

CAPTURING WILD ANIMALS

MODERN METHODS EMPLOYED BY DEALERS.

Netting a Lion—The Male Elephant's Gallantry Was His Undoing.

Mr. Arthur Spencer, although a graduate of an English university, prefers life in the jungle to a less exciting pursuit, and probably knows as much about the habits of wild animals as any man alive. In speaking to a newspaper reporter recently about how beasts are captured for menageries, he said:

"To a person unacquainted with the characteristics of wild beasts, no adequate idea can be formed of their savagery and the consequent danger attendant upon their capture. As both animal and vegetable life attain a greater growth in all tropical countries, so it seems that the animals develop a more savage and treacherous disposition, and the man who tackles the African animal in his native lair does so with the full understanding that every moment of his life is one fraught with peril.

"In getting ready for a lion hunt it is necessary to provide a cage with a top that can be thrown back by means of hinges, a rubber net 18 feet square, arranged with a stout rubber band running in a circular direction around it, and with three rubber ropes, two of them 100 feet in length, attached to the band in such a manner, by means of steel springs, that the net can be stretched out and pinned to the earth. When the ropes are pulled on the springs release the net, the band draws it together like a pouch and anything within its fold is rendered powerless. The third rope is attached in such a manner as to loosen the band and remove the net, without danger to the handlers of it. This, with a small portable bamboo cage, to transfer the animals when first captured to the larger cage in waiting, comprises all the necessary equipments for the

CAPTURE OF CAT ANIMALS.

As all cat animals, unless pressed by hunger, lie in the jungle by day and come forth at night, going to the watering places and there await the coming of the day animals, it is only necessary to find an elephant tank or watering place and there to prepare for the capture of game during the day. Within several hundred yards of the tank and directly in the beaten path of the animals a pit 18 feet square and 2 feet deep is dug. In this is placed the net, which is firmly pinned to the ground. The pit is covered up with light bamboo brush, leaves, etc. The rubber ropes are then carried a hundred feet away, and there another pit six feet is dug, and in it a man is placed in such a position that he can command a view of the animal pit. He is then covered up, a small opening being left for his arms and for him to see through.

"When the lion or any other cat animal comes down the path, he unsuspectingly steps upon the brush, it gives way, and as he touches the net the operator pulls the ropes, the net flies over him, and he is ours. He is then placed in a portable cage, carried to the other cage in waiting, placed in it and the net removed by means of a third rope. At first he looks relieved, then disgusted, and the next minute he is mad, but it is no use.

"This is all very well; but some day when the wind betrays our presence he starts on a hunt of his own, which as a rule is not very agreeable, as at these times it is necessary to kill him, and in the combat that ensues, unless killed by the first volley, some one is sure to get hurt.

"For capturing elephants there are several methods employed. For the capture of male elephants a stockade twenty-five feet square and four feet deep is built, surrounded by a strong palisade, twenty feet in height, and whose only entrance is by means of a door which swings inward, but never out, as it closes against four feet of solid earth. From the edge of the stockade is built a temporary bamboo hedge, leading to the nearest tank, and generally several hundred yards in length.

"About two-thirds of the distance from the pit is a narrow opening, just large enough for a trained horse to go through. When the man who is to conduct the capture sees a herd of elephants at the tank he approaches them on horseback, and as there are always one or more male elephants with a herd of females, as soon as they see him the leader, thinking he intends to molest the females,

STARTS IN PURSUIT OF HIM.

The man turns and rides rapidly down the hedge, the elephant in pursuit. When he reaches the opening he darts through and keeps down the other side. The elephant, a huge, ungainly brute, is unable to stop, and seeing the object of his pursuit ahead, passes the opening and as he reaches the pit the man passes the corner, the elephant strikes the gate a heavy blow to knock it out of his way. It swings inward; he rushes in, sees the trap, turns, only to find the gate closed and himself a prisoner.

