regaining his feet.

*28th.* Cooch Behar. Went out for shikar with 18 elephants and drove jungle for rhinos.

*29th* (Sunday). Self stayed *chez moi* most of day reading Butler and Shakespeare. Rajah, Kneller, Cammell and Geoff only got 1 buffalo cow between them. Buffalo marrow bones for dinner A.1.

*March 1st.* Out for shikar as per usual. After tiffin had a tremendous hooroosh after a rhino, which after much beating gave Kneller a double-barrelled chance. . . . In following him up another rhino was reported which proved to be a buffalo. Said buffalo afforded a great deal of platooning, and at length died very hard with his head to the foe.

*March 4th.* Shikar as per usual. Buffalo jumped up, Rajah putting in first 2 shots, then Kneller had a go, self then let drive 2 shots, Cammell also putting in a contribution from a distance. Self pursued buffalo into a thick bit of jungle, letting drive 5 more shots with some effect. Followed him up thro' awful thick jungle by blood, assisted partly by Rajah and Cammell.

*5th.* Great luck having got 2 tigers together. Rhinos still 6 to 4 the best of us.

*7th* (Sunday.) Self stayed *chez moi* and spent time reading Butler etc. and writing letters. Others

went out for shikar and returned early with 1 rhino.

*11th.* After some beating I got a shot in the jungle at a big bull buff, which after stemming a cross fire from Geoff and self was eventually cornered and would doubtless have fallen a victim had not a tiger suddenly appeared on the tapis. Being anxious to secure both beasts we got neither, as buff. escaped across the river, and tho' I got 1 snip shot at the tiger later in the day, he too escaped. Returned to camp with nothing but feelings better imagined than described.

*14th* (Sunday.) Self had a very busy day in camp with Butler. Geoff however began a week well and returned 8 p.m. having bagged 2 rhinos and seen a herd of 23 buffs. *inter alia.*

*16th.* (Calcutta) (Good Friday.) Walked down to Cathedral (and back) for service at 7. After breakfast went down with Rajah and Kneller to see Billy Gladstone while they went to pay visits.

*28th.* (Easter Day) Intended to have attended 7 o'clock Service but failed to rise suff. betimes. Drove with Kneller to 10.30 Service, self stayed Communion till 1 p.m. In afternoon went over to Botanical Gardens with Kneller and Apcar in Rajah's steam launch. In even. self dined with Lt. Gov., meeting Gov. Gen. and Bill Beresford, etc.

*April 3rd.* Dined with 13th Huzaars at expense of J. Watson who is to mount me for Ganges Cup.

4th (Low Sunday.) Went on foot by self to church at 8.

13th. (Reached Rawl Pindi.)

14th. Engaged Nuzul Khan as cook and factotum.

21st. Many sick and wounded brought in from the front, a stream of palanquins. Good hospital and Depot at Murree—room for 80 and 200 respectively. Self busy all day making bandobast.<sup>1</sup>

May 14th. (Kashmir.) Up early for 15 mile march to Kanzlivan via Jotkisa, where we breakfasted. March before breakfast over snow pass (11,800 ft.). . . . Found hill work very severe and had many croppers.

16th. After a night under a goodly fir tree, started about 5. After about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. got a shot at a small ibex which in full retreat received my 4th shot. Got him, and before he was properly dressed, a good beast appeared on the tapis. Rassala took me up to him with much ease, but I failed to get him.

20th. Very severe day. Marched from Gautumi to Kajanmar. Coolies started before 6 a.m. but did not get in till after 7 p.m. Snow blocked the road the whole way. . . . Just as we were nearly at our destination my 2nd shikari spied a bear up an adjacent hill. An excellent stalk was effected and the bear secured.

<sup>1</sup> Bandobast—plan or scheme.

22nd. Began day with a most exciting stalk after a big bear, which had ventured too close to camp. I think it had just winded us, but a 500 ex ball at right time and in right place rendered all chance of escape hopeless.

[He passed a rough three months in Kashmir. Cold—snow—long trails, and alone with native bearers, whose language he scarcely knew.]

Sept. 18th. Foggy morning (after sleeping out, without dinner or bedding, under a big fir tree. So cold that 'about midnight or so we had in self-defence to light a bit of fire'), and heavy dew made travelling through the long grass very unpleasant. After a lengthy 'baito' and study of Butler, moved on to top of ridge and spotted a fine beastie lying down . . . but I was too slow for him as he sloped over the spur of the hill leaving me squeezing the trigger.

19th. Self and shikaris moved off early to try for ibex. Made way to considerable height when it set to rain and snow. . . . Coolies did not turn up till after dark having an awful time of it crossing intervening heights owing to snow. 4 chickens died en route, others all numbed. Self shot a 6-ft. 2-in. bear, which just saved the day.

21st. A deal of 'baito'<sup>1</sup> and Butler's *Analogy*. In evening barasing gave tongue near camp.

24th. After a hearty breakfast chez moi 'did my  
<sup>1</sup> 'Native word "sitting".'

digestions' in concluding *Romeo and Juliet*. . . . Through thick jungle all day. In evening slew a big male bear (5-ft. 10-in. in his skin).

25th. Sending shikari (No. 2) to skin bear, self and Russala moved on up hill to a small lake which barasing were supposed to frequent. Here we spent the day (not without Butler's *Analogy*) but without any signs of life all day, excepting 2 woodcocks.

26th. Made an early move towards camp, keeping along the top of the ridges. Came upon 3 bears at breakfast for which we went hard all. Killed 2 on the spot.

Oct. 6th. Off early for a final effort after Barasing to a spot beyond Tragbal which Rassala knew of and spoke accordin'. Had a steep climb up hill to L. of nullah (looking downstream). Did not reach our destination till afternoon. Sat over a drinking hole which had evidently been well and lately patronized, till dark. Slept over the same, but without any result.

7th. From sunrise till breakfast self kept watch (with Butler's *Analogy*) over the same spot occupied yesterday even. . . . Later in day promenaded the jungle till even. when we found ourselves on the grass maidan commanding a grand view of everything except the objects of our desire.



29th. Bombay. Secured passage per S.S. *Manilla* due out 1st inst.

31st. Went to early Sacrament at St. Thomas's Cath. Church. After breakfast went down into the 'city' and had great fun selling off my rizai, etc. Went again to the Cath. to hear the sermon. In afternoon read till cool of the even. when a stroll and church brought round the time to dinner.

On 1st November he sailed in S.S. *Manilla*. On reaching Suez he left ship, went up to Cairo, and saw the Pyramids and the usual sights. Returning to Port Said, he sailed to Joppa, and went up to Jerusalem. On November 25th 'foolishly tried to bathe in the Dead Sea, and suffered in consequence from salt, heat, glare, etc. Did not enjoy next hr's. ride to the Jordan in which I plunged immediately. After a very good lunch moved on to Gilgal. . . .'

On December 1st he reached Damascus, then on to Balbek. It was on the voyage from Be'rut to Smyrna that he 'fell in with the chief engineer (a Scotchman) and went to his cabin afterwards for a chat. He lent me an old paper or two, and in the *Glasgow Mail* for Nov. 13th I read a paragraph, the truth of which I cannot yet realize. . . . It was the death of his father at Escrick on the 6th November. After a brief sight of Athens, he reached Brindisi on December 19th and returned to England. The wander-year was over.



COOCH BEHAR, 1880