

port Adams reviews the plays, music, and pictures of the past month.

A MAHARAJAH'S TIGER HUNT.

The Maharajah of Cooch Behar made up his mind to shoot in Assam this year on what is known as the Monas, country lying to the north of Goalpara and stretching right up to the Bhutan Hills. The first camp was pitched at a place called Simlaguri, which is about thirty miles from the steamer ghat, Kolabunda on the Brahmaputra. The party comprised the Maharajah, Lord Elphinstone, Captain the Hon. Charles Harbord, the Hon. Sidney Parker, Colonel Gardner, the Hon. Mr. St. Clair, Messrs. O'Donnell, Seaton, Kerr, McCabe Fraser, Firman, Sen, and Sinha, A.D.C. It is an excellent tiger country. The first tiger bagged was 10ft. 1in. Khubber was plentiful, as much as three in a day sometimes. Several of the party left the camp from Simlaguri. The camp then moved to Bansbari, where the party was further augmented by Major Dick Cunyngham and Mr. N. Sen. It was at this place that one morning khubber was brought of a tiger having killed a cow in a neighbouring village. The party, mounted on pads, hastened to the spot, and the small patch in which the tiger had been marked down was beaten twice before the brute could be forced to appear. Nearly everyone fired at her, and yet she galloped away as if untouched, and was soon lost to view. As a matter of fact, she lay down in a small bush, where Major Cunyngham's elephant came on it suddenly. The tigress charged home, and very nearly landed on the head of the elephant, and almost pulled the mahant off his perch. The elephant shook her off, and a well-directed shot laid her low. The next move was to Bhuapara, about eight miles off to the north-east, and pitched on the banks of the Pahumara Nuddi, a pretty spot among trees, and by a running stream. The camp is close to the hills now, and in the midst of a country that is full of big game. In this neighbourhood the Marquis de Bretail and two other friends made a very good bag not many years ago. During the last few days a good many big beasts have been seen. Some of the jungles were of enormous extent, and even with such a line of elephants as there was, it was next to impossible to beat the patches properly. The Maharajah accounted for some very fine bull buffaloes and rhinos, among which was a bull rhino which stood 19 hands and 4in. at the shoulder, and a cow rhino with a horn 16 1/2 in. in length, which I believe, says a correspondent of the "Englishman," is the record cow rhino horn. We came across tracks of wild elephant driven down from the hills owing to scarcity of water. The Maharajah's camp will shortly be broken up. On the whole, the shoot has been fairly successful, as the following bag will testify:—Tigers seven, rhinos seven, bison one, buffaloes fifteen, bears five, leopard one, boars four, deer twenty-three, and game birds forty.

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