"He is kept there three days without food or water. Fires are built at night and green, smoking brush thrown in, which nearly stifles him. Natives are employed to beat on tom-toms, drums made of snails cov-

ered with sheepskin and filled with pebbles, for the purpose of frightening him. At the end of three days food and water are brought, and two men armed with elephant hooks enter, and if he is sufficiently subdued to eat and drink, they place chains on him, fasten him to a trained elephant, and start for the stockade. Should he show fight, he is caught on each side on the ears by means of the hook and chained. This is, however, very rarely necessary, as he is generally hungry and thirsty enough to attack the food at once, and while so employed is easily chained.

"For capturing the female a different method is employed. Four rubber ropes 100 feet in length, and of great elasticity and strength, are taken by a man in charge of a trained male. When the herd is sighted the elephant is sent alone to make the acquaintance of the females. After he succeeds in so doing and while engaged in caressing one the man approaches under cover of his body, slips under the male quickly, throws the noosed end of one of the ropes over one foot, and retires, and then after a few minutes of excitement on her part the male succeeds in quieting her, when the same means are employed again and continued until all four of her feet are noosed. Three of the ropes are made fast to the trunks of trees, the fourth being thrown over a limb. They are then drawn taut, spreading three of her feet apart, and drawing one a few feet in the air. While thus helpless, chains are placed upon her, and chained to the male, she is

LED TO THE STOCKADE.

"For capturing monkeys, apes, and baboons a drink called 'sake,' made from the fermented juice of rice, which is very sweet and very intoxicating, is carried in gourds to parts of the forests where the simians are known to congregate. All that is necessary then is to take a sip in view of them, set the gourd down, and retire. With their well-known habit of imitation, as soon as the men are out of sight, they descend and taste the liquor, and, finding it to their liking, drink greedily, which soon puts them in a drunken stupor. All we have to do then is to pick them up and throw them into a cart, and you need not hurry home, as they will not awake for twenty-four hours.

"For capturing the ostrich, giraffe, zebra, eland, and large antelopes, a three-thonged rope, known as bolas, is used. The ropes are fastened together in the center, each thong being six feet in length. Two of the ends are filled with pebbles, and the third is shotted with lead. A swift horse is then used to pursue them. When within throwing distance, the shotted end being held in the hand and the other ends whirled rapidly around the head, the bolas are thrown so as to strike between the legs of the animal with the shotted end. The other two ends, flying in opposite directions, wrap his legs tightly together and bring him violently to the ground. Before he can rise, he is securely tied by his captors and then prepared for his trip to the stockade.

"For the capture of birds a part of the jungle is selected where they are known to congregate, and at a time when fruit and grain is scarce. Natives are then set to work to strip the trees of everything edible, after which a large bamboo cage is brought and filled with fruit. It has a trap door, attached to which is a long rope. The trapper opens a door and conceals himself nearby. When all is quiet, birds of all kinds flock rapidly to the feast, as soon as the cage is filled the operator pulls the rope, the door falls, and the birds are secure. He then selects what he wants, places them in another cage, and

SETS THE REST FREE.

"For the capture of the python, the boa constrictor, and other large snakes all that is necessary is to prepare a bait of some small antelope, fasten it to a small sapling near where the desired reptile has been seen, and then pay periodical visits to the animal until you are sure he has been found and eaten. You are almost certain to find the snake in the near vicinity, as after eating he will coil himself up and lie dormant for several days. All you have to do then is to slightly disturb him, enough to make him uncoil, when a rope is slipped over his tail, another over his head, the other ends being passed through the door of a portable cage and then out again through a small hole. He is then drawn rapidly into the cage and the door made fast. The nooses are loosened by means of small cords attached to them, and thus he is our property. The nooses are protected by felt, for should we abrade the skin, however slightly, in the hot country, it causes an ulcer, which invariably causes mortification to set in, and thus kills the snake.

"For capturing deer and the smaller antelope, the lasso is used. Thus for each and every different species of animal, bird and reptile, a different method is employed and the task of effecting the capture is one fraught with toil and danger. After they are at the stockade, however, the business is somewhat easier. The great trouble then is to get them to eat, as, unused to captivity, they for days at a time refuse to partake of food, some of them starving themselves to death. After they become accustomed to their new life they are kept at the stockade until orders are received for them, when they are placed in boxes specially

prepared. They are then carted to Cape Town, transferred to a vessel, and shipped to Hamburg, where they are reshipped to their final destinations."

ELECTRIC SHOCKS.

Rules to Be Followed in Case of Accident.

The Electric World and Engineer is the authority for the statement that accidental electric shocks seldom result in death unless the victim is left unaided too long, or efforts at resuscitation are stopped too early, as in the majority of instances the shock is sufficient only to suspend animation temporarily, owing to the momentary and imperfect contact of the conductors, and also on account of the resistance of the body submitted to the action of the current. The rules given to be observed and promptly executed with care and deliberation are as follows:

Rule 1.—Remove the body at once from the circuit by breaking contact with the conductors. This may be accomplished by using a dry stick of wood, which is a non-conductor to roll the body over to one side, or to brush aside a wire, if that is conveying the current. When a stick is not at hand, any dry piece of clothing may be utilized to protect the hand in seizing the body of the victim, unless rubber gloves are convenient. If the body is in contact with the earth, the coat tails of the victim or any loose or detached piece of clothing, may be seized with impunity to draw it away from the conductor. When this has been accomplished observe rule 2. The object to be attained is to make the subject breathe, and if this can be accomplished and continued, he can be saved.

Rule 2.—Turn the body upon the back, loosen the collar and clothing about the neck, roll up a coat and place it under the shoulders, so as to throw the head back, and then make efforts to establish respiration (in other words make him breathe), just as would be done in case of drowning. To accomplish this, kneel at the subject's head, facing him, and seizing both arms draw them forcibly to their full length over the head, so as to bring them almost together above it, and hold them there for two or three seconds only. (This is to expand the chest and favor the entrance of air into the lungs.) Then carry the arms down to the sides and front of the chest, firmly compressing the chest walls, and expel the air from the lungs. Repeat this manoeuvre at least sixteen times per minute. These efforts should be continued unremittently for at least an hour, or until natural respiration is established.

Rule 3.—At the same time that this is being done, some one should grasp the tongue of the subject with a handkerchief or piece of cloth to prevent it slipping, and draw it forcibly out when the arms are extended above the head, and allow it to recede when the chest is compressed. This manoeuvre should likewise be repeated at least sixteen times per minute. This serves the double purpose of freeing the throat so as to permit air to enter the lungs, and also, by exciting a reflex irritation from forcible contact of the under part of the tongue against the lower teeth, frequently stimulates an involuntary effort at respiration. To secure the tongue if the teeth are clenched, force the jaws apart with a stick, a piece of wood, or the handle of a pocket-knife.

Rule 4.—The dashing of cold water into the face will sometimes produce a gasp and start breathing, which should then be continued as directed above. If this is not successful the spine may be rubbed vigorously with a piece of ice. Alternate applications of heat and cold over the region of the heart will accomplish the same object in some instances. It is both useless and unwise to attempt to administer stimulants to the victim in the usual manner, by pouring it down his throat.

MUCH IN A NAME.

An Englishman, who has just returned from an extensive tour through the East, tells a good story in which he was one of the principals.

He was one of a party at a banquet tendered to the Maharajah of Patiala, at which nearly one hundred guests, representing nearly every branch of Indian life, were present. As a special guest, he was seated on the left of the Indian potentate.

During the meal he noticed that the latter partook of some fine Cumberland ham, and knowing that it was contrary to the Indian caste rules to eat any portion of a pig, he, without a thought, asked his highness how it was he was eating ham.

The Maharajah looked at his plate then, turning round to his body servant standing at the back of his chair, said:

"What am I eating?"

The servant instantly replied: "Mutton, sahib," and without referring to the incident again the Maharajah continued his meal.

After the banquet the Englishman related the incident to an Indian judge, and the latter said:

"If that servant had said 'ham,' he would have been headless before to-morrow morning. It is advisable not to notice caste rules when you are with natives of rank."

LONG CHASE OF A SLEUTH

CHIEF DETECTIVE MURRAY BECOMES REMINISCENT.

Fugitive Hunted for Five Years and Taken by a Toronto Man.

This is the story of a famous Canadian criminal case, of the five years' flight of a murderer, and how the desperate fellow was taken by a Toronto detective in the wilds of the west. J. W. Murray, chief inspector for Ontario, grew reminiscent while talking with a number of newspaper men the other night. The intricate cases he has handled, and the journeys to foreign countries in pursuit of criminals, developed an interesting vein of gossip. The old sleuth watched the blue smoke curling up from a pure Havana for several minutes. The dark column was fanned into fantastic figures, and out of the haze phantoms of the past seemed to float, and suggest to the detective exciting incidents of a quarter of a century.

JUST A SPLASH OF BLOOD.

"The crime was a common one—a splash of blood, you know, but the keenest interest was aroused in the pursuit. That was away back in the 70's, and for five years we chased the criminal, and he died in a Canadian prison. Harry Fitzsimmons was a reckless young fellow. He lived near London. The wild boys in that section in those days had many rows with the Indians who occupy the reservation near there. Fitzsimmons slew one of the tribe, Ninham; and, by the way, a son of that same Indian was murdered at London recently, and his alleged murderer has just been acquitted.

The murderer, with a companion, who was wanted for participation in the killing, at once fled. I investigated the case, and looked up the fugitives. They had gone into the Western States, the frontier of civilization then. That section was the resort of many hunted men in those days. It was considered quite impolite to ask a man in that section about his previous life in the country from which he came. The six-shooter was the arbitrator of all disputes, and too curious people were the first to stop stray bullets. I soon found that Fitzsimmons was out there somewhere, but where?"

HAD BECOME A 'KILLER.'

"I heard of him with a circus; at least a man answering the description, and a companion resembling the fugitive, were said to be a part of the 'fighting force' of an old road circus on the Pacific slope. You know in those rough sections each circus employed men known as 'killers,' outlaws and tough characters, who could shoot straight on slight provocation, and cared nothing for human life. In fact, bloodshed was of common occurrence in that part of the world a quarter of a century ago. But Fitzsimmons kept on the move, and we were not able to locate him definitely. Five years passed. I received information from a source I considered reliable that the murderer was located in Red Wing, Minnesota. That was in 1876. There was a man by the name of Church there, who answered in a general way the description of the fugitive. He had been the 'bad man' for the circus, and, with his chum, had gotten into a scrape, where the other fellow had been killed.

TO AVOID A KILLING.

"I determined to go to Red Wing with a man who knew Fitzsimmons, and get him. I was warned that there would be a fight, as the murderer was a desperate man, whether he was the Canadian fugitive or not. I expected a gun play, and went prepared for some hot work. Still, I concluded to avoid killing Fitzsimmons if I could, and prevent him killing me. I had no well formed plan, but mercy depended upon circumstances to afford the opportunity to capture the man when we met him.

AMONG WILD CHARACTERS.

"We reached Red Wing late at night. It was a small frontier town then, and full of wild characters, whose hand was against all men, and there were many fugitives there. I feared we could not rely very heavily on assistance from the citizens, and I admit I was puzzled to know just how we could handle our man when we found him. To walk up to him and tell him he was wanted for murder meant a grab for his gun and a killing. I knew this. I knew he would never submit without a fight. I was thinking so hard as to what course I should pursue, that I did not sleep soundly. I got up early, before my companion was awake.

FOUND THE MURDERER.

"Walking into a barber shop to get shaved, I saw a man whom I at once recognized as the man Church for whom we had come. I was not sure that he was the murderer, but I saw that he resembled the man we wanted in Canada. He wanted a shave, and I waited for him. He wore the customary six-shooter exposed in his belt, and it looked mighty handy. His reputation was that of a quick shot and a sure one. He was eyeing me curiously, for he could see I was a stranger. As he stepped from the chair I remarked, 'Is your name Church?'

READY FOR A ROW.

"Well, what business is it of yours if it is?' growled the man, and I observed that he shifted his

big revolver around closer to his

"Oh, nothing, except that I was told that a man named Church had stolen a boat and a coil of rope down the river the other day, and you look like the man."

"I would like to see the man that says it was me, for I can prove I haven't been out of town for a month."

"Well, come over to the jail, where the sheriff is, and if you are not the man no harm will be done, and we walked over in a friendly way, the murderer knowing his innocence of the charge and, not suspecting that he was wanted for the crime of five years before, thought he had nothing to fear.

NO CHANCE FOR GUN PLAY.

"We went to the jail, and the fugitive sat down. I went into the sheriff's office and explained the case without Church hearing the remarks. We walked out, and before the astonished man could realize what we were about he was disarmed and in a cell.

"I went back for my companion. He could not believe that we had cornered Church without a battle. When he confronted the prisoner he identified him instantly. He admitted his identity and consented to return. He got a long sentence, and died in prison."

KINGS UNDER ARREST.

Leopold of Belgium Causes Most Trouble.

King Leopold of Belgium probably gets into more trouble through breaking his own laws than any other monarch living. The king is an ardent automobilist, and when out for a spin along the roads near his capital he is not especially observant of the regulations in regard to speed.

Only a few weeks ago the cable told of King Leopold being arrested for reckless riding and for having knocked down and run over an elderly man, who was severely injured. The king was fined \$100 for exceeding the legal rate of speed, and the injured man instituted a suit for \$2,500 damages. A verdict for half the amount was rendered against the royal defendant.

At another time Leopold was placed under arrest on a charge of attempting to swindle a railway company. The king was on a visit to Italy, and when returning bought ordinary first-class tickets. In Italy the fares on express trains are higher than the fares on ordinary trains, and when the king presented his first-class tickets to the guard on the express the latter refused to accept them. The king insisted, and the police were summoned. As a result the royal journey was delayed for a day.

Not long ago King George of Greece was summoned to court because he had neglected to pay his dog tax. A recent Greek law enacts that every owner of a dog shall pay a yearly tax of 12 drachmas, and if the tax is not paid in time it shall be doubled. King George seems to have been ignorant of the law, hence the summons. He paid the tax and fine in preference to going to jail.

STORY OF A DEBT.

A Japanese provincial journal has the following story of a debt: A peasant had borrowed the sum of 15 yen (\$7.50) on the security of a small house owned by him. The term of the repayment of the loan having come and gone and the usurer seeing no immediate probability of getting his money back the creditor was dummed to the verge of distraction. He alleged that he was unable properly to feed his family owing to the hard times and that it would not be until summer that his scanty acres would yield enough to pay the loan and interest. Nothing would satisfy the creditor but that the peasant should give up the house. "The house is mine," declared the usurer, "and if you do not turn out I am at liberty to burn it over your heads." This drove the peasant to desperation. Next day he appeared before the door of his oppressor with a cart containing seven large bags of ashes. He had taken the liberty, he said, to burn the house down himself, as it appeared immaterial to his creditor whether it was burned or not; here were the ashes; he hoped the usurer would be satisfied.

DOGS AND BOYS.

The Clayesmore school, at Enfield, England, has tried a novel experiment in allowing its pupils to keep dogs. A kennel club has been formed, of which a master is president and the boy dog owners are members. Each boy is responsible for his own dog and for the state of its kennel. Buildings suitable for this purpose was opened by the Countess of Warwick some years ago. Of the success of the experiment the headmaster says: "It has been found that the care of the dogs is a sound means of moral discipline to the youth of mankind, while thoroughly agreeable so boyish inclinations. Everyone knows how dearly the English boy likes to keep a dog, and under proper supervision the possession of such a pet tends to make him kind to all animals, while it also enables him to enjoy the open air, and in the most sensible and natural manner to learn a good deal of the common laws of nature and the ways of animal life